

Washington State Ferries Interisland and Sidney, B.C.

Washington State Transportation Commission

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Anacortes/San Juans/Sidney, B.C.



Anacortes/San Juans/Sidney, B.C

Anacortes-San Juans-Sidney, BC

Three “routes” in one – Anacortes, Interisland, International

4 vessels (3 Winter weekends, 5 Summer)

- 10-130 minute crossing time
- 30-180 minute headway

Anacortes-San Juans - 2016

1,905,677 million passengers

843,304 vehicles

San Juan Interisland - 2016

103,761 vehicles

Sidney – 2016 (2 trips/day summer, 1 trip/day fall and spring)

146,078 passengers

49,119 vehicles

Interisland Service – Background and History

“Traditional” way of serving San Juan Islands

All vessels from Anacortes make all or most stops

- Provide service to each island, but slow cycle time
- 5 + hours round trip to go “all stops” to Friday Harbor and back
- Limited vessels to 3 or 4 round trips in a service day
- Long voyage for San Juan Island residents

Early experiments with summer interisland service – 1978/1979

- Utilized the last wooden vessel in the fleet, MV Vashon
- Allowed other vessels to make more direct sailings and cycle faster
- No tie up slip in Friday Harbor, time consuming crew change trips mid-day to Anacortes



Photo credit: www.evergreenfleet.com

Interisland Service – 1980's and 1990's

Ability to provide interisland service limited in 1980's

No vessels available on a consistent basis

- Tie up slip constructed in Friday Harbor, allowing efficiencies in scheduling
- Interisland service occasionally provided in the summer
- Traffic growth started to impede effectiveness of “all stop” service, even in the non peak months
- Competing interisland and Anacortes traffic loading would make vessels up to 2 hours late

Year-round interisland service - 1990

- MV Hiyu available year-round
- Allowed other vessels to make more direct sailings and cycle faster – 5 round trips for Super class instead of 3
- Reliable schedule for interisland commuters
- Tradespeople can work half a day on one island and move to the next



Photo credit: www.evergreenfleet.com

Interisland Service – Current Service and Issues



1990's to present – “upsizing” to larger vessels

- Larger vessels accommodated increasing traffic
- Ability to divert to Anacortes on Fridays and Sunday
- Winter weekend cutbacks in 2005



Photo credit: www.evergreenfleet.com



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Current issues

- Faster MV Sealth slated to take over for retiring Evergreen class vessels by 2019
- Cost considerations in basing the vessel in Friday Harbor

Historically an extension of the San Juan Islands service

Linkage between Skagit County and the San Juan Islands to Vancouver Island

- Sidney is 17 miles north of Victoria
- Longest route in the WSF system
- Currently 2 round trips in the summer, 1 round trip fall/spring
- Viewed as an important economic link for Skagit County

Ridership is shaped by many factors

- Alternative ferry access to B.C.
- Availability to provide capacity to the route – very capital intensive
- Fluctuations in exchange rates



Photo credit: www.evergreenfleet.com

Sidney Route – Only Two Vessels Available

MV Chelan and MV Elwha SOLAS equipped

- Safety Of Life At Sea for international vessel
- Additional life rafts, insulation, lighting
- Additional staffing



South



North

Route: Class:	Point Defiance	Triangle	Bremerton	Bainbridge	Edmonds- Kingston	Mukilteo- Clinton	Port Townsend	Anacortes routes		
								Anacortes	Interisland	Sidney, BC
Jumbo Mark II	Poor fit	Poor fit	OK fit	Good fit	Good fit	OK fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Poor fit
Jumbo	Poor fit	Poor fit	OK fit	Good fit	Good fit	OK fit	Poor fit	OK fit	Poor fit	Poor fit
Super	OK fit	OK fit	Good fit	OK fit	OK fit	OK fit	Poor fit	Good fit	OK fit	<i>Elwha only</i>
Issaquah	OK fit	Good fit	Good fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Good fit	Poor fit	Good fit	OK fit	<i>Chelan only</i>
Evergreen State	OK fit	Good fit	OK fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	OK fit	Good fit	Poor fit
Kwa-di Tabil	Good fit	OK fit	OK fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Poor fit	Good fit	Poor fit	OK fit	Poor fit



