Welcome aboard, U.S. Coast Guard Commandant!

Director of Vessel Engineering Matt von Ruden and I met with U.S. Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz last week aboard the Chimacum on our Seattle/Bremerton route. It was a great opportunity to familiarize the new head of the USCG with our marine transportation highway system. We also discussed safety and security for our nearly 25 million customers.

*In the Chimacum wheelhouse with Capt. Randolph Eckler and USCG Commandant Adm. Karl Schultz.*

We meet with the USCG on a regular basis for oversight and support for vessel maintenance and certification, as well as security and licensing for our professional crews. A big thank you to the Chimacum crew for your hospitality! It was a great visit and a great day to be out on the water with one of our maritime partners.
USCG Commandant Adm. Karl Shultz talks to Chief Engineer Gary Brenengen in the Chimacum engine room.

Checking out construction progress at Colman Dock

I toured the new terminal building under construction at Colman Dock last week with project contractor executives. All ferry operations will move into a section of the new terminal this summer, so crews can begin demolition of the old building. I was impressed and pleased to see the substantial progress crews have made.

Touring the Colman Dock work site with Construction Engineer Bryant Bullamore, Director of Terminal Engineering Nicole McIntosh, Project Engineering Manager Genevieve Rucki, as well as Andrew Powell, Neil Williams, Ryan Purscelley and Steve King from contractor Hoffman Pacific.

Congressman Rick Larsen tours Mukilteo terminal site

March arrived with blue skies and a visit from Rep. Rick Larsen to the site of the new Mukilteo terminal. Director of Terminal Engineering Nicole McIntosh showed him construction progress, and discussed the bright future for the drop-off area near our Clinton terminal. In the last two weeks, crews moved a telephone booth and power pole, brought in a 110-ton crane and started work on a retaining wall between Ferry Dock Road and Columbia Beach Drive. Thanks to input from our neighbors and customers, contractor Pacific Pile and Marine also installed additional directional signage to help reduce ferry traffic on Columbia Beach Drive. Just a reminder, you can pick up and drop off walk-on passengers on the dock during project construction.

View of Ferry Dock Road before construction (top) and now (bottom).

Daylight saving time begins Sunday
Mukilteo waterfront. They discussed how we've worked with the public, tribal partners and many stakeholders to get to this point and how the new terminal will become a centerpiece of the community when opens in fall 2020. See more photos of Rep. Larsen’s visit on Flickr.

Rep. Rick Larsen and Director of Terminal Engineering Nicole McIntosh at the new Mukilteo terminal site. The passenger building foundation is in the background. Photo courtesy Rep. Larsen.

**Awards for years of service**

This month, we are recognizing many employees for marking significant milestones in their years of service at WSF. A few of them are shown below. Congratulations to all of you and thank you for your service and dedication over the years!

40 years
Port Captain
Jamie Pelland
(center)

30 years
Chief Engineer
George Brian Greenwood
(left)

Amy Scarton
Assistant Secretary, WSDOT/Ferries Division

Mark your calendar! Daylight saving time begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 10. Here at WSF, the full sailing day of Saturday, March 9, starts and ends on Pacific Standard Time. Routes with trips at or after 2 a.m. will complete their normal Saturday sailing schedule before changing to daylight saving time.

One more day to submit your haiku!

Thank you to everyone for submitting a haiku on Twitter this week for our cover contest! You have one more day to get your poems in before we select 25 that best represent the WSF experience to pass on to State Poet Laureate Claudia Castro Luna for judging. She will select our three finalists that we will put up for a vote on our Twitter page the week of March 18-22!
WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly
Questions? Contact us at WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov

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If you would like to learn more about accessibility and the tools we have available, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/Accessibility