

## New Assistant Secretary Named for WSF

The new leader of Washington State Ferries (WSF) is taking a “back to basics” approach as he works to restore public trust in the state ferry system.

David Moseley was appointed as the Washington State Department of Transportation Assistant Secretary for the Ferries Division on Feb. 5. He officially begins his position on March 3. Moseley replaces Michael Anderson, who retired on Dec. 31, 2007 after 34 years with the ferry system.

“One of the things that I will be stressing with folks is keeping a focus on basics,” Moseley said. “If we just keep our focus on the basic work of the ferries, we’ll be well served when challenges arise.”

Vessel safety, customer service and minimizing service disruptions are among the issues he will be focusing on. Although Moseley does not have experience in marine transportation, he is confident that his 30 years of public service management experience has prepared him for his new position.

Moseley has 15 years of service in city manager positions for three Washington State cities. Previously he directed the Department of Community Development, the Division of Youth Services, and the Community Accountability Program (juvenile justice) for the City of Seattle. Other experience includes Staff Director for Speaker of the Washington State House of Representatives and Director of Telegraph Avenue Community Center (Oakland). Moseley was also a Presidential Appointee to the National Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

“In terms of leadership, staff development, communications and community relations; these are all skills and experiences that I’ve had in my major management posi-

tions for different cities in Washington State. It’s about problem solving, judgment and crisis management.

“In terms of public management and what the public expects of you, the kind of accountability and transparency you need to have; those kinds of management issues are very similar and I bring those kinds of skills to this job.”

Moseley will also rely on the knowledge and expertise of WSF employees for guidance with operational issues.

“There are a lot of people in this organization with extensive maritime background and I will certainly benefit from their wisdom and will seek them out as I learn the nuances of this organization,” he said.

Moseley will also look to the customers for suggestions and guidance as he begins his career with WSF.

“I definitely want to get out to all of the communities that we serve and introduce myself to them and listen to their issues and concerns about the future of the ferry system,” he said. “Not just reading and studying, which I’m certainly doing a lot of, but actually going and riding vessels, talking to customers and talking to staff that are managing the fleet. My experience has taught me there is no substitute for personal reconnaissance.”

In between reconnaissance missions, Moseley will strive to establish achievable expectations for WSF.

“If the expectation is that we’ll never have another boat go down unexpectedly, we won’t meet that expectation,” he said. “But if the expectation is that we have a vessel replacement schedule that we adhere to; that we have a funding mechanism to finance vessel replacement; that we have a maintenance program that minimizes service disruption, I think the public has a right to expect that and we will achieve that.”



New Assistant Secretary, David Moseley, addresses the audience at his announcement press conference on Feb. 5.

With a plan in place and an eye to the future, Moseley is excited about his new position and the inherent challenges that go along with it.

“I am really excited about this job. It is a career-challenging position at the peak of my career, where I can use all of the skills that I have developed in 30 years of public service. It’s a great opportunity and great challenge,” he said. [↩](#)

## WSF to Test the Use of Biodiesel in its Fleet

Environmental stewardship is an important part of the work done at Washington State Ferries (WSF). Through innovative programs and partnerships with maritime stakeholders, WSF is exploring ways to conserve fuel, reduce pollution from its fleet and save taxpayers’ dollars.

WSF is partnering with Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) to test the use of biodiesel in the marine environment. This project, called the Biodiesel Research and Demonstration Project, is the second pilot test of biodiesel conducted by WSF aboard state ferries.

The first test, conducted during the last half of 2004, was suspended after all three test vessels reported clogged fuel filters and oil purifiers. WSF used approximately 834,000 gallons of B20 biodiesel – a blend of 20 percent biofuel and 80 percent low-sulfur diesel – before testing was suspended.

Even though testing was suspended, WSF considered the project a success. Valuable information was gathered about how marine vessels perform using a biodiesel fuel blend.

