



Nor'wester Newsletter

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Change of Command for Coast Guard 13th District



On May 4th, Rear Admiral Mark Butt formally handed over command of the U.S. Coast Guard's 13th District to his replacement, Rear Admiral David Throop at a ceremony in Seattle. Rear

Admiral Throop will oversee operations for the 1,240 active duty Coast Guard personnel in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana. His most recent posting was Commander of Coast Guard Readiness Command which coordinated the training, exercise support, and leader development for the Coast Guard out of Norfolk, Virginia. Rear Admiral Butt will be returning to Washington, DC where he will retire after 35 years in the Coast Guard.

PNWA would like to thank Rear Admiral Butt for his service to our region and wish him the best in his retirement. We are happy to welcome Rear Admiral Throop to the Pacific Northwest and look forward to working with him during his posting.

EPA opens FY2017 DERA application process

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced \$11 million in competitive grant funding for the Diesel Emissions Reductions Act (DERA) Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program. The goal of the program is to achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions by funding solutions such as

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emission control technology, engine or vehicle replacement, or engine upgrades. PNWA has long supported this important program, which has been a critical resource for ports and operators in the maritime industry.

The EPA has organized a [webinar](#) on May 9th from 11am-12pm Pacific to provide additional information and answer applicant questions. Please refer to the DERA [website](#) or the [RFP](#) for more information on joining the webinar or about the program. Grant applications are due through www.grants.gov by June 20th.

Northwest Members of Congress express concern and request information after Judge Simon spill ruling

Four members of the Northwest Congressional delegation collectively sent [letters](#) to the Administration to express their concern about the management of the river system in light of Judge Simon's recent ruling on spill in the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) case. The letters were addressed to Ryan Zinke, the Secretary of the Interior, Elliot Mainzer, the Administrator of Bonneville Power Administration, Wilbur Ross, the Secretary of Commerce, and Ryan Speer, the Acting Secretary of the Army. Signed by Representatives Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Peter DeFazio (D-OR), and Kurt Schrader (D-OR), the letters express their support for the current BiOp and the results it has delivered for the region. The Members made particular mention of the widespread support for the current BiOp, including states, tribal entities, utilities, ports, irrigation districts, and others.

The letter highlights the Members' concerns that new spill regimes may harm fish recovery efforts and raise costs. To better understand the impact of the Judge's ruling on the river system, the Members ask Bonneville Power Administration to provide the answers to eight questions about river operations and fish survival before June 2, 2017. The Members request information about fish recovery spending, impacts on ratepayer bills, fish survival percentages, details about increased spill, and more.

PNWA will continue to track this development, and report more information as it becomes available. PNWA also manages the Inland Ports and Navigation Group (IPNG) a subset of nineteen stakeholders which has intervener status in the BiOp lawsuit. IPNG maintains an active role in this case, ensuring navigation concerns are represented before Judge Simon.

Snake River Family Festival event

The Ports of Whitman County, Clarkston, Lewiston, and Moses Lake along with the Idaho Wheat Commission, the Oregon Wheat Commission, and the Washington Grain commission are hosting an event to celebrate the importance of the Snake River to our region. The event is on May 20 and is being held at the Port of Whitman



County's Boyer Park, on the Snake River. The event will offer free food, music, and kids activities and PNWA will be helping to present information on the important role that the river system plays in our region.



Registration opens for Merchants Exchange "Shipping 201"

The Portland Merchants Exchange has opened registration for their next round of their popular classes on shipping. Registration for [Shipping 201: The Movement of a Ship](#) is now open and available for all interested parties. The class will help familiarize attendees with the movement of cargo and ships on the lower Columbia River and will discuss the role of ship's agents, pilots, and the regulations governing ship movements on the river. The class will be held on May 25 and lasts all day. Registration is handled through the Merchants Exchange [website](#).

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