Good fit

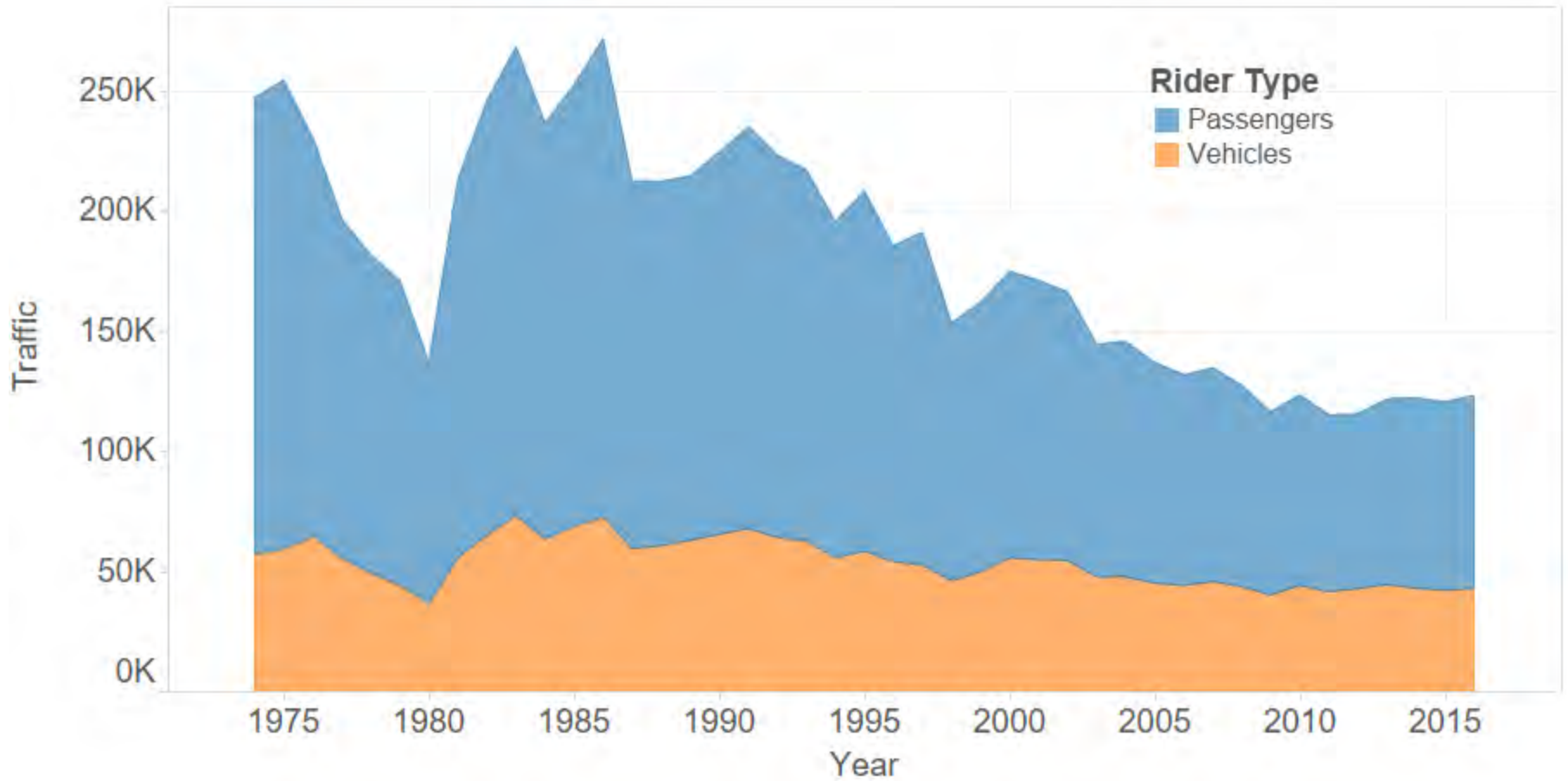


OK fit



Poor fit

Sidney Ridership



Unique Opportunities and Challenges

- Coordination with US and Canada Customs and Immigration
- Duty free store provides additional revenue
- Very seasonal – no service during 12 week winter
- Integration with San Juan domestic service



Photo credit: www.evergreenfleet.com

Questions?



For more information, please contact:

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