



Nor'wester newsletter

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Welcome new member Port of Skamania County

The [Port of Skamania County](#) is located in Southwest Washington in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge. The Port owns 162 acres in Stevenson and North Bonneville including approximately 30,000 square feet of commercial space and 120,000 square feet of industrial use space. Within the City of Stevenson the Port owns and maintains approximately 6 acres of park land with 1.5 miles of waterfront. The Stevenson Landing dock, parks, beaches, and boat ramp facilities draw a variety of water-sport enthusiasts and tourists from around the world.



Executive Director Pat Albaugh will be the Port's designated representative to PNWA. He can be reached at 509-427-5484 or pat@portofskamania.org

Thank you 2021 Mission sponsors

PNWA's [2021 Mission to Washington](#) is our association's signature event, highlighting Northwest priorities each year in our nation's capital. We meet with agency leaders and the Northwest Congressional delegation, providing a regional vision for key policy and project priorities. This event is the perfect time to highlight the PNWA agenda for our national colleagues, and deliver your own messages from the Northwest.

Due to travel and meeting restrictions, we will conduct our 2021 Mission to Washington virtually. We have had great success with our 2020 virtual meetings – and our federal partners and representatives want to hear from you!

Registration is open

PNWA members only

Cost: \$150

Thank you to our first Mission to Washington sponsors for your generous support!

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Want to increase your organization's visibility to our members, partners and friends while supporting PNWA's advocacy efforts? Become a sponsor!

Gain exposure on our web and social media sites, in our *Nor'wester* newsletter, and be recognized during our meetings and webinars. [Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum levels](#) are available.

Sign up online when you register for the conference or [contact Randi Besser](#).

John Hairston named BPA administrator

The U.S. Department of Energy announced that it has selected John Hairston as administrator and CEO of the Bonneville Power Administration. The appointment was effective Jan. 7.



“John has made a lasting and significant impact on the Bonneville Power Administration over the past 29 years, and I am proud to announce him as the new Administrator,” said Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette. “BPA is an important provider of reliable, renewable hydroelectric and clean nuclear power to the Pacific Northwest,

and John’s commitment to serve BPA will support the Department’s critical energy mission.”

John has served as acting administrator and CEO since September 2020, following Elliot Mainzer’s departure after seven years in the agency’s top role. He has served in numerous leadership roles throughout his 29 years at BPA, most recently as chief operating officer and chief administrative officer.

PNWA has a good relationship with John, and we look forward to working with him in his new role to continue to advocate for and support the many benefits our Pacific Northwest hydropower system provides our members and the region.

Congressional staff updates

Departures

Legislative Assistant Tre Easton is leaving the office of Sen. Patty Murray (D, WA) to work in the non-profit world.

Legislative Assistant Sasha Bernhard left the office of Rep. Suzan DelBene (D, OR-1) for a lobbying opportunity.

Interim District Director Yazmin Mehdi is leaving the office of Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D, WA-7) for progressive advocacy opportunities.



Arrivals

[Liz Payne](#) is new Legislative Director for Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R, WA-5)

[Briana Connolly](#) is new Legislative Assistant for Rep. Cliff Bentz (R, OR-2). Briana previously worked for retiring OR-2 Rep. Greg Walden.

[Shanta Katipamula](#) is new Legislative Assistant for Rep. Suzan DelBene (D, OR-1)

Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D, WA-10) has made the following staff hires:

- Legislative Director **[Hector Colón](#)** will handle the infrastructure/transportation and natural resources/environment portfolios
- Legislative Assistant **[Lauren Meininger](#)** will handle the agriculture portfolio

- State Director [Liz Larter](#)
- State Scheduler [Sean DeWitz](#)

Assignments

Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D, WA-10) has been assigned to the House Transportation & Infrastructure and Foreign Affairs Committees. Subcommittee assignments are pending.

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