



CITY OF BELLINGHAM  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
KIM LUND

## MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS** the Blessing of the Fleet is a tradition that began centuries ago in fishing villages across the world; and

**WHEREAS** the Commercial Fishermen's "Memorial and Blessing of the Commercial Fleet" at Bellingham Harbor, was established in the early 1950s 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

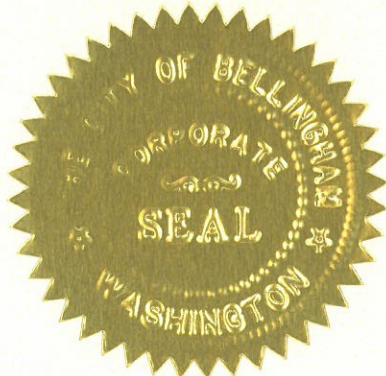
**WHEREAS** when fishermen do lose their lives, their deaths impact the tightly knit fabric of this and all communities; and

**WHEREAS** the Whatcom County Commercial Fishermen's Association 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;

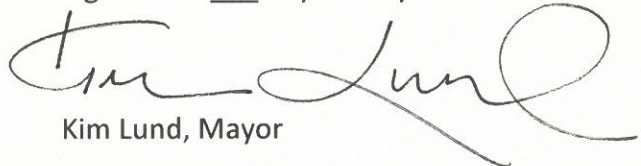
**NOW, THEREFORE, DO I** Kim Lund, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, proclaim May 10, 2025 as

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025

  
Kim Lund, Mayor