



April 10, 2009

This Week:

- *Elwha* returns to service
- Crews' rapid repair of *Klahowya*
- Federal stimulus projects

***Elwha* returns to service**

The *Elwha* returned to service on the Anacortes/San Juan Islands route Thursday morning. We removed the *Elwha* from service on March 24 after the crew discovered sparking in the vessel's drive motor. Removing the vessel from service prevented further problems that could have resulted in a severe casualty of the drive motor. Our maintenance crews worked with the drive motor and control system vendors to perform a full evaluation of the drive motor, component by component. Crews compared data collected during sea trials to ensure that the problem was fully addressed before clearing the vessel to return to service. The 90-auto *Sealth* will restore capacity on the inter-island route by relieving the 34-auto *Hiyu* tomorrow.

Crews' rapid repair of *Klahowya*

Early Tuesday morning, April 7, we encountered a mechanical problem on the *Klahowya*. We quickly implemented a temporary two-boat schedule on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route. Thanks to our crews' quick work, the vessel was fixed and full service was restored to the Triangle route by mid-morning.

Federal stimulus projects

We're working quickly to apply the \$8.4 million in federal stimulus funding that the Puget Sound Regional Council approved for WSF last month. Early this week we delivered the 188-auto *Spokane* to Fairhaven Shipyard in Bellingham for a 14-week vessel preservation project. That project received \$2.7 million in federal stimulus funds. The work includes repainting most of the vessel's superstructure, replacing steel and upgrading critical piping and navigational equipment. Later this month we're scheduled to begin another vessel preservation project on the 87-auto *Evergreen State*. That project received \$1.5 million in federal stimulus funds. The other \$4.2 million in federal stimulus dollars we received will fund several terminal preservation projects on which we expect to begin construction later this year. We are also preparing to compete for the \$60 million national federal discretionary grant program.

Next Week:

- Visit with Senator Murray delegates
- House Transportation Committee Hearing

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division Web site at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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