



# Nor'wester newsletter

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## Thank you to our Annual Convention Sponsors

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[Registration for our 2020 Annual Convention is now open.](#) We will bring you elements of our traditional annual convention virtually via Zoom meetings and webinars October 6-8. We are excited to bring you several keynote speakers and panels, as well as the opportunity to vote on leadership positions and our 2021 Policies and Projects. We will also honor the very best of PNWA, plus our 2020 Legislator of the Year.

Registration is free and open to PNWA members, partner agency staff members, and elected officials and their staffs.

*We would like to thank our first 2020 Annual Convention sponsors for their support:*

### Gold Sponsor



### Bronze Sponsors

Port of Lewiston

Ecological Land Services

Port of Vancouver USA

Additional sponsorship opportunities are available at the [Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze levels](#). Request a sponsorship when you register for the convention, or contact Randi Besser [by email](#) or at 503-234-8550 for more details.

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## Port of Chehalis grain project clears milestone

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The first load of locally-grown grain was loaded onto railcars Thursday morning at the Port of Chehalis' recently completed transload facility — marking a major milestone for the Southwest Washington Grain Project.

The grain is heading for the Great Western Malting Co. located in Vancouver.

“We’re thrilled,” said Port of Chehalis CEO Randy Mueller. “This project has been years in the making and it’s great to see it come through to completion. I’ve talked about all of the different partners — everyone from WSU to EDC to the Farm Bureau to Lewis County and all the other partners that helped make it happen.”

[Read the full story in The Daily Chronicle here](#)

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## USCG seeks comments on shallow draft navigation system

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The Coast Guard is conducting a Waterways Analysis and Management System Study on the Shallow Draft System, which applies to waters less than 12 feet deep, to update its policies and make navigable waterways of the United States safer and more efficient.

Our waterways have become increasingly congested and complex. While the number and size of the vessels traveling through the U.S. Marine Transportation System has increased, the number and in some cases size of U.S. navigation corridors has not. The recreational boating industry has also seen steady growth over the last decade further congesting the waterways.



To address these changes and determine navigation requirements for the Shallow Draft Waterway System, the Coast Guard will consider feedback from local maritime partners and stakeholders that operate on the affected waterways.

The study’s purpose is to determine the navigational needs and requirements of vessels operating in shallow draft navigable waterways throughout the country. The study will focus on the existing shallow water Aids to Navigation system, future development projects, waterborne commerce transiting these waters and marine

casualty information.

Waterway users, interested parties, and stakeholders are invited to provide comments or feedback via the tool posted at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ShallowWaterWAMS>. This link will remain available until Nov. 1, 2020.

Additional questions or comments may be emailed to [CGNAV@uscg.mil](mailto:CGNAV@uscg.mil) using the subject line: "Shallow Draft WAMS."

*PNWA will be submitting comments, and we welcome feedback from our members as we prepare our comments. [Please provide your feedback to Dena Horton.](#)*

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## WA Dept. of Ecology hosts oil spill risk model webinar

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The Washington Department Ecology is developing a quantitative model to assess current and potential future risks of oil spills in Washington waters, as directed by the Washington State Legislature.

During an upcoming webinar, Ecology will discuss an important component of our model, the Vessel Movement Module. They invite you to attend, and welcome your participation and feedback. This event is part of an ongoing series of discussions on model development.

### **Presentation on Vessel Movement Module**

**September 16, 2020**

**1-3 pm**

**[Register](#)**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Each webinar has a call-in option, if you prefer to participate by phone.

More information about the project, including materials from our June and July webinars is available on [Ecology's risk modeling web page](#). Direct links to recordings of previous events are included below:

[Introductory Webinar on Model Development \(June 2020\)](#)

[The Science of Risk Modeling and Modeling Approaches \(July 14, 2020\)](#)

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## FEMA issues NOFOs for BRIC and FMA programs

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The Federal Emergency Management Agency has issued Notices of Funding Opportunities for its Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities and Flood Mitigation Assistance programs.

The Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program makes federal funds available to states, U.S territories, Indian tribal governments, and local communities for pre-disaster mitigation activities.

[View the BRIC NOFO here.](#)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, Indian tribal governments, and local communities to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program.

[View the FMA NOFO here.](#)

Closing date for both grants is January 29, 2021.



# FEMA

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