



Nor'wester Newsletter

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PNWA mourns death of past President Matt Eames



It is with great sadness that we mark the passing of one of our past presidents, Matt Eames, after a long illness. Matt Eames served as the President of PNWA from 1997-1999, and was a tireless advocate for hydropower and economic development in the Northwest.

Matt Eames graduated from Boise State University and started his career working for J.R. Simplot in Boise. He later moved to Washington, DC to serve as a staffer to then-Representative Larry Craig (R-ID). In 1991 he took a job as

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senior legislative representative for the Idaho Power Company. It was during Matt's time at Idaho Power that he ascended to President of PNWA. In 2002, he joined the Bureau of Reclamation. Two years later, he was named Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs for the Department of the Interior where he helped enact several federal water laws.

Former PNWA Executive Director Glenn Vanselow reflected on Matt's time in our leadership, noting that "Matt was the perfect mix of irreverent fun and hard-nosed business." Vanselow noted how "Matt would spice up the PNWA Mission to Washington strategy sessions, then lead the membership in developing hard-hitting energy, environment, and economic development policies. Matt was particularly effective in gaining support from our Congressional delegation for PNWA priorities."



"Matt was a good man and friend, a talented professional, and a model husband and father" said former PNWA staffer Dan James. "I had the fortune of working with him during his tenure at the Department of the Interior and to get to know his family over the years. They are his best legacy."

Matt is survived by his wife Cathie and three daughters. PNWA staff and members send our heartfelt condolences

to the Eames family, his friends, and many former colleagues. A memorial for Matt Eames is intended for April in Washington DC. For more information, please contact [Dan James](#).

Oregon delegation shows support for Oregon's small ports

Representatives Peter DeFazio (D, OR-4) and Kurt Schrader (D, OR-5) were joined by Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) to support Oregon's smaller coastal ports. In a [letter sent to Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy](#), the four Members encourage the Corps to maintain funding levels in the President's FY2017 budget for the Ports of Siuslaw and Brookings Harbor, and to include additional critical funding in a work plan for projects at the Ports of Umpqua, Bandon, Gold Beach and Garibaldi. We greatly appreciate the efforts of Senators Wyden and Merkley and Congressmen DeFazio and Schrader, as well as all Members of the Northwest Congressional delegation for their continued support of ports in our region.

As *Nor'wester* readers will remember, there is a continuing resolution in place for FY2017 through April 28th. We are hopeful that at that time, Congress will finalize a bill and provide additional programmatic funding for the Corps to develop their work plan, as they have in past years. PNWA is continuing to communicate with our Corps Districts to make sure we have the most accurate status and up-to-date funding requirements for projects, and we are providing these details to our Northwest Congressional delegation. The latest information for our PNWA supported Corps projects can be found [here](#). If you have questions, please contact [Heather Stebbings](#).

Representative Dan Newhouse joins Appropriations Committee, Energy & Water Subcommittee

Representative Dan Newhouse (R, WA-4) has been selected to the House Appropriations Committee for the 115th Congress, helping to preside over all federal discretionary funding. Other Northwest Members serving on the Committee include Rep. Mike Simpson (R, ID-2), Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R, WA-3) and Rep. Derek Kilmer (D, WA-6). Congressman Newhouse will also join Representatives Simpson and Herrera Beutler on the Energy & Water Development Subcommittee, a key position for PNWA members since this is the subcommittee which drafts the chamber's funding bill for the Corps of Engineers.

PNWA would like to congratulate Representative Newhouse on his appointment and looks forward to working with him and the rest of the Northwest Delegation on key issues and projects in our region. For more information, please click [here](#).

PNWA supports efforts to increase Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund spending in the FY2018 budget

Work is already beginning to encourage the new Administration to increase Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund spending in their first budget. A [letter](#) championed by the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) and led by Representatives Ted Poe (R, TX-02), Alan Lowenthal (D, CA-47), Gene Green (D, TX-29), and Bill Huizenga (R, MI-02) is currently being circulated in Congress requesting that the Administration's FY2018 budget request fund the HMTF spending targets set in WRRDA 2014. The letter also requests that the Administration fully fund WRDA Section 2106, which authorizes \$50M for donor & energy transfer ports.

PNWA is so pleased to support this effort and has forwarded the [letter](#) to Members of our Northwest Congressional Delegation with a request for support. Full use of the HMTF and continued efforts to help bring critical funding to all of our ports in the Northwest is a major effort of our association and we look forward to working with the PNWA membership, Congressional delegation and industry colleagues to advance these policy positions in the coming year.

PNWA Member Spotlight: Port of Vancouver wins industry award

The Port of Vancouver has been awarded an IHS Dredging and Port Construction Innovation award for the port's rail trench project which serves as the port's new rail entrance. The trench was formally opened in August 2015.



According to the [Port's press release](#), the Port was selected over projects from the Port of Miami and the new DP London Gateway. PNWA would like to congratulate the Port of Vancouver on their receipt of this prestigious industry award. PNWA member, [BergerABAM](#) was one of the consultants who worked on the project.

Job postings

The Port of Newport is looking for a new [Director of Operations](#) to assist the General Manager and Board of Commissioners in their long term plan for the Port. Interested candidates should submit their resume, letter of interest and three professional references to the port no later than 4:00 pm on March 3, 2017. More information can be found on the port's [website](#).

The Merchants Exchange is looking for a [Communications and Data Management Specialist](#) to help support their Communications Center Team. The position will help the communication team collect and disseminate ship information, monitor VHF vessel radio communication, and distribute vessel reports. More information can be found on the Merchant's Exchange [website](#).

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