



Nor'wester newsletter

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Welcome new member Port of Port Townsend



Serving all of Jefferson County, [the Port of Port Townsend](#) is your destination of choice for world-class marine trades, recreation, & economic opportunity. The Port is located on the northeast corner of Washington's

Olympic Peninsula, one of the nation's best maritime destinations. Whether you are visiting our classic Victorian seaport for the first time as a tourist, are here for business, or have lived here for years, we are here to provide the services you need. We own and operate a diverse group of facilities, including:

- Three marinas in Port Townsend and Quilcene
- A marine trades industrial area
- Jefferson County International Airport
- An RV park at Point Hudson
- Boat launches at several sites around eastern Jefferson County
- Union Wharf and City Dock in downtown Port Townsend

Executive Director Eron Berg will be the Port's representative to PNWA and its members. He can be reached at eron@portofpt.com or 360-385-0656.

Welcome new member West Coast Seafood Processors Association

[The West Coast Seafood Processors Association](#) was

founded in 1993 to represent shore-based seafood processors in state, regional and federal issues. WCSPA currently represents 6 medium/large processors, 4 small processors and multiple seafood-related

West Coast Seafood Processors Association

businesses & associations. All WCSPA processor members are American companies and all but one are family owned. Our smaller members are mostly “mom and pop” (or in one case, “mom and daughters”) companies.

WCSPA members operate facilities in Bellingham, Seattle, Spokane, Westport and Woodland, Washington; Astoria, Tillamook, Pacific City, Newport, Charleston, Port Orford and Brookings, Oregon; and Eureka, Fort Bragg, San Francisco and Sacramento, California.

Executive Director Lori Steele will be WCSPA's representative to PNWA and its members. She can be reached at lori.wcseafood@gmail.com or 503-227-5076.

Spellmon confirmed as next Army Chief of Engineers



Major General Scott Spellmon was [confirmed by the Senate on July 20](#) for promotion to Lieutenant General and appointment as the U.S. Army Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

General Spellmon is currently the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' deputy commanding general for civil and emergency operations. He previously served as commander of the Corps' Northwestern Division, which encompasses the entire Columbia and Missouri river basins. He has been a frequent guest speaker at PNWA conventions, missions and other events.

General Spellmon has been an excellent partner in ensuring the accessibility and reliability of our Pacific Northwest waterways. We are very pleased and excited to see him appointed to one of the most important infrastructure-related positions in the federal government, and look forward to continuing our warm and productive relationship with him and the Corps' Headquarters staff.

USDA offers \$1 billion in rural/ag COVID loan guarantees

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development is making available up to \$1 billion in loan guarantees nationwide to help rural

businesses meet their working capital needs during the coronavirus pandemic. Funding is also available to agricultural producers that are not eligible for USDA Farm Service Agency loans.



The Business & Industry (B&I) Program increases access to capital for rural businesses by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders. Loans receiving a guarantee under provisions that were included in the [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) must be used as working capital to prevent, prepare for, or



respond to the effects of the coronavirus pandemic. The [Business & Industry CARES Act Program](#) may be used only to support rural businesses, including agricultural producers, that were in operation on February 15, 2020.

In addition to expanding eligibility to certain agricultural producers, the new CARES Act portion of the B&I Program allows USDA to:

- Provide 90 percent guarantees on B&I CARES Act Program loans;
- Set the application and guarantee fee at two percent of the loan;
- Accept appraisals completed within two years of the loan application date;
- Not require discounting of collateral for working capital loans; and
- Extend the maximum term for working capital loans to 10 years.

Rural Development intends to consider applications in the order they are received. However, the agency may assign priority points to projects if the demand for funds exceeds availability.

Applications will be accepted through September 15, 2021, or until funds are expended.

To discuss a potential application, contact [Nathan Brown](#), Business and Cooperative Programs Specialist, (541) 801-2685. Additional information is also available on [page 31139 of the May 22, 2020, Federal Register](#).

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