

## WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES UPDATE

**Puget Sound Regional Council** 

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Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation

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## SERVICE CONTINGENCY PLAN GOALS

#### The goals of the Service Contingency Plan are to:

- Provide a measure of **predictability** about the service WSF will be able to operate for the next 4 to 5 years.
- Be transparent about decisions, considerations, and priorities when service adjustments are necessary and how WSF will manage unplanned service disruptions.
- Provide consistency in service to enhance reliability for customers.
- Outline how WSF will communicate with customers, community members and other partners.

## SERVICE CONTINGENCY PLAN

ROUTE	BASELINE CONTINGENCY PLAN 15 vessels	FULL SERVICE  19 vessels summer  18 vessels spring/fall  17 from late-fall to early-spring	
Anacortes/San Juan Islands	4 vessels including 1 interisland-only vessel	4 vessels, including 1 interisland-only vessel (No interisland on winter weekends)	
Port Townsend/Coupeville	1 vessel year-round	1 vessel: Late-fall to early-spring 2 vessels: Late-spring to early-fall	
Mukilteo/Clinton	2 vessels	2 vessels	
Edmonds/Kingston	2 vessels	2 vessels	
Seattle/Bainbridge Island	2 vessels	2 vessels	
Seattle/Bremerton	1 vessel	2 vessels	
Fauntleroy/Vashon/ Southworth	2 vessels	3 vessels (2-boat service on winter weekends)	
Point Defiance/Tahlequah	1 vessel	1 vessel	
Anacortes/Sidney	No service	1 vessel (spring/summer/fall)	

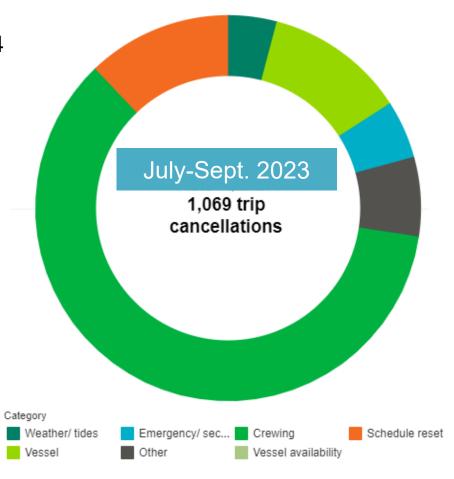
## **CONSTRAINTS**

#### **Vessel Availability:**

- 24 vessels in 2015; 21 vessels in 2024
- Aging fleet: 5-64 years old
- New vessels in 2028
  - Can build out-of-state
  - Can select multiple shipyards

#### **Crew Availability:**

- Global mariner shortage
- Generational transformation
- Time and training for licensed deck and engine staff



### RESTORING SERVICE

### Prioritization of Remaining Unrestored Routes

- 3<sup>rd</sup> boat at Fauntleroy/Vashon/Southworth
- 2<sup>nd</sup> boat at Seattle/Bremerton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> boat at Port Townsend/Coupeville (shoulder season and summer only)

#### **Adding Service**

- When crew and/or vessel not consistently available for a full season, added service will be unscheduled.
- When both crew and vessel are projected to be available for a full season, added service will be scheduled.
- Flexibility to change seasonally.



# UNPLANNED SERVICE DISRUPTIONS

- The <u>first day</u>, the route where the vessel is assigned will operate without that vessel.
  - WSF needs time to make an assessment as to whether repairs will last more than one day. Often, vessels can be repaired the same day.
  - 2. WSF needs time to assemble deck crews to move vessels to new routes
  - 3. customers need advance notice of schedule changes to plan accordingly.
- Service will be restored as quickly as possible on routes already on reduced service.

There's a lot to consider when a relief vessel isn't available:

- Alternatives routes does a community have another ferry or drive-around option?
- Customer impacts and ridership – how many people are impacted by the disruption?
- Special events sports, festivals, etc
- Reservations canceling reservation trips has widespread impacts
- Crew resources and availability
- Duration of the disruption



## GOVERNOR'S 2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

	Current Budget	Governor's Proposed Budget	Funding Increase	Percentage Increase
Ferry Operations Budget	\$740m	\$789m	\$49m	7%
Ferry Capital Budget	\$533m	\$666m	\$133m	25%

## GOVERNOR'S 2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

## Improve reliability of service delivery through workforce development

- Add dispatch & vessel crew staff
- Expand AB to Mate development program
- Support Wiper to Oiler promotion program
- Expand MITAGS training scholarships
- Double capacity for external pilotage

#### **Electrify ferries to support climate goals**

- Support to begin 5 new hybrid-electric ferries
- Convert 3 existing ferries to hybrid electric propulsion
- Build vessel charging infrastructure at terminals

## Improve the resilience of ferry infrastructure

- Vessel & Terminal preservation
- Emergency repairs

#### **Build forward-thinking solutions**

- Continue operating the San Juan Island crew shuttle
- Maintain Kitsap Transit passenger-only ferry service
- Conduct study of passengeronly ferry service
- Conduct study of the next class of vessels



## Q&A

