



Nor'wester Newsletter

Issue #625 | January 30, 2018

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Senate confirms R.D. James as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

On January 25th, the Senate confirmed Mr. R.D. James as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA-CW) by a vote of 89-1. Mr. James was nominated by President Trump in October 2017 and once sworn in, he will serve as the civilian head of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a post which has been vacant since last year. For more information about Mr. James, see our [Nor'wester](#) article on his nomination.



PNWA looks forward to working with Mr. James and his team on water resources projects and policies in the coming years.

Section 408 implementation webinars to be held next week

The Corps has completed a new draft policy on Section 408 implementation and has issued Engineer Circular (EC) 1165-2-220 to detail the proposed changes. Section 408 is the authority under

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which the Corps allows a non-federal entity to alter an existing civil works project. Any modifications must be made in the public interest and not impair the usefulness of the civil works project. The EC details the proposed changes in Corps implementation for Section 408 projects.

The Corps is accepting public comments on the draft plan, starting the week of February 5th. A future notice in the Federal Register will provide additional information on how to submit comments. In addition to accepting public comments, the Corps will provide an overview of the EC in two webinars next week. Registration is not required for these webinars and they can be accessed via webinar or by conference call. The times for the webinars are below and information on how to join can be found on the Corps' 408 [website](#).

Webinar 1: February 7th 11:00am to 12:00pm Pacific Standard Time
Webinar 2: February 8th 7:30am to 8:30am Pacific Standard time

PNWA staff will participate in these webinars. Additionally, we encourage you to provide [feedback](#) on the potential impact of these proposed changes to your operations.

PNWA Member Spotlight: Bill Newbry receives award from Western Pulse Growers Association



The Western Pulse Growers Association has honored Bill Newbry and his family as their 2018 Lentil Family of the Year. The Newbry Family will represent the National Lentil Festival at Pullman, Washington in August this year. Bill is the Chief Executive Officer, President, and Treasurer of the Pacific Northwest Farmers' Cooperative, which has grown to 1,400 members with 50 facilities, three barge terminals, and train loading facilities. He has been CEO since 1996 and has helped it grow to one of the largest supplier of pulses for domestic and international markets.

Bill is also a vocal supporter of PNWA and of the importance of navigation to farmers in the region. He has often volunteered his time to advocate on behalf of our river system. PNWA would like to congratulate Bill and his family

on this award!

Save the date for the 84th annual *Taste the Northwest* Reception!



PACIFIC NORTHWEST WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

84th Annual *Taste the Northwest* Reception

FEATURING
FOODS & BEVERAGES FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST



TUESDAY, MARCH 13th, 2018 * 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. * 325 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

THIS IS A WIDELY ATTENDED EVENT - NO RSVP REQUIRED