“The test wasn’t a failure, it just told us that we have more research to do,” said Paul Brodeur, WSF Director of Vessel Maintenance and Preservation. “We burned a lot of



Burning cleaner fuel such as biodiesel means less pollution emitted into the environment by WSF vessels.

biodiesel and proved that our vessels could run on it. Maintenance issues were caused by the fuel as it passed through filters and purifiers.”

Based on lessons learned from the first test, WSF is taking a more scientific approach to testing biodiesel this time. The Biodiesel Research and Demonstration Project is a three-phased project.

The first phase of the project – which began in August 2006 – involved research and development of test procedures. WSF worked with Washington State University (WSU), the University of Idaho (UI) and Imperium Renewable to review findings of the previous biodiesel study and develop fuel specifications and test procedures for this test.

During phase II, controlled laboratory experiments were conducted to simulate the Pacific Northwest marine environment to determine if environmental factors may have contributed to problems with the first test.

Continued on page 2.

"Biodiesel" continued from page 1.

In March, WSF will begin phase III – the demonstration phase of the project. This demonstration phase involves fueling three WSF vessels – *Issaquah*, *Tillikum* and *Klahowya* – with specified grades of biodiesel for fuel trials. Testing is expected to continue until February 2009. Initially the boats will be fueled with a 5 percent blend of biofuel (5 percent biofuel mixed with 95 percent ultra low-sulfur diesel). As the demonstration progresses, biofuel blends will be increased to a 20 percent blend of biodiesel to ultra low-sulfur diesel (80 percent). The first vessel to receive biofuel is the *Issaquah*.

"We are going into this demonstration with a lot more information than we had for the previous test," Brodeur said. "We have developed testing procedures and protocols. If we do run into problems, we are in a much better position to solve them."

The result of the test will be a report guiding WSF vessels and other marine and land-based applications in the use of biofuel.

This project is funded by a federal grant and financial contributions from Seattle City Light. Through the Federal energy budget, Washington State Senator Maria Cantwell successfully secured \$500,000 in congressional funds for the state of Washington. The U.S. Department of Energy is charged with administering the earmark. The PSCAA has the lead on administering this grant and is providing overall project administration, along with securing and administering the project funding. Seattle City Light is providing funding of up to \$350,000. [↕](#)

## Biodiesel Testing at WSF

### What is biodiesel?

Biodiesel is a fuel made from vegetable oils (canola, soybeans), animal fats and cooking greases. It contains almost no sulfur and should reduce toxic pollutants and greenhouse-gas emissions.

### Why biodiesel at WSF?

- Each year, WSF burns approximately 17 million gallons of diesel fuel on its 22 active service ferries, making WSF a significant fuel consumer in Puget Sound.
- WSF is committed to responsible stewardship of the Puget Sound region.
- The decision to test biodiesel was based on Governor Christine Gregoire's 2005 executive order for sustainability and 2006 legislation requiring state agencies to use a minimum of 20 percent biodiesel by 2009.

To learn more about biodiesel visit the official site of the National Biodiesel Board at [www.biodiesel.org](http://www.biodiesel.org).

### Timeline of Biodiesel Testing at WSF

**2004–2005** – Conducted pilot tests of biodiesel (in partnership with PSCAA) and low-sulfur diesel (in partnership with PSCAA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).

In the last half of 2004, we tested B20 biodiesel – a blend of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent low-sulfur diesel. Shortly after the first fueling, all three vessels in the test reported clogged fuel filters and oil purifiers. WSF suspended the use of biodiesel on the vessels and determined that more study was needed.

**2006** – Began working with the PSCAA and Seattle City Light on the Biodiesel Research and Demonstration Project.

**2007** – Worked with WSU, UI and Imperium Renewables on the research components of the Biodiesel Research and Demonstration Project.

