

Ian Ellis

Mate, Tug and Oil Barge Operations

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STRENGTHS



Tow Handling

Heavy lines, wires, winches, and barge landings received focused attention, helping crews work with confidence during tight maneuvers.



Watchstanding

Wheelhouse watches stayed orderly and alert through changing traffic, weather, and tow conditions. Crews knew what mattered next.



Crew Development

Deckhands learned through practical coaching, fair feedback, and shared work. A quick conversation often prevented a repeated mistake.



Safety Readiness

Inspections covered equipment, cleanliness, charts, publications, and supplies. Small checks supported dependable departures and calmer handovers.



Communication

Radio, telephone, and face to face updates stayed concise. Senior crews valued clear distances, directions, risks, and next actions.

SKILLS

Oil barge towing

Wheelhouse watchstanding

Barge landings Line handling

Radar operations

Chart corrections Crew training

HAZWOPER GMDSS ECDIS

Vessel inspections

Radio communications

Tow connections

Safety equipment Supply control

SUMMARY

Licensed tugboat Mate with 13 years of progressive coastal towing experience across oil barge operations, wheelhouse watchstanding, tow handling, barge landings, line work, and vessel readiness. Holds a **200 Ton Mate Near Coastal USCG license** with towing endorsement, **Radar Observer endorsement**, **Coast Guard approved firefighting training**, First Aid and CPR, HAZWOPER, GMDSS, ECDIS, and a valid Oregon driver's license. Leads Deckhands through practical instruction, fair feedback, lookout assignments, safety inspections, maintenance support, supply control, and reliable watch routines. Communicates clearly by radio, telephone, and in person using **cargo information cards** and safety data sheets. Brings calm judgment to severe weather, confined vessel operations, nights, weekends, holidays, and call outs, with readiness to assume command when required.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Mate, Oil Barge Operations

Northstar Tow & Barge 📅 January 2023 to Present 📍 Astoria, Oregon

Lead wheelhouse watches and oil barge operations while supporting tow handling, vessel readiness, Deckhand development, inspections, maintenance, and operational communication.

- Led **wheelhouse watches** for **oil barges** during changing coastal conditions and demanding schedules.
- Coordinated **barge landings**, lookout assignments, and tow handling through concise bridge communications.
- Trained Deckhands on **seamanship**, tools, machinery, safety routines, and assigned deck work.
- Inspected **safety equipment**, vessel **cleanliness**, records, and readiness before operational departures.
- Maintained charts, publications, supplies, materials, and maintenance priorities for dependable vessel operations.
- Built strong working relationships with crews and shoreside teams during complex towing assignments.

Mate, Coastal Towing

Columbia Coastal Towing 📅 June 2019 to December 2022 📍 Portland, Oregon

Supported coastal towing operations through watchstanding, tow connections, cargo safety, lookout coordination, supply control, crew communication, and **vessel maintenance**.

- Completed coastal towing watches while monitoring tow condition, traffic, weather, and vessel position.
- Made tow connections and handled **heavy lines** through disciplined deck coordination and clear **directions**.
- Assigned **lookouts** and communicated **distances**, bearings, and hazards during maneuvering operations.
- Used **cargo information cards** and safety data sheets during oil cargo handling activities.
- Controlled onboard supplies and materials, supporting maintenance schedules and operational continuity.
- Shared operational knowledge with crewmates, strengthening trust across wheelhouse and deck teams.

Relief Mate

Pacific Sound Marine 📅 March 2016 to May 2019 📍 Coos Bay, Oregon

Covered relief navigation watches and supported line transfers, radar monitoring, emergency drills, safety equipment checks, and reliable vessel upkeep.

- Covered relief navigation watches using radar, charts, publications, and established bridge procedures.
- Monitored **radar** contacts and communicated developing traffic concerns during coastal towing operations.

