



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 2021

Announcements

Puget Sound Licensure

At the September 28, 2021, BPC meeting, Captain Ryan Gartner received license number 215 to pilot in the Puget Sound Pilotage District. Congratulations on this achievement, Captain Gartner!



Captain Gartner (left) and his wife Megan at the September Board meeting.

Women Offshore Conference

Women Offshore's Annual Conference will be held virtually November 5 and 12. The BPC is proud to sponsor this year's event. Click the image for more information regarding the speakers and agenda. Hope to see you there!



Transitions in Pilotage

It has been an eventful Summer and shift to Fall for Washington state pilotage!

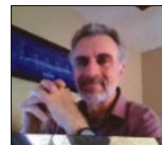
The Board welcomes three new members and a new PSP Executive Director:

- Captain Mike Ross, Westwood Shipping Lines, in July as the foreign flag shipping representative. Captain Ross brings a wide range of maritime operational experience including commanding ocean-going vessels as captain and now as the Vice President of Marine Operations & Vessel Safety for Westwood.
- Nhi Irwin representing the Department of Ecology in August. Nhi has been with Ecology for 14 years and currently serves as the Statewide Resources Section Manager. She has been involved in the development of legislation, rule writing, and implementation of regulations regarding oil transportation safety.
- Captain Sandy Bendixen, Washington State's first woman pilot, as a Puget Sound Pilots (PSP) representative in September. Captain Bendixen was also appointed by the Board as Chair of the Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC). Prior to piloting, Captain Bendixen was a cargo ship captain.
- Charlie Costanzo, AWO Vice President, who has been appointed as Executive Director of Puget Sound Pilots (PSP). Find additional information about his appointment [here](#). We offer our congratulations to Charlie and PSP. We look forward to working together!



From left: Newly appointed BPC Commissioners Mike Ross, Nhi Irwin, Sandy Bendixen, and PSP Executive Director Charlie Costanzo.

The BPC is grateful to Captain John Scragg for his service as a pilot representative and TEC Chair, as well as his work on the pilot exams and Pilot Safety Committee (PSC). He will remain Chair of the PSC. Thank you, Captain Scragg!



Mercy Ships Azipod Training

Deck officers who volunteer for [Mercy Ships](#), the organization of hospital vessels that travel internationally to provide free medical care and training, recently attended virtual azipod training, donated by MITAGS West and Puget Sound Pilot Captain Blair Bouma (right). Participants from all over the world attended this virtual event. Kudos to MITAGS West and Captain Bouma for this endeavor!



Image courtesy of Masters, Mates & Pilots

In Remembrance of Lorraine Loomis

Our Washington State Tribal partners suffered a significant loss in the passing of Lorraine Loomis on August 10, 2021. Loomis, who was chairperson of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission as well as Fisheries Manager with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, was an important voice for Tribal treaty rights. In addition, she was instrumental in numerous negotiations protecting natural resources, including salmon preservation. In October 2020, Loomis received the Billy Frank Jr. Leadership Award to honor her years-long endeavor to secure treaty fishing rights.



Image courtesy of Whatcom Watch Online

We offer our sincere condolences to our Tribal partners. There is no doubt her legacy will endure and inspire future generations.

BPC Staff Highlight – Did you know?



At the end of September, Training Program Coordinator Jolene Hamel (right) and Program Analyst Bettina Maki (middle) surprised Executive Director Jaimie Bever (left) at the BPC office to celebrate her birthday. This was the first time the team had been together in person since March 2020.

For this Fall edition of the BPC Pilotage Quarterly, we will focus on BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever. Did you know that Jaimie...

- will celebrate her 6th year with the BPC this November?
- is a musician and songwriter, primarily playing harp and guitar?
- flew a plane for her 14th birthday, intent on becoming a pilot?
- has a house full of animals including an Eastern box turtle, a corn snake, an axolotl, a saltwater fish and coral tank, and 2 cats?
- spent a good deal of lockdown learning Irish Gaelic?
- was named after [The Bionic Woman](#), Jaime Sommers?
- attended the same Seattle high school that her two sons now attend?

Well now you do! Stay tuned for Jolene Hamel's highlight in our Winter edition!

District Snapshots

Puget Sound



Retirements:

Captain Brian Henshaw

Thank you for your service to the state of Washington!

License Upgrades

to Unlimited:

There were no license upgrades to unlimited during July, August, and September.

Training Program:

Currently training are Captains Michael, Moore, Ekelmann, Stewart, Bostick, Mann, Holland, Riddle, and Cassee.



Pilot trainee Captain Eric Michael training in the Duwamish Waterway.

Grays Harbor



Training Program:

The Port is currently seeking candidates to train in the Grays Harbor Pilotage District.