**November 2007** – Conducted dockside trials on one vessel.

**March 2008** – Begin fuel trials (phase III).

**February 2009** – Finish fuel trials.

**June 2009** – Publish final project report.

## Vendor Spotlight: Colman Dock News

BY DANIEL FENSTERMACHER  
For SoundCrossings

For this issue's vendor spotlight, Washington State Ferries (WSF) caught up with Colman Dock News; the news stand and first vendor that greets passengers at the front entrance of Colman Dock on Seattle's Pier 52. In the past few years, Colman Dock News has fulfilled customers' needs by offering a variety of snacks and supplies. Whether you're a seasoned commuter, first-time Puget Sound traveler, exploring tourist or WSF employee, Colman Dock News has something for you.

"We are trying to change the curve by offering many items to customers, with great customer service by a friendly staff and the cheapest prices of all the shops in the terminal," said store manager Nilesh Lal.

In fact, Colman Dock News, staffed by its five regular employees, prides itself on being somewhat of a convenience store helping to alleviate travel frustrations and make the commute more enjoyable for customers. One can find an array of products at Colman Dock News such as popular magazines, a large selection of drinks, candies, wrapped sandwiches, popcorn, books, newspapers, pharmaceuticals, iPod accessories, one-time-use Kodak cameras and travel bags.

"We are trying our best for customers," Nilesh said. "For many years there was no food or sundries available for customers (at the terminal). The new terminal has a more friendly environment where people can sit and relax, and

enjoy the stores the new terminal has to offer."

The new terminal, which was remodeled in 2005, has been good for the vendors as well, creating a better atmosphere for business where personal relationships with customers have developed.

"I get to meet a lot of different people which is really good," Nilesh said. "But I also see a lot of the same customers and get to build customer loyalty with the same people. I already know what they want when they come to the stand."

Nilesh agrees that the new stores and amenities at Pier 52 have been instrumental in creating a better atmosphere for

both employees and passengers alike at the busiest terminal in the state's ferry system.

During their winter schedule, Colman Dock News is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. In May, as business begins to pick up, the store will extend its schedule to seven days per week, with the same hours as the winter schedule.

"Summer is our busiest time," Nilesh said. "Right now it is kind of slow during the winter."

In preparation for the busy summer months, Nilesh and his staff are focused on increasing sales while catering to everybody. Colman Dock News is stocking up on their best selling items such as soda

pop and water, as well as their refreshing ice cream bars for those warm Seattle summer afternoons.

"We also like to bring in new products and try new things for the customers," Nilesh said.

One thing customers can count on is the "great drink selection" offered at Colman Dock News which is very popular among the nine million passengers who travel through Pier 52 annually.

Whether you're in need of a refreshing beverage, looking for a fun toy for a child, craving a snack, wanting to catch up on some celebrity gossip or need batteries for your camera, make sure to visit Colman Dock News. After all, with a great selection, friendly staff and good prices, the best thing about Colman Dock News according to Nilesh is "seeing happy customers leave the shop!" [↕](#)

Photo Courtesy of Daniel Fenstermacher



Colman Dock News features an array of products for travelers on the go.



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## WSF Through the Years

Colman Dock, located along the Seattle waterfront on Alaskan Way, has undergone numerous transformations since its construction in 1882 by Scottish engineer James Colman. The dock, known today as Pier 52, was originally built to service the growing region's steamship traffic.

Today, Pier 52 services the region's growing number of commuters, tourists and commercial vehicles.

During the early 1900s, horse-drawn carriages occupied the spaces in front of the building where cars and busses line up today. A fur trader and sail maker occupied the building back then. Today, Pier 52 is home to various cafes, restaurants and shops.

The image on the left – taken in 1902 – shows the second building to occupy this location. The original

building, like most of Seattle, was destroyed by the “Great Fire of 1889.” Seattle wasted no time rebuilding Colman Dock, which was home to Puget Sound’s “Mosquito Fleet” of privately owned ferries.

