

PILOTAGE

Action Items:

- ◆ Pilotage should be arranged 24 hours in advance.
- ◆ Radio communication can be made by calling Port Angeles Pilot Station or the Victoria Pilot station on the appropriate VHF-FM frequency.
- ◆ Inbound vessels are requested to reaffirm their estimated time of arrival at the pilot boarding station when they are passing Cape Flattery, and again when they are one (1) hour away.
- ◆ A pilot ladder is to be rigged in compliance with SOLAS regulations on the leeward side about one (1) meter above the water.
- ◆ When approaching the Port Angeles pilot station boarding area, vessels are requested to monitor VHF-FM channel 13, and maintain a steady course and speed of around 8-10 knots when the pilot boat comes alongside, unless otherwise directed by the pilot boat.

For vessels bound to U.S. ports, the following pilot requirements apply:

- Pilotage is compulsory under Washington State law for all foreign vessels and U.S. vessels engaged in foreign trade.
- Coastwise seagoing vessels propelled by machinery and subject to inspection under 46 U.S. Code Chapter 33, and coastwise seagoing tank barges subject to inspection under 46 U.S. Code Chapter 37, must be under the direction and control of a federally licensed pilot.
- Vessels that are not authorized by their Certificate of Inspection to proceed beyond the Boundary Line which are in excess of 1,600 gross tons, propelled by machinery, and subject to inspection under 46 U.S. Code Chapter 33, must be under the direction and control of a federally licensed pilot.

Pilotage service for all U.S. ports and places E of 123° 24'W longitude in the Strait of Juan de Fuca, including Puget Sound and adjacent inland waters is provided by the Puget Sound Pilots.

Pilotage should be arranged between 0800 and 1700, and at least 24 hours in advance of inbound estimated time of arrival (ETA), through the vessel's agent, by direct telephone communication with the Puget Sound Pilots at (206) 448-4455 or through the Marine Exchange of Puget Sound at (206) 443-3830 - (206) 443-3839 FAX - Telex 6734358 MAREX. If subsequent conditions make it necessary, an amended ETA should be made. Inbound vessels are also requested to reaffirm their ETA at the pilot boarding station through the Cooperative Vessel Traffic Service (CVTS) and directly with Puget Sound Pilots via VHF Channel 13 when they are passing Cape Flattery, and again when they are one (1) hour from the pilot station.

Port Angeles has been designated as the pilotage station for all vessels en route to U.S. ports from the sea or departing U.S. ports to sea. Vessels desiring a pilot should proceed with caution to a point at least 1.0 mile NNE (1.5 mile NNE if a loaded petroleum tanker) of the east end of Ediz Hook where the pilot will board the vessel. A pilot ladder is to be rigged in compliance with SOLAS regulations on the leeward side about one (1) meter above the water. Radio communication can be made by calling Port Angeles Pilot Station on VHF-FM channel 13. When approaching the boarding area, vessels should monitor VHF-FM channel 13, and maintain a steady course and a speed of about 8-10 knots when the pilot boat comes alongside.

There are two pilot boats, each 22 meters in length with white hulls and red deckhouses. The pilot station and pilot boats are equipped with radar and AIS to locate and track vessels. Pilot boats have their own lights to illuminate the pilot ladder, but a standby light should be ready in the event of an emergency. If illumination by the vessel is required, the pilot ladder and ship's deck should be lit by a forward shining outside light.

Vessels calling on British Columbia ports will bypass the Port Angeles pilot station and proceed to the British Columbia pilots' boarding station at Victoria, British Columbia. Masters shall take note of the Precautionary Area that must be transited on the way to Victoria and ensure proper situational awareness and appropriate communications with other vessels and CVTS to ensure a safe transit.

For more information about those who provide the pilotage services, see:

- For the U.S., Puget Sound Pilots at <http://www.pspilots.org/>;
- For Canada, Pacific Pilotage Authority at see <http://www.ppa.gc.ca/> and British Columbia Coast Pilots at see <http://www.bccoastpilots.com/>.

