



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

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

Fall 2022



Announcements

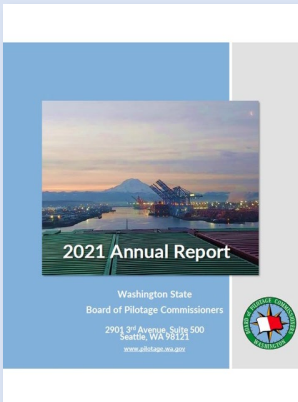
Licensures

Congratulations to Captains Robert Ekemann (left) and Mark Bostick (right) who received state licenses to pilot in the Puget Sound Pilotage District during the 3rd quarter of 2022!



2021 Annual Report

Find our 2021 Annual Report [here](#) or **Scan the code!**



Puget Sound Pilots Adopts Maternity Policy

In June 2022, Puget Sound Pilots established and adopted a formal maternity leave policy, making it the first pilot association in the U.S. to implement a dedicated maternity plan for member pilots. As stated in the press release distributed by PSP on August 22, 2022, the new policy seeks to encourage gender diversity in pilotage by providing extended medical leave to persons bearing children by allowing them to combine PSP's generous major medical leave policy with the new maternity rule.



Image courtesy of Puget Sound Pilots.

You can find the full press release on our website [here](#).

The BPC and PSP are fully committed to our joint mission of safety and to increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in pilotage. The BPC believes this action by PSP is great step in the direction of prioritizing pilot safety and addressing barriers to pilotage related to pregnancy and childbirth.

Exam Alert!!!

The BPC announced in September that the next Washington State Marine Pilot Exam will be held in the **Spring of 2024.**

If you haven't already, be sure to sign up for our distribution list: PilotageInfo@wsdot.wa.gov or (206) 515-3904. Also, keep an eye on our website for more information: <https://pilotage.wa.gov/become-a-pilot-.html> or **Scan the code!**



BPC Visits Grays Harbor

In late September, the BPC took a road trip to Aberdeen and Westport to meet with Port of Grays Harbor administration, the two pilot trainees, and to ride the Port's newest pilot boat *VEGA*. Big thanks to the Port for accommodating us! We are very excited for the future of pilotage in the Grays Harbor Pilotage District!



From left: BPC Pilot Commissioner Captain Sandy Bendixen, BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever, BPC Chair Sheri Tonn, BPC Pilot Commissioner Captain Mike Anthony, and Grays Harbor pilot trainees Captains Colby Grobschmit and Ryan Leo.

VTS Turns 50!

The BPC was honored to attend a celebration of the USCG Sector Puget Sound's Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) 50th anniversary on September 23, 2022. The partnership between VTS and pilots in Puget Sound is crucial for safe waterway transits. We thank them for all their work and look forward to the next 50 years!



Current VTS Director Captain Laird Hail explains the history of the Puget Sound VTS.

District Snapshots

Puget Sound



Retirements:

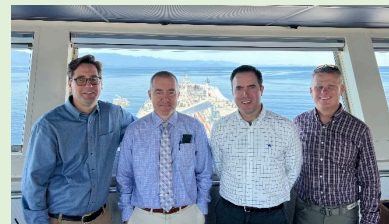
Captain Jim Hannuksela
Thank you for your service!

License Upgrades to Unlimited:

There were no upgrades in July, August, or September.

Training Program:

Currently training are Captains Holland, Riddle, Cassee, Scott, Kelly, and Mancini. Captains Fleischfresser and Sturgell began training on October 1.



Pilot trainees (from left) Captains Cassee, Holland, Scott, and Riddle during a live tether training exercise with Polar Tankers in Port Angeles, WA. Thank you, Conoco Phillips and Foss, for the opportunity!

Grays Harbor



Training Program:

Currently training are Captains Leo and Grobschmit.