A story that appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer in 1905 boasted that “the enormous Sunday business done by these boats puts to shame the crowds in New York bound for Coney Island or the noon rush in the subway.”

In 1908, James Colman extended the dock and added a domed waiting area and clock tower. During the evening of April 25, 1912, the clock tower was dislodged and sent plunging into Puget Sound after the steamship *Alameda* slammed into the dock. The clock was retrieved from the water, repaired and reinstalled atop a new tower. There it remained until 1936, when renovations were

made to Colman Dock and the clock was removed.

The clock remained in a warehouse for decades before it was rediscovered in 1976. In 1984, The Port of Seattle purchased the clock and restored it. Visitors walking into Pier 52 today are greeted by the clock (see picture at right) which is located near one of the passenger entrances to the terminal.

Washington State took over the ferry system in 1951 and built the present terminal in 1964. Colman Dock has evolved into a bustling inner-city transportation hub that is home to Washington State Ferries’ Seattle to Bainbridge Island and Seattle to Bremerton routes. More than nine million passengers a year travel through this location to destinations in King County and beyond. [↕](#)

Photo courtesy of the Museum of History and Industry and Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society.



*This photo, taken in 1902, shows the second building to occupy this location. The original Colman Dock was destroyed in the “Great Fire of 1889.”*



*Today, Colman Dock - known as Pier 52 - is a thriving transportation hub for millions of passengers traveling to destinations in King County and beyond.*

## Service to Increase With Start of Spring Schedule

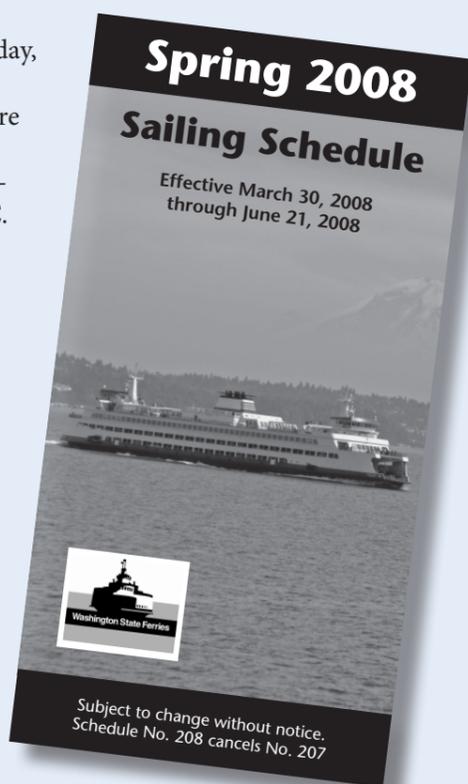
The Spring 2008 Sailing Schedule goes into effect on Sunday, March 30 and runs through Saturday, June 21.

The Spring Schedule offers more hours of service than the winter schedule and includes the resumption of ferry service to Sidney, B.C. with one sailing a day from both Anacortes and Sidney.

Other changes in the Spring Schedule include the return of weekend inter-island service between the San Juan Islands and the restoration of eight hours of midday service Monday through Thursday.

Service levels return to a three-boat weekend schedule on the Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth route with the third boat returning to operate eight hours a day on Saturday and Sunday.

For a complete look at the current schedule visit the Washington State Ferries website at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/schedules/current/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/schedules/current/).



## Commuter Center

### Paris Can Change Your Point of View

Participate in Wheel Options from March 9–22 and you’ll be eligible to win one of many great prizes including a vacation in Paris with a Rick Steves tour. To participate in Wheel Options all you need to do is walk, bike, share a ride or ride the bus to work two or more days. You can also participate by compressing your work schedule or working from home. Enter online after March 9, at [www.WheelOptions.org](http://www.WheelOptions.org).

In addition to the Wheel Options prize package, log onto [www.RideshareOnline.com](http://www.RideshareOnline.com) to join or form a carpool or vanpool today. Win one of two \$100 MasterCard gift cards just for registering. Better yet, you could win a flat screen TV, DVD player and a one year subscription to Netflix.com by carpooling or vanpooling twice during the two week period!

