



April 13, 2016

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Senate Energy & Water Development Subcommittee Approves FY2017 Appropriations Bill

The Senate Energy & Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee has [approved](#) their funding bill that would provide \$6 billion for the Corps of Engineers; a slight increase over FY2016 enacted levels and \$1.378 billion above the President's FY2017 Budget Request. This is also approximately \$100 million less than the [House bill](#), which was released yesterday and passed out of Subcommittee this morning.

Details of the bill have not yet been released; however a [press release](#) distributed by the Senate Appropriations Committee provided some additional information. The release notes that the bill exceeds the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) targets set forth in the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) for the third year in a row, as well as makes full use of all Inland Waterways Trust Fund monies.

The full Senate Appropriations Committee is scheduled to consider the bill tomorrow. PNWA anticipates that additional information for the Senate and House bills, including the amount of additional funding for the Corps' Construction, Investigations and Operations & Maintenance accounts, will be released in the next few days. We continue to track this process and will provide updates as they are available. For more information, contact [Heather Stebbings](#).

PNWA featured in river system coverage

PNWA Executive Director Kristin Meira was in Lewiston, ID and Clarkston, WA last week to meet with local leaders and speak to the press about the value of the Columbia Snake River System, with special emphasis on the [Snake River](#).

Meira spoke to a luncheon gathering of dignitaries and local residents about [commerce](#) and [hydropower](#) on the river, current projects, and the good news regarding [fish runs](#) in the region. Meira's comments were carried in the [Lewiston Tribune](#), as well as [local CBS TV station KLEW](#).

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