



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS**  
2901 Third Avenue, Suite 500 | Seattle, Washington 98121 | (206) 515-3904

[www.pilotage.wa.gov](http://www.pilotage.wa.gov)  
[HamelJ@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:HamelJ@wsdot.wa.gov) or [BeverJ@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:BeverJ@wsdot.wa.gov)

## PETITION FOR 1 YEAR PILOTAGE EXEMPTION

### Petition Instructions:

- Please submit completed petitions to the Board of Pilotage Commissioners at least thirty (30) days prior to arrival in Washington waters.**  
See [WAC 363-116-360 Exempt Vessels](#) for more information.
- Your application should include the following:
  - Certificate of Vessel Registry
  - Certificate of Financial Responsibility (If applicable)
  - Vessel's Insurance Coverage
  - Valid License of Vessel Captain
  - Signed Vessel Certification (Page 5 of Petition)
  - Photo of Vessel
  - Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) Certification (If applicable)
- Petitions are considered at scheduled monthly meetings of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners. Meeting schedule is posted here: <https://pilotage.wa.gov/meetings.html>
- Schedule of Fees:

**Please make payments to: *Washington State Treasurer***

**Mail to: Board of Pilotage Commissioners, 2901 Third Avenue, Suite 500; Seattle, WA 98121**

***Currently, we are unable to accept cash, credit cards, or any form of electronic payment.***

The Washington Public Records Act, [Chapter 42.56 RCW](#), requires us to promptly make identifiable public records available for inspection and provide records upon request.

VESSEL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

START DATE OF REQUESTED PILOTAGE EXEMPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vessel Information:**

<b>Vessel Name:</b>	
<b>Country of Registry:</b>	
<b>Type and Use:</b>	<b>Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing Yacht <input type="checkbox"/> Motor Yacht <input type="checkbox"/> Passenger Vessel <b>Use:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pleasure <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<b>LOA:</b>	
<b>Gross Tonnage (International) IGT:</b>	
<b>Fuel Type Onboard:</b>	
<b>Fuel Quantity Onboard: (maximum)</b>	

**Primary Vessel Captain:**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Phone &amp; Email:</b>	
<b>Country Of Licensure:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> License Matches Vessel Tonnage. If not, please explain:

**Primary Vessel Captain Experience in Local Waters:**

<b>No experience in Washington waters</b>  <b>San Juan Islands Region</b> <b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____	<b>Northern Puget Sound:</b> Bellingham Channel Deception Pass Guemes Channel Saddle Bags Pass <b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____	<b>Seattle Area:</b> Duwamish River Hiram M. Chittenden Locks Montlake Cut <b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____
	<b>Central Puget Sound:</b> Agate Pass Hood Canal Rich Pass <b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____	<b>South Puget Sound:</b> South of Point Defiance <b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____

**Secondary Vessel Captain:**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Phone &amp; Email:</b>	
<b>Country of Licensure:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> License Matches Vessel Tonnage. If not, please explain:

**Secondary Vessel Captain Experience in Local Waters:**

<p><b>No experience in Washington Waters</b></p> <p><b>San Juan Islands Region:</b> Length of Time in the Area: _____</p>	<p><b>Northern Puget Sound:</b> Bellingham Channel Deception Pass Guemes Channel Saddle Bags Pass</p> <p><b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____</p>	<p><b>Seattle Area:</b> Duwamish River Hiram M. Chittenden Locks Montlake Cut</p> <p><b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____</p>
	<p><b>Central Puget Sound:</b> Agate Pass Hood Canal Rich Pass</p> <p><b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____</p>	<p><b>South Puget Sound:</b> South of Point Defiance</p> <p><b>Length of Time in the Area:</b> _____</p>

**Owner of Vessel or Vessel Management Company:**

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Phone and Email:</b>	
<b>Vessel Agent Info (If Applicable):</b>	

**Information Regarding Visit:**

<b>Purpose of Visit:</b>	
<b>Length of Stay:</b>	

**Voyage Plan (Check all regions/channels/passes you intend to visit):**

<p><b>San Juan Islands Region:</b>                  Cattle Pass                  Harney Channel                  Lopez Pass                  New Channel                  Obstruction Pass                  Peavine Pass                  San Juan Channel                  Spieden Channel                  Thatcher Pass                  Upright Channel                  Wasp Pass</p>	<p><b>Northern Puget Sound:</b>                  Bellingham Channel                  Deception Pass*                  Guemes Channel                  Saddle Bags Pass</p> <p><b>Central Puget Sound:</b>                  Agate Pass                  Hood Canal                  Rich Pass</p>	<p><b>Seattle Area:</b>                  Duwamish River*                  Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks*                  Montlake Cut</p> <p><b>South Puget Sound:</b>                  South of Point Defiance</p> <p><b>Other:</b>                  Please provide location if not listed:</p>
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Please provide specific dates intending to be in area:

\*Deception Pass, Ballard Locks, Duwamish River are Restricted Areas. If voyage plan includes these areas PLEASE COMPLETE PAGE 6.

