



Nor'wester newsletter

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Funding needs at Ballard Locks highlighted by Congressional delegation

Members of the Washington Congressional delegation are working together to support funding for the Lake Washington Ship Canal/Ballard Locks in the FY2019 Corps workplan. The 100 year old ship canal and locks are in need of ongoing work to restore and modernize the project for safe and efficient operation. In a letter submitted last week to Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works R.D. James and OMB Director Mick Mulvaney, the Ballard Locks were highlighted for their importance to the local, regional and national economies. The ship canal and locks are part of PNWA's supported Corps projects, and deliver an impressive \$1.2 billion in economic activity. With approximately 40,000 transits and 14,000 lockages, they are the busiest locks in the U.S. in overall vessel traffic.

Senator Patty Murray was joined by Senator Cantwell and Representatives DelBene, Heck, Jayapal, Kilmer, Larsen, Reichert and Smith [in a letter](#) to support funding for the project in the FY2019 workplan. PNWA is very grateful for the support that our delegation has provided in the letter and for the efforts to bring federal dollars to this important project. Please view [our website](#) or contact [Heather Stebbings](#) for a complete list of our [supported navigation projects](#) and FY2019 workplan requests.

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Upcoming Events

Port of Coos Bay will begin operations of the Coos Bay Rail Line November 1st

The Port of Coos Bay has announced that Coos Bay Rail Line, Inc. (CBRL) will begin operations on the Port owned rail line on November 1, 2018. The Port purchased locomotives along with other materials and has hired 15 new staff members to manage the daily operations. The Port is working on both routine maintenance and capital improvements, with over \$60 million invested in the rail line's infrastructure and several rehabilitation projects under way including the Coos Bay swing span bridge. The bridge is expected to be back in operation at the end of this year.

"For over a century, the Port has worked to further its mission to promote sustainable economic development for the region and State. In assuming an operational role, the Port is preserving a transportation option that is integral to the economic fabric of the area," said Port CEO John Burns. "We seek to enhance operation of the rail line by offering an increased level of customer service, coordination, and communication for our customers while preserving critical jobs within our community."

Port of Grays Harbor Executive Director Gary Nelson appointed AAPA Chairman-Elect

Congratulations to the Port of Grays Harbor Executive Director and PNWA Board member Gary Nelson for his [recent appointment](#) as the American Association of Port Authorities' (AAPA) Chairman-Elect of the U.S. delegation for 2018-2019. "I look forward to a productive year for the Port industry as we continue to work on important industry-wide issues such as full utilization of the harbor maintenance trust fund and funding of infrastructure that is critical to ensuring our nation's seaports remain accessible and competitive," said Gary.

AAPA represents more than 130 public port authorities in the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America, and works to empower port authorities and their maritime industry partners to serve global customers and create economic and social value for their communities. AAPA is an important partner of PNWA, and we look forward to continuing to work with the association in the coming year.

New member Desimone Consulting Group joins PNWA

PNWA is pleased to welcome Desimone Consulting Group (DCG) to our membership! Desimone Consulting Group is a public affairs and government relations firm with offices in Seattle and Washington, D.C. Their practice is dedicated to helping clients advance complex issues and projects, and to maintain and grow key relationships in the state of Washington, the Pacific Northwest, and Washington, D.C. They help clients stand up new efforts, build campaigns that achieve key institutional objectives and create organizational infrastructure for the long haul. Their current and past clients are diverse, representing a wide range of industry sectors and public entities: life sciences interests, major health systems, manufacturers, airport concessionaires, leading research universities, Native American tribes, cities, and public port authorities. Within PNWA, Desimone is being represented by Brian Kristjansson. Brian can be reached by email at brian@desimonecg.com.



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