



Life ring awards

Our staff and crew regularly provide emergency aid and assistance. The WSF Life Ring Award, the ferry system's highest honor, is given to either individuals or an entire ship's crew when the action by either was clearly the difference in saving a person's life.

Today, I presented 19 employees with a Life Ring Award and recognized four full crews for their actions in 12 lifesaving events over the past 14 months.



Our crewmembers go through extensive lifesaving training in order to be ready to assist those in distress.

July 30, 2020

Ferry system electrification webpage

News about our ferry system electrification project can be found on our brand new [webpage!](#) We just launched the page for the latest on the hybrid-electric conversion of our Jumbo Mark II class vessels, construction of our first hybrid-electric Olympic Class vessel and our other efforts to be greener and ready for a future of lower carbon emissions.



One of the key recommendations of the [WSF Long Range Plan](#) is to move toward a "greener" ferry fleet with the goal of a reliable fleet that has a lighter footprint on the environment and outperforms carbon dioxide reduction targets



Rescue boat deployed on the Kaleetan.

I am so proud of each and every one of our employees that participated in these lifesaving events and the many more that regularly go above and beyond for the safety of our community. The dedication and quick call to action shown by these staff and crewmembers are a true example of public service. Thank you!

Service reductions on multiple routes continued

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak we've had to [adjust our service](#) to fit four key constraints: ridership, crew availability, vessel availability and funding. With more than 100 high-risk employees unavailable to work, one of those metrics, crewing, has been a challenge.

Due to this continued shortage of available crew, service on our Mukilteo/Clinton and Edmonds/Kingston routes will remain on one-boat weekend service until further notice. Ferry riders should prepare for long waits if driving onto a state ferry on the weekends and consider traveling during non-peak times and limiting non-essential travel.

We are actively working with our employees to increase staffing availability, and are pleased to report that we are training another new crew of deck employees who will be ready to join our ranks in early August!

Overnight closures of northbound SR 99 Duwamish River Bridge

Heads up if you use the State Route 99 Duwamish River Bridge in Seattle after departing from our Fauntleroy Terminal. Three weeks of overnight closures of the northbound lanes of the bridge – also known as the First Avenue South bridge – started on Sunday, July 26. During the closures, contractor crews will [replace deck panels](#). The closures will be Sunday nights through Thursday nights. For people traveling to or from West Seattle several [alternative routes](#) are available.



The northbound SR 99 Duwamish River Bridge will be closed overnight except Friday and Saturday nights for three weeks.



"My wife and I spent 1-1/2 hours getting to the Kingston ferry hoping to catch the 12:45 boat only to find that there was a 5 hour wait ... I called your number at 2:22 p.m. and spoke with your operator. They were SO polite and gave the best



We've implemented safety precautions throughout the ferry system including a mandatory mask policy.

Amy Scarton

Assistant Secretary, WSDOT/Ferries Division

explanation that a human being could give, considering the circumstances. I really respect this person. I believe that they are a valued employee and should be treated as such, in my opinion!"

-Edmonds/Kingston customer



WSF Weekly Updates are available on our website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly

Questions? Contact us at WSFWeeklyUpdate@wsdot.wa.gov

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) information

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