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13th Coast Guard District transfers command

Rear Adm. Melvin Bouboulis relieved Rear Adm. Anthony “Jack” Vogt as commander of the 13th Coast Guard District during a change of command ceremony July 1 at Coast Guard Base Seattle.

As the 13th District Commander, Bouboulis is responsible for all Coast Guard operations throughout the Pacific Northwest which encompasses the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, and includes more than 4,400 miles of coastline, 600 miles of inland waterways, and a 125 nautical mile international border with Canada.

Bouboulis previously served as the Director of Operational Logistics at headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Vogt, a native of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, retired after 35 years of service during a ceremony held later in the day at Alki Point Lighthouse.

PNWA thanks Rear Adm. Vogt for his service and partnership during his command tenure, and welcomes Rear Adm. Bouboulis to the region. We look forward to working with you!



The official party applauds retiring 13th District Commander Rear Adm. Anthony “Jack” Vogt during a change of command ceremony held Thursday, July 1, 2021, at Coast Guard Base Seattle.

NOAA seeks Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee nominations

NOAA Fisheries is seeking nominations to fill vacancies on the [Marine Fisheries Advisory Committee](#). MAFAC advises the Secretary of Commerce on all living marine resource matters that are the responsibility of the Department of



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Commerce. The Committee researches, evaluates, and provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary and NOAA on the development and implementation of agency policies that address science and regulatory programs critical to the mission and goals of the NOAA Fisheries Service.

MAFAC members are highly qualified, diverse individuals with experience across the wide spectrum of:

- Commercial, recreational, aquaculture, and subsistence fisheries
- Seafood industry, including processing, marketing, working waterfronts, and restaurants
- Marine, ecosystems, or protected resources management and conservation
- Human dimensions or social sciences associated with living marine resources.

Members may be associated with tribes and indigenous peoples, environmental organizations, academia, consumer groups, and other marine life interest groups.

Nominees should possess demonstrable expertise in one of these areas. They must also be able to fulfill the time commitments required for two in-person [annual meetings](#), one to two virtual meetings, and between-meeting subcommittee work.

Membership is balanced geographically across states and territories, ethnically, and on the basis of gender in addition to the range of expertise and interests listed. Individuals serve for a term of 3 years and may serve a second consecutive term, if re-appointed.

Interested individuals can learn more about MAFAC, its work, current members, charter, subcommittees and task forces, and reports and advice by going [HERE](#). A MAFAC member may not be a federal employee, member of a Regional Fishery Management Council, registered federal lobbyist, or state employee. Membership is voluntary, and except for reimbursable travel and related expenses, service is without pay. The committee functions solely as an advisory body (complying fully with the [Federal Advisory Committee Act](#)) which reports to the Secretary.

Full nomination instructions and guidelines are available on the [Federal Register](#).

For questions or more information, please contact Heidi Lovett, MAFAC Assistant Director, heidi.lovett@noaa.gov.

SeaTac, PDX receive Airport Rescue Grants



The U.S. Department of Transportation's [Federal Aviation Administration](#) will award \$8 billion in grants to keep U.S. airport workers employed, construction projects going and help U.S. airports recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding for the grants comes from the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#).

The [funding](#) provides economic relief to eligible commercial service, reliever, and general aviation airports. The money will help keep people safe and employed by reimbursing operational expenses, debt service payments, and costs related to combating the spread of pathogens at the airport. Airports can also use the money to provide rent relief to in-terminal retail and concession companies. The funding requires that airports continue to employ at least 90 percent of their pre-pandemic employees for those airports that cover a majority of the traveling public.

Among the hundreds of airports receiving funding, Seattle-Tacoma International was awarded \$175.7 million and Portland International \$72 million.

Northwest RiverPartners rebuts DamSense LSRD claims

Northwest RiverPartners was established by public power in 2005 to help correct the record regarding the hydropower system.



DamSense, an anti-dam advocacy group, has released several reports and made frequent claims that the lower Snake River dams lose money and aren't important to the region's power supply portfolio.

In response, Northwest RiverPartners commissioned an analyst this spring and summer to examine DamSense's claims. The analyst is a recent graduate of Case Western University with two separate degrees (math and economics) and is studying to become an actuary.

The [resulting whitepaper](#) finds DamSense's underlying assumptions to be seriously flawed.

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