



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

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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 will be considered at the scheduled monthly meetings of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners. The monthly meeting schedule can be found on our website at <https://pilotage.wa.gov/meetings.html>.
- Schedule of Fees:

YACHTS 1300 GT or Less	1 Year (or Less) Exemption	Annual Renewal
65' and Under	\$ 100	\$ 100
66' to 125'	\$ 1100	\$ 900
126' to 200'	\$ 1500	\$ 1400
PASSENGER VESSELS 1300 GT or Less	1 Year (or Less) Exemption	Annual Renewal
All passenger vessels up to 200'	\$ 1500	\$ 1500

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:

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

Primary Vessel Captain:

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

Primary Vessel Captain Experience in Local Waters:

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

Secondary Vessel Captain:

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

Secondary Vessel Captain Experience in Local Waters:

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

Owner of Vessel or Vessel Management Company:

Name:	
Address:	
Phone and Email:	
Vessel Agent Info (If Applicable):	

Information Regarding Visit:

Purpose of Visit:	
Length of Stay:	

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

<p>San Juan Islands Region:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Harney Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Lopez Pass <input type="checkbox"/> New Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Obstruction Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Peavine Pass <input type="checkbox"/> San Juan Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Spieden Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Thatcher Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Upright Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Wasp Pass	<p>Northern Puget Sound:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Bellingham Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Deception Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Guemes Channel <input type="checkbox"/> Saddle Bags Pass	<p>Seattle Area:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Duwamish River <input type="checkbox"/> Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks <input type="checkbox"/> Montlake Cut
<p>Central Puget Sound:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Agate Pass <input type="checkbox"/> Hood Canal <input type="checkbox"/> Rich Pass		<p>South Puget Sound:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> South of Point Defiance
<p>Other: Please provide location if not listed:</p> <hr/>		
<p>Please provide specific dates intending to be in area:</p> <hr/>		
<p>If voyage plan includes Restricted Areas (Deception Pass, Ballard Locks, or Duwamish River) please complete page 6.</p>		

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

1 Name:		2 Name:	
Position:		Position:	
Speaks English:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Speaks English:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3 Name:		4 Name:	
Position:		Position:	
Speaks English:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Speaks English:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Information:

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

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

Confined narrows at less than 450', currents up to 9 kts, strong whirlpools, lack of navigational aids.

All exempted vessels shall adhere to the guidelines in the Foreign Yacht Familiarization Packet: Transits of Deception Pass shall only be inducted in daylight, in good visibility, and when the predicted current at Pass Island is less than 2 knots. See Familiarization Packet for more information.

Vessel Size	Requirements for Captain Experience or Orientation
65' and Under	No additional requirements
66' to 125'	No additional requirements
126' to 200'	Minimum of 2 Transits as a Deck Officer – OR – Pilot Orientation

If vessel length greater than 125' please describe Captain's two most recent Deception Pass transits or pilot orientation. Include date of transit/orientation, vessel name, and deck officer position.

Ballard Locks (Hiram M. Chittenden Locks)

Confined waters, heavy vessel congestion, operational procedures.

All exempted vessels shall review the Foreign Yacht Familiarization Packet regarding Lock procedures, check-in points, and holding areas. See Familiarization Packet for more information.

Vessel Size	Requirements for Captain Experience or Orientation
65' and Under	No additional requirements
66' to 125'	Minimum of 2 Transits as a Deck Officer – OR – Pilot Orientation
126' to 200'	Minimum of 2 Transits as a Deck Officer – OR – Pilot Orientation

If vessel length 65' or greater please describe Captain's two most recent Ballard Locks transits or pilot orientation. Include date of transit/orientation, vessel name, and deck officer position.

Duwamish River

Heavy commercial traffic, bridge requirements, Tribal fishing nets.

Vessel Size	Requirements for Captain Experience or Orientation
65' and Under	No additional requirements.
66' to 125'	No additional requirements.
126' to 200'	Minimum of 2 Transits as a Deck Officer -OR- Pilot Orientation

If vessel length greater than 125' please describe Captain's two most recent Duwamish River transits or pilot orientation. Include date of transit/orientation, vessel name, and deck officer position.