



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

Summer 2019

*BPC Mission: to ensure against the loss of lives, loss of or damage to property and vessels, and to protect the marine environment by maintaining efficient and competent pilotage service on our State's inland waters.*

# THE BPC PILOTAGE QUARTERLY

## Announcements

### *Puget Sound Licensures!*

We are pleased to announce the licensure of two more pilots in the Puget Sound Pilotage District!



At the April 18, 2019 BPC meeting, Captain Travis McGrath received Washington State Pilot License #203 .

*Captain McGrath at his licensure with wife Christine and daughter Cora. Photo courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.*

at the June 20, 2019 BPC meeting, Captain Adam Seamans received Washington State Pilot License #204.



*BPC Chair Sheri Tonn presents Captain Seamans with his license. Photo courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.*

Congratulations to both on this incredible achievement! Welcome to Puget Sound pilotage!

### *The UTC Prepares for Pilotage Tariff Setting*

During the 2018 Legislative Session, the Legislature transferred the responsibility for setting pilotage tariffs in Puget Sound and Grays Harbor from the BPC to the Utilities and Transportation



Commission, as was recommended in the Joint Transportation Committee's Best Practices in Pilotage study. BPC Chair Sheri Tonn and staff have attended several meetings with the UTC since the legislation was adopted. The UTC also gave a presentation to the BPC and public during the April 18th meeting on the UTC rate setting process, which was very informative. On April 24th, the UTC held a public hearing to adopt the rules regarding their process for setting the tariff. The BPC is considered part of the UTC's "advisory team" as opposed to a stakeholder during proceedings. The legislation goes into effect July 1, 2019.



David Danner  
Chairman



Ann Rendahl  
Commissioner



Jay Balasbas  
Commissioner

*Images courtesy of the Utilities and Transportation Commission*



*NAVIGATING A DREAM INTO A REALITY  
Read Puget Sound pilot Captain Sandy Bendixen's story from the Northwest Seaport Alliance [here!](#)*

## Legislative Wrap-up

The three bills that concerned the BPC in the 2019 Legislative Session all passed and were signed into law by Governor Inslee in April.

**HB 1431** Concerning joint self-insurance programs for property and liability risks, was agency request legislation and will give the BPC access to government entity joint self-insurance pools, increasing affordable liability insurance and coverage options.



From left: BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever, companion bill Sponsor Senator Mark Mullett, Governor Jay Inslee, and Lou Paulsen and Sean Eagan with the Northwest Seaport Alliance at the signing ceremony for HB 1431.

**HB 1647** Concerning mandatory rest periods for pilots, also agency request legislation, modernizes the mandatory rest periods for pilots. The BPC will be conducting rule-making later this year to implement the new statute.

**ESHB 1578** reducing threats to southern resident killer whales by improving the safety of oil transportation mandates tug escorts for certain vessels in Rosario Strait and connected waterways and directs the BPC, in partnership and collaboration with numerous governmental, tribal, and stakeholder entities, to conduct rule-making for additional tug escorts in the Puget Sound Pilotage District.

Additional information about these bills can be found at the links above.

The BPC would like to thank the legislative sponsors of these bills as well as all those who testified, advised, and supported these efforts!

## Women Offshore UNITE Conference



Image courtesy of Women Offshore

BPC Chair Sheri Tonn will represent Washington State pilotage at the 2nd annual Women Offshore UNITE conference, to be held at Rice University in Houston, TX July 15-16. The

goal of the conference, per Women Offshore, is to “bring together female leaders who work on the water, in one place, to empower women on similar career paths”. BPC’s goal will be to educate about the pathways to pilotage and encourage interest in upcoming exams.

## DISTRICT SNAPSHOTS



### Puget Sound

#### **Retirements:**

Captain John Scoggins — 4/25/2019

**Thank you for your service to the State of Washington!**

#### **License Upgrades to Unlimited:**

Captain Eric Lichty

**Well done, Captain Lichty!**

#### **Licensure**

Captain Travis McGrath — 4/18/2019

Captain Adam Seamans — 6/20/2019

**Congratulations, Captains!**

#### **Training Program:**

Currently in training are Captains Keith Kridler, Pat Ninburg, David Melin, Matt Miller, Trevor Bozina, Pete Velarde, Joe Siddell, Matt Hannuksela, Neil McGourty and Severin Knutsen.

Captains Bozina and Miller are transitioning to the Evaluation Phase of their programs.

**Keep up the great work!**



From left: Captains Travis McGrath and Pete Velarde training aboard the bulk carrier CSL Techumseh. Photo courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.

### Grays Harbor



#### **Training Program:**

Grays Harbor is seeking a trainee for the Grays Harbor Training Program. Captain Kaha'i Wodehouse resigned from the program in March 2019.

The BPC Pilotage Quarterly is a publication of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners.

It is available online at [Pilotage.wa.gov](http://Pilotage.wa.gov). To join our distribution list, email [PilotageInfo@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:PilotageInfo@wsdot.wa.gov) or call (206) 515-3904.