2019 Upcoming Events - Mark your calendars!

Regional Meetings
Western Washington
February 12, 2019
Port of Seattle

Inland Empire
February 19, 2019
Port of Pasco

Columbia River and Coast
February 26, 2019
Port of Portland

PNWA Mission to Washington DC
March 10 – 14, 2019
Madison Hotel
Washington, DC

PNWA Summer Conference
June 25 – 27, 2019
Best Western Hood River Inn
Hood River, OR

PNWA Annual Convention
October 9 – 11, 2019
Heathman Lodge
Vancouver, WA

We hope to see you soon!
FUNDING SUCCESSES

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<th>President's Budget</th>
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Over the past five years, PNWA has helped secure an average of over $274M annually for our supported navigation projects.

The Administration released their FY2018 Corps Workplan on June 11th. PNWA supported projects received an additional $36.4M, for a total of $274.5M directed to the projects our members care about. Significant successes included new start funding for the Tacoma Harbor deepening study, funding to complete the North Jetty rehab at the Mouth of the Columbia River, and routine operations & maintenance funding for our small deep draft ports and the locks & dams in Puget Sound and along the Columbia Snake River System.

For FY2019, we saw Congress complete work on an Energy & Water Appropriations bill on schedule for the first time since FY2004, with record funding for the Corps of Engineers. A workplan was released on November 21st and included some significant highlights for the Northwest, including increased funding for 22 of our PNWA supported projects. Overall, $60.5M in additional funding was included in the workplan, for a total of $283.5M directed to our projects supported by PNWA and our members.

COLUMBIA RIVER TREASON

The Columbia River Treaty was ratified by the United States and Canada in 1964 to govern Columbia River flows for flood control and power generation. After nearly 50 years, both nations are examining its future. Four rounds of formal negotiations between the two countries were held in 2018. The U.S. team is led by the State Department, and included BPA, the Corps, NOAA, and Interior. U.S. objectives include continued careful management of flood risk, ensuring a reliable and economical power supply, and better addressing ecosystem concerns.

PNWA has been the leader for the Northwest, ensuring that U.S. decision makers are aware of the critical importance of navigation on the Columbia River. Throughout 2018, our association maintained close contact with the State Department, other federal agencies, and our Congressional delegation. Discussion centered on Treaty river flows and impacts to vessel movement, navigation infrastructure, and the global supply chain.

PNWA members and staff participated in a roundtable stakeholder forum before U.S. negotiator Jill Smail and her Canadian counterpart Sylvain Fabi at PNWER’s conference in Spokane, followed by a tour of Grand Coulee Dam. PNWA also participated in a boat tour of levees and other river infrastructure with reps from the Multnomah County Drainage District and Governor Brown’s staff.

As we look ahead to 2019, PNWA will continue to lead the way for Northwest navigation.

ENVIRONMENT

In 2018, PNWA was called on numerous times to provide information to decision makers, our federal partners, the press and the public about our members’ role in economic development, goods movement and stewardship of our waters. As we work in support of our members’ balanced approach to water resources development, we strive to help ensure their challenges are addressed and environmental needs are met. Our ongoing activities include:

- Providing suggestions to the Administration regarding easing regulatory burdens while maintaining protections for endangered species as part of overall discussions with NOAA Fisheries and the Corps to fully understand regulatory changes and advocate for our members’ needs
- Continued representation of the Inland Ports and Navigation Group in the FCPRA BiOp lawsuit to ensure safe and efficient large transport in our region
- Work to promote and fund the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act, to provide opportunities for toxics reduction throughout the entire Columbia River Basin
- Serving on NOAA’s Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force, to work on long-term goals for fish runs in the Basin. This process will continue in 2019, to identify activities which may help move the region toward accomplishing the recovery goals for our endangered species in the Basin.
- Ensuring the needs of our members throughout the Northwest are addressed as the Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force develops recommendations for short- and long-term efforts to recover Puget Sound orcas. In 2019, the task force will evaluate long-term strategies, and PNWA will continue to urge a focus on science-based approaches that will deliver real results for this iconic Northwest species.

The mission of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2018 was to identify activities which may help move the region toward accomplishing the recovery goals for our endangered species in the Basin.

PNWA is successful due to our broad regional membership combined with a collaborative, non-partisan approach. With your continued engagement, we look forward to many decades of cooperation and shared success.

As PNWA continues to be the trusted source for information about the value of infrastructure, trade, and transportation in the Northwest, PNWA staff has been on the road at speaking engagements providing data about our supported projects and highlighting the value of safe and efficient cargo movement for economic prosperity in our region.