**Watchstanding Crew List:** (May attach a separate list but must include the information requested below)

<b>1 Name:</b>		<b>2 Name:</b>	
<b>Position:</b>		<b>Position:</b>	
<b>Speaks English:</b>	Yes      No	<b>Speaks English:</b>	Yes      No
<b>3 Name:</b>		<b>4 Name:</b>	
<b>Position:</b>		<b>Position:</b>	
<b>Speaks English:</b>	Yes      No	<b>Speaks English:</b>	Yes      No

**Additional Information:**

<b>List any propulsion, navigation, or communication equipment not currently operational:</b>	
<b>Navigational aids on board:</b>	VHF Radios Magnetic compass Gyroscopic compass Satellite compass Radar Automatic radar plotting aid (ARPA) Global Positioning System (GPS) Electronic Chart System (ECS) Electronic Chart Display & Information System (ECDIS) Automated Identification System (AIS) Depth sounder

# CERTIFICATION

**Vessel Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below I certify that I am authorized to make this application on behalf of the vessel named; that the person(s) listed as captain(s) in the Petition for Exemption meets/meet all the qualifications set by the flag state (country of vessel registry) to act as captain of the vessel in Washington waters; and that no other person(s) will act as captain of the vessel during the period of the exemption. I further certify that I understand and will ensure that any person acting as captain of the vessel understands the following:

1. Navigation in Washington waters in the Puget Sound or Grays Harbor Pilotage Districts area can involve many hazards such as high traffic areas including large commercial vessels, multiple recreational vessels, etc.; use of Vessel Traffic Service routes; unique radio communication requirements and channels; relatively extreme tides and currents; etc.

2. If an exemption is granted, prior to navigating in Washington pilotage waters, appropriate navigational equipment and supporting documents including – but not limited to - the following items will be available on board the vessel and the captain will be familiar with them:

- a. The Puget Sound Vessel Traffic Service Users Manual (USCG Local Notice to Mariners also available here):  
<https://www.pacificarea.uscg.mil/VTSPugetSound/>
- b. Information on local VHF radio communications: See VTS Users Manual above, or this 2 pager:  
[https://www.pacificarea.uscg.mil/Portals/8/District\\_13/sectpugetsound/VTSpugetsound/LessThan20\\_2018.pdf?ver=2018-09-07-215430-077](https://www.pacificarea.uscg.mil/Portals/8/District_13/sectpugetsound/VTSpugetsound/LessThan20_2018.pdf?ver=2018-09-07-215430-077)
- c. Those portions of the United States Coast Pilot – 10: Pacific Coast for any area in which the vessel will be navigated. Available in book form or online: <https://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/publications/coast-pilot/xml2html.html?book=10>
- d. Local tide and current information, available online:  
<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/products.html>
- e. Puget Sound Harbor Safety Plan (click "Documents"):  
<https://marexps.com/membership/puget-sound-harbor-safety-committee/>
- f. Foreign Yacht Familiarization Packet:  
<https://pilotage.wa.gov/pilotage-exemptions.html>
- g. Paper or electronic charts of all areas to be navigated, updated and of appropriate scale.

3. As provided in RCW 88.16.070, if an exemption is granted, it shall not be detrimental to the public interest in regard to safe operation preventing loss of human lives, loss of property and protecting the marine environment. The Board may, at any time, review the exemption and revoke it should it find the vessel is not in compliance with the requirements for exemption (including operation of the vessel in a manner that is not considered safe).

4. In 2019 new regulations regarding Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) went into effect, requiring recreational vessels to stay at least 300 yards away of either side of a SRKW path and 400 yards out of the path in front of and behind Orcas. If an Orca approaches within 300 yards of a vessel, the operator you must disengage the vessel transmission and allow the whale to safely pass. See [RCW 77.15.740](#) for more information.

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Signature of Vessel Owner or Representative

Date

**Vessel Captain Experience in Geographically Restricted Areas:  
Deception Pass / Ballard Locks / Duwamish River**

*Orientation with a Washington State Licensed Pilot is required for these areas. Requirement may be waived if applicants meet certain criteria. A Captain who has previously received a Pilot Orientation for an area will have satisfied the requirement.*

**Vessel Captain has read Familiarization Packet**

**Deception Pass**

**Ballard Locks (Hiram M. Chittenden Locks)**

**Duwamish River**