

For Immediate Release
October 16, 2009



Port of Portland's Rick Finn elected PNWA President

Rick Finn, Federal Affairs Manager at the Port of Portland, was elected President of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA). Finn will head a forty member Board of Directors representing navigation interests in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Northern California, and Alaska. Finn has been a PNWA Board Member since 2002 and has served as PNWA Vice-President since October 2007.

Finn's first item of duty as President will be to lead the PNWA Mission to Washington, DC in March 2010. The agenda will include meetings with the Northwest Congressional delegation, senior staff from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies, and national leaders from industry and trade groups based in Washington, DC. Among the issues to be addressed are securing funding to maintain the jetties at the Mouth of the Columbia River, Columbia and Snake River locks, and Oregon coastal jetties; supporting the FCRPS Biological Opinion; and completion of the Columbia River Channel Improvement Project.

Rick Finn has been with the Port of Portland since June 1999. As the Federal Affairs Manager he advocates for the Port's federal interests within the U.S. Congress and Executive Branch. Prior to joining the Port of Portland, Finn served as the Senior Country Director for Korea in the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington, D.C and served on the professional staff of the Senate Armed Services Committee for 14 years.

Elections for PNWA Executive Committee and Board of Directors were held October 14th at the PNWA Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Washington. Other Portland area members include Steve Shaver of Shaver Transportation, Bob Bagaason of the Port of Longview, Larry Paulson of the Port of Vancouver USA, Dan James of PNGC Power, Captain Paul Amos of the Columbia River Pilots, Lanny Cawley of the Port of Kalama, Mike Walker of Foss Maritime, Byron Hanke of Clark PUD, Gerry Meyer of the Port of St. Helens, Captain James Townley of the Columbia River Steamship Operators Association and John Pigott of Tidewater Barge Lines.

PNWA is a regional association representing ports, steamship and towboat operators, grain and forest products shippers and other economic development and local government interests in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, and California. Since their founding in 1934, PNWA has led the way for development of economic infrastructure for navigation, electric power and irrigated agriculture on the Columbia and Snake River System. They work with the U.S. Congress, federal agencies and regional decision leaders on transportation, trade, tourism, energy and environmental policy to enhance economic vitality in the Pacific Northwest. For additional information, please visit www.pnwa.net.

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