



Nor'wester newsletter

Issue #809 April 01, 2022

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Federal webinar series: RSVP for our April 5 Rail Panel discussion!

This spring, PNWA brings you experts in critical issues facing our industries and members today. On Tuesday, April 5, hear from national experts in the rail industry about the anticipated impacts of the infrastructure package, the status of managing supply chains from the rail perspective, and other current issues and challenges.

April 5 Rail Panel speakers:

- [Jordan Stone](#), Association of American Railroads, Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs
- [Wes Lujan](#), Union Pacific, Assistant Vice President, External Relations
- [Zach Radford](#), American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association, Assistant Vice President of Congressional Affairs
- [Justin Wormmeester](#), BNSF Railway, Director of Federal Government Affairs

Visit our [event page](#) to learn more and [RSVP for the April 5 webinar](#) today!

APP recognizes Port of Benton Commissioner Robert Larson

The [Association of Pacific Ports](#) honored recently retired Port of Benton Commissioner Robert Larson with a lifetime membership and recognized his long service



and dedication as a port commissioner. Commissioner Larson retired in October 2021 after 27 years of service to the Port of Benton, his community, and the port industry.

PNWA congratulates Commissioner Larson and is grateful for his many years of service to our region and industries. We wish him smooth sailing in his well-deserved

retirement!

USDOT is accepting applications for funding through Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity



The U.S. Department of Transportation is accepting applications for three funding opportunities: the National Infrastructure Project Assistance grants program (Mega), the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grants program (INFRA), and the Rural Surface Transportation Grant program (Rural).

Applicants will be able to apply for all funding opportunities through one application automatically unless they opt out of specific programs. USDOT encourages applicants to apply for multiple programs, to maximize their potential of receiving Federal support.

Applications are now open and must be submitted by **11:59 EDT on May 23, 2022**.

For more information on the funding and how to apply, click [here](#).

Funding secured for sea lion removal and sediment management

Representatives Jaime Herrera Beutler and Kurt Schrader secured \$892,000 to protect endangered salmon, steelhead, and other native fish species within the Columbia River system by continuing lethal sea lion removal. Removal of these predators is a continued step toward supporting salmonid survival while maintaining the critical benefits the river system provides.



Photo Credit: Jaime Herrera Beutler Team

Rep. Herrera Beutler also secured \$918,000 in federal funding to monitor sediment in the Lower Cowlitz River and prevent flooding. This appropriation will support the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in vital dredging and other flood prevention work in the area.

To learn more about the 2018 sea lion control law and the recent additional funding, [click here](#).

To learn more about the sediment management funding, [click here](#)

Senator Murray announces \$220 million for Howard Hanson Dam from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

This week, Senator Patty Murray announced the allocation of \$220 million to the Howard Hanson Dam from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. These funds will be used to help maintain flood risk management, increase municipal and industrial water supply to Tacoma Public Utility, and reopen miles of critical salmon and steelhead habitat. This includes continuing work on the fish passage facility for the migration of juvenile salmon, while also maintaining dam performance to support water needs for Tacoma and beyond.



For more information, read the press release [here](#).

Shaver Transportation prepares entire fleet for Green Marine certification

Shaver Transportation is seeking Green Marine certification, making it the first tug and barge operator on the U.S. West Coast and Columbia Snake River System to participate in the program. To achieve the certification, Shaver Transportation will assess its fleet's environmental performance through key performance indicators that address such issues as greenhouse gases, air emissions, oily discharge, waste management, and ship recycling.

PNWA appreciates the importance of the Green Marine certification, as well as Shaver Transportation's commitment to cleaner operations across their company.

Visit their webpages to learn more about the [Green Marine program](#) and [Shaver Transportation](#) or read the press release [here](#).



Share feedback on early concepts for I-5 Bridge replacement by April 12

The Interstate 5 Bridge (IBR) Program recently released two early concepts for a new bridge spanning the Columbia River between Vancouver, Washington, and Portland, Oregon. These concepts were shared during an Executive Steering Committee meeting in January 2022.



PNWA's Government Relations Director, Dena Horton, participates in the Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) for the Interstate 5 Bridge (IBR) Program. Early concepts for a new bridge spanning the Columbia River between Vancouver, Washington, and Portland, Oregon were shared during the CAG meeting on March 24, 2022. The CAG presentation can be [downloaded here](#).

The CAG meeting focused on options for [Hayden Island/Marine Drive](#). PNWA is seeking input from multi-modal freight users on these Hayden Island/Marine Drive concepts. Please view the concepts and **provide your comments to [Dena](#) by April 12**, so she may represent our industry's needs and perspectives at the next CAG meeting on April 14.

Provide input on 20-year Washington State Highway System Plan update

The Washington State Department of Transportation is hosting an online open house to gather public input on future highway system investments for the update to the plan.



The online open house includes an opinion poll, which asks people to weigh in on highway investment priorities, such as maintenance, operations, walking and bicycling.

WSDOT is also hosting seven regionally focused virtual public meetings in late March and April to discuss the Highway System Plan and answer questions.

Learn more and find links to the open house and opinion poll [here](#).

WSDOT accepting applications for construction and maritime trades scholarships



The Washington State Department of Transportation is accepting applications for pre-apprenticeship, training, preparatory, and apprenticeship scholarship opportunities to support the participation of women, minorities, and other disadvantaged individuals in the federal-aid and state funded highway

construction and maritime workforce.

The application window closes on June 1, 2022, or when funds are expended. Single scholarship award amounts will not exceed \$7,000, and the total award amount for a single individual will not exceed \$10,000 in up to three (3) separate awards.

Learn more, download the application, and find contact information [here](#).

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