LANGUAGES

English	Native
Spanish	Intermediate

MY CAREER

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MONTHS

- Supported line transfers and deck movements with careful timing, signals, and crew coordination.
- Inspected **safety equipment** and participated in emergency drills that improved crew **readiness**.
- Maintained vessel work areas, **tools**, records, and **supplies** during rotating assignments.
- Earned crew confidence by sharing practical watchkeeping knowledge during handovers and drills.

Able Seaman, Mate Trainee

Cascade Harbor Towing 📅 July 2013 to February 2016 📍 Newport, Oregon

Advanced through supervised Mate training while supporting watchstanding, winch operations, bridge communication, vessel upkeep, and hands on towing work.

- Completed supervised **Mate** watchstanding assignments under established towing and bridge procedures.
- Operated winches and handled deck equipment during tow preparation and line movements.
- Relayed bridge directions accurately by **radio** and in person during active deck work.
- Supported vessel upkeep through cleaning, inspections, tool care, and maintenance preparation.
- Practiced lookout duties, hazard reporting, and safe movement around lines and **machinery**.
- Built professional connections with senior crew members who guided advancement into Mate duties.

Deckhand, Oil Barge Operations

Seaward Marine Transport 📅 September 2012 to June 2013 📍 Eureka, California

Supported oil barge deck operations through **line handling**, lookout duties, cargo safety communication, equipment care, and vessel maintenance.

- Handled lines and hoses during oil barge operations under senior crew supervision.
- Served as lookout and reported distances, directions, traffic, and hazards clearly.
- Reviewed cargo safety information before assigned deck work and cargo related tasks.
- Maintained tools, deck areas, equipment, and workspaces for safe vessel operations.
- Supported inspections, cleaning, and maintenance activities during changing weather conditions.
- Developed trusted working relationships with deck crews through dependable follow through.

PROJECTS

Tow Readiness and Safety Review 📅 2023

Created a recurring readiness review for safety equipment, charts, publications, supplies, vessel cleanliness, and operational records. Clear checks supported smoother departures and stronger watch handovers.

Deckhand Development Program 📅 2021

Structured practical coaching for seamanship, machinery, tools, line handling, lookout work, and vessel routines. Feedback helped crewmates build confidence during demanding towing operations.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- Recognized by senior crews for dependable watchstanding and calm communication during difficult coastal towing conditions.
- Selected for progressive Mate responsibilities after demonstrating sound judgment, practical seamanship, and consistent vessel readiness.
- Built trusted working relationships across wheelhouse and deck teams through clear instruction and reliable follow through.

EDUCATION

Associate of Applied Science in Maritime Technology

Clatsop Community College 🎓 GPA: 3.5 📅 2012 📍 Astoria, Oregon

Coursework: Marine operations, seamanship, navigation, vessel safety

CERTIFICATIONS

- USCG 200 Ton Mate Near Coastal License with Towing Endorsement 📅 2026

- Radar Observer Endorsement 📅 2026
- Coast Guard Approved Firefighting Training 📅 2025
- First Aid and CPR 📅 2026
- HAZWOPER 📅 2026
- GMDSS 📅 2024
- ECDIS 📅 2025

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Marine Licenses:** USCG 200 Ton Mate, Near Coastal, Towing endorsement
- **Navigation Systems:** Radar, ECDIS, charts
- **Communication Systems:** GMDSS, marine radio, telephone
- **Tow Operations:** Oil barges, tow connections, barge landings
- **Deck Equipment:** Winches, heavy lines, wires
- **Safety Training:** Firefighting, First Aid, CPR
- **Hazardous Materials:** HAZWOPER, cargo cards, safety data sheets
- **Vessel Readiness:** Safety equipment, cleanliness, inspections
- **Crew Operations:** Deckhand training, lookouts, evaluations
- **Maintenance Control:** Supplies, materials, tools
- **Navigation Records:** Chart corrections, publication corrections, watch logs
- **Operating Conditions:** Severe weather, confined spaces, vessel heights

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Professional mariner committed to safe towing operations, crew development, and responsible vessel stewardship.
- Maintains working relationships with tug crews, deck personnel, shoreside teams, and maritime training contacts.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST