



CITY OF BELLINGHAM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KELLI LINVILLE

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the Commercial Fishermen's "Memorial and Blessing of the Commercial Fleet" at the Bellingham Harbor, which was established in the early 1950's and resurfaced in 2010 through action by the Whatcom Commercial Fishermen's Association, to promote community awareness and memory of fishers and other sailors who departed Whatcom County's harbors were lost at sea; and

WHEREAS the community of Bellingham, Washington continues in its concern of the safety and welfare of its seagoing boats and their crews; and

WHEREAS the fishermen's life is burdened with hazards and difficulties unknown to most of us; and

WHEREAS strength and courage are basic requirements for anyone who chooses to work on the high seas, battling the elements in order to harvest nature's bounty; and

WHEREAS when fishermen do lose their lives, their deaths impact the tightly knit fabric of this and all communities; and

WHEREAS the Whatcom County Commercial Fishermen's Association who are dedicated to preservation, enhancement and promotion of the Commercial Fishermen's Memorial and Blessing of the Fleet have planned a service at the Bellingham Squalicum Harbor;

NOW, THEREFORE, DO I Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim May 11, 2013 as

“MEMORIAL AND BLESSING OF THE FLEET DAY”

in the City of Bellingham, WA. The City of Bellingham extends heartfelt thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of the men and women claimed by the sea and wish the entire commercial fleet a safe and prosperous season and pray that all fishing men and women will return safely home to their loved ones.



Signed this 25th of March, 2013

Kelli Linville, Mayor
City of Bellingham