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[PNWA Website](#) - [About PNWA](#) - [Action Agenda](#) - [PNWA Events](#) - [News](#) - [Contact Us](#)

In This Issue:

[Surface Transportation bill moves to Conference](#)

[Snake River Chinook returns continue to break records](#)

[Port Security Grant Program for Columbia Willamette Snake Rivers Survey](#)

[New Members Bellingham Cold Storage Join PNWA!](#)

Surface Transportation bill moves to Conference

With the passage of the House and Senate transportation bills, a conference committee has been appointed to work out the differences between the two bills. Since the current transportation authorization expires on November 20th, an expedited conference is expected. Northwest Representatives serving on the Conference Committee include Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Rep. Rick Larson (D-WA). A full list of conferees is below. We are continuing to monitor the process and will provide updates as we receive them. For questions, please contact Heather Stebbings.

Committee membersHouse T&I Members

Bill Shuster (R-PA)
 John J. Duncan, Jr. (R-TN)
 Sam Graves (R-MO)
 Candice Miller (R-MI)
 Rick Crawford (R-AK)
 Lou Barletta (R-PA)
 Blake Farenthold (R-TX)
 Bob Gibbs (R-OH)
 Jeff Denham (R-CA)
 Reid Ribble (R-WI)
 Scott Perry (R-PA)

Senate

Deb Fischer (R-Neb.)
 Jim Inhofe (R-OK)
 John Thune (R-SD)
 Orin Hatch (R-UT)
 Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
 John Barrasso (R-WY)
 John Cornyn (R-TX)
 Sherrod Brown (D-OH)
 Bill Nelson (D-FL)
 Ron Wyden (D-OR)

Rob Woodall (R-GA) Dick Durbin (D-IL)
John Katko (R-NY) Charles Schumer (D-NY)
Brian Babin (R-TX)
Crescent Hardy (R-NV)
Garret Graves (R-LA)
Peter DeFazio (D-OR)
Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
Corrine Brown (D-FL)
Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)
Elijah Cummings (D-MD)
Rick Larsen (D-WA)
Michael Capuano (D-MA)
Grace Napolitano (D-CA)
Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)
Steve Cohen (D-TN)
Albio Sires (D-NJ)
Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)

Snake River Chinook returns continue to break records

This year's adult fall chinook returns past Bonneville Dam have broken the record for the same period in 2013. The 2015 record of 950,250 fish is the second highest since daily counts were first recorded at the dams in 1938. Further up the river, 456,043 fish have moved past McNary Dam since October 13th, again breaking the previous record from 2013. In the Snake River, 55,610 chinook have passed Lower Granite Dam on their way to spawning grounds in Idaho.

This news further undermines the idea that the Snake River dams are an insurmountable barrier to fish recovery and is a blow to the case for removing the dams in the name of fish protection. Contrary to the claims of dam breaching advocates, Columbia and Snake River salmon returns continue to increase. PNWA recognizes the significant efforts of Northwest tribes, utilities, irrigators, federal and state agencies, and many others who have successfully collaborated for the benefit of our region's fish.

Port Security Grant Program for Columbia Willamette Snake Rivers Survey

On behalf of the Coast Guard, the Portland Merchants Exchange is conducting a survey to update the Columbia-Willamette-Snake River Consolidated System Wide Strategic Risk Management/Mitigation, Trade Resumption/Resiliency and Five-year Prioritized Project Plan. This is part of an effort to bring the previous plan from 2007 up to date. The effort is being conducted by ABSG Consulting Inc. and is being paid for by the Merchants Exchange via a Port Security Grant Program.

This program is extremely important to helping identify the infrastructure risks in our river system and will help inform better mitigation strategies. If you are contacted by ABSG Consulting, PNWA

encourages you to participate in this important process. If you have any questions, please contact Michael Moreno at 503-220-2095.

New Member Bellingham Cold Storage Joins PNWA!

[Bellingham Cold Storage](#) (BCS) is a full-service public refrigerated warehousing company located in the Pacific Northwest near the Canadian border. Founded in 1946, BCS is now the largest portside cold storage on the West Coast, serving a worldwide customer base.

Built on relationships and steeped in a culture of service and innovation, BCS stands ready for any job, whether loading cargo bound for global markets, receiving seafood from Alaska or Puget Sound, freezing the bountiful harvests of the region, or serving their in-house processing customers. Within PNWA, the firm is being represented by Douglas Thomas who can be reached by email at Doug.Thomas@bellcold.com