It’s easy to Participate:

- Register with [www.RideshareOnline.com](http://www.RideshareOnline.com)
- Share a ride between March 9 – 22
- Record your trips at [www.WheelOptions.org](http://www.WheelOptions.org)

### Commute in a Metro Vanpool or Vanshare to Earn More Rewards

King County Metro is pleased to announce *Fill It Up Again!*, a promotion with rewards for new Metro vanpool and

vanshare participants and anyone who recruits Metro riders throughout 2008.

- Join a Metro vanpool or vanshare in 2008 and earn a \$50 MasterCard gift card.
- Become a Metro driver or primary bookkeeper (vanpools only) and earn another \$50 for each role.
- Recruit new Metro riders for a new or current Metro van and earn \$50 per person, up to \$250!

For assistance and to learn more, find a carpool or van to share your commute and register for your rewards at [www.rideshareonline.com/fillitup](http://www.rideshareonline.com/fillitup), or call 206-625-4500.

### Share the Ride and Save

By sharing the ride in one of our vans you save on gas and wear and tear on your own vehicle while you enjoy riding in the HOV lanes. You also get preferential loading onto ferries and you help the environment, all while saving money.

Vanpool riders are currently wanted for nine existing vanpools and two new ones for the Mukilteo/Clinnton Route.

For more information, contact Island Transit today at [vanpool@islandtransit.org](mailto:vanpool@islandtransit.org), or call 360-678-7771 and press 3 to talk to Julie or Staci. For self-ridematching, go to [www.RideshareOnline.com](http://www.RideshareOnline.com). [↕](#)

# 2008 Olympic BirdFest

BY JIM RICHARDS  
Coordinator, Birdfest

Do you want to enjoy a three-day weekend on the Olympic Peninsula studying birds, soaking up the majesty of the Olympic Mountains and the beauty of the Strait of Juan de Fuca?

The fifth annual Olympic BirdFest will be held in Sequim, April 4-6, 2008. The Olympic Peninsula offers some of the best bird watching in the western United States. The diversity of bird species – sea birds, shorebirds, raptors, prairie and forest birds – offers wonderful birding for veteran birders and beginners alike. To complement the experience, this year's BirdFest offers new events that will appeal to outdoor people.

A marvelous stage is set featuring the natural beauty of quiet bays and estuaries; beaches on the Strait of Juan de Fuca; Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge, Dungeness Spit; Sequim Bay; Dungeness Bay; the Dungeness and Elwha rivers. The birds will be ready: murrelets, guillemots, auklets, harlequin ducks, oystercatchers, scoters, terns, gulls, loons, grebes, long-tailed ducks, dunlins, sanderlings, herons, plovers and sandpipers inhabiting the sea and shores. The forests and grasslands are home to kinglets, warblers, sparrows, finches, chickadees, nuthatches and raptors.

The BirdFest includes 15 guided bird trips with knowledgeable local experts. Field trips are scheduled for Friday afternoon

and Saturday morning and afternoon. Birders can go to Sequim Bay, Dungeness Bay, Dungeness Spit, the mouth of the Elwha River, and the Dungeness Recreation Area. Also, an all-day trip on Saturday includes stops at all of these sites. On Saturday night's "Owl Prowl" you may hear several owls, and maybe even see the nocturnal birds. On Sunday a boat trip takes birders around Protection Island, a renowned bird sanctuary, where you likely will see a vast variety of sea birds, waterfowl, eagles, harbor seals and elephant seals.

Not only does the Olympic BirdFest provide a great variety of birds, the guided field trips compose small groups that allow local trip leaders to share information about birds and their habits on a close and personal basis.

### San Juan Cruise

A new BirdFest event this year is a 3-day, 2-night birding cruise to the San Juan Islands that begins on Sunday. The cruise, aboard the *M/V Glacier Spirit*, will depart in the morning from John Wayne Marina near Sequim and travel through the spectacular San Juan archipelago. Overnight accommodations will be provided at the historic Roche Harbor Resort, with stops at Sucia Island and a sailing through Deception Pass. The trip offers fantastic views of the natural beauty of the San Juans, a wide variety of birds, (probably whales and porpoises, also) and rich history. 



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Participants in the Olympic BirdFest will likely see birds like this Common Goldeneye.



A group of bird watchers enjoy the view at the Olympic BirdFest.

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## BirdFest Special Events

### Elwha Dam Removal

In 2012 the two dams on the Elwha River will be removed - the largest river restoration project in the United States. The removal will create 45 miles of free-flowing river, restoring great salmon and steelhead fisheries. At both dams experts will explain the engineering involved in removing each dam and how the removal will affect the ecology of the river. For example, millions of tons of sediment materials accumulated behind the dams will move downstream, raising the river bed by two feet. At the mouth of the Elwha you will learn how beaches and shellfish beds will be re-established. This restoration project will have enormous impacts on the Elwha river channel, its watershed and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. For anyone interested in ecology, especially river ecology, this tour will be fascinating and informative.

### Totem Tour

Another new event this year is a Totem Tour. You can visit the Tribal Center of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, located on beautiful Sequim Bay and join a guided tour of their renowned totem poles. Tribal members will give an "up-close" view of the poles, explaining the historical figures and legends that inspired their designs. Visitors will learn about the "Founding Fathers" of the Jamestown Tribe, discover why the S'Klallam are called the "Strong People" and learn why the wolf is so well respected. The numerous

stories and folk tales of these carved columns will be explained. The tour includes a visit to the "carving shed" where the totem poles are created. You'll see the carving team in action and you'll have the opportunity to observe and ask questions about the tools and techniques used to transform an old growth cedar log into a monumental work of art. The tour will include the totems at the 7 Cedars Casino, where lunch will be served for tour participants.

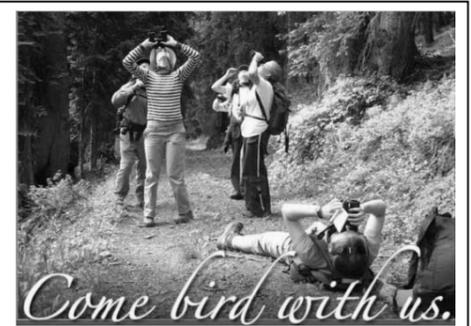
### Raptor Presentation

Friday evening the Northwest Raptor Center will give a free raptor presentation. This is always a popular event, particularly for children, because Jaye Moore, director of the center, shows raptors in rehabilitation and provides so much interesting information about the birds.

### Salmon Banquet

Saturday evening the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will open their beautiful community center for the banquet and will bake salmon in traditional tribal style along the shores of Sequim Bay. A silent auction and raffles at the banquet will add excitement to the evening.

The 2008 BirdFest is shaping up to be a great weekend in a beautiful setting. To get the program schedule and registration information on-line, go to [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org). Information can also be obtained by emailing [info@olympicbirdfest.org](mailto:info@olympicbirdfest.org) or calling 360-681-4076.



*Come bird with us.*

**Olympic Birdfest 2008**  
April 4-6, 2008 in Sequim, WA

A bird watching vacation for beginners to experts, from leisurely strolls to active hikes. Bird for a few hours, or all day ... from the dawn chorus to the evening owl prowl. We will wake you with coffee, nourish you with locally grown organic food, and celebrate a traditional salmon bake.

Enjoy the show from guided birding trips, boat tours, a silent auction, salmon banquet, and many other presentations. Our festival has a full slate of extraordinary offerings awaiting you.

New this year! Stay on for a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands. Register separately at [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org).

BirdFest program information and registration can be found at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)