



Nor'wester newsletter

Issue #824 | July 20, 2022

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PNWA Government Relations Manager - Resumes Due this Friday

PNWA is hiring a Government Relations Manager to join our team! We are a non-profit trade association addressing navigation, trade, energy and environmental issues in the Northwest. With a strong, supportive membership and over 85 years of history, PNWA is a truly unique and constantly evolving group that engages on infrastructure and policy issues in our region.

The Government Relations Manager will cover a suite of issues and projects, and work with the Executive Director and Government Relations Director in the following activities to further the goals of PNWA:

- Analyze federal and regional public policy issues
- Write and edit materials for PNWA staff to assist our work with Congress, federal agencies, regional policy makers and our membership
- Write articles for our *Nor'wester* newsletter and website
- Membership services
- Meeting and event planning
- Communications

Top candidates for the Government Relations Manager role will have:

- Bachelor's degree and at least three years of government, industry, or other relevant experience
- Ability to manage several projects concurrently

- Effective written and oral communication skills
- Positive attitude and work well with small but mighty team
- Strong working knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, etc.)
- Strong communications background and social media experience preferred

A full job description can be found [here](#). Please note this position is based in Portland, Oregon and interested applicants should [submit a resume and cover letter](#) by **July 22, 2022 at 5:00pm PST**.

LTC ShaiLin KingSlack Takes Command of the Walla Walla District



On July 8th, Lieutenant Colonel ShaiLin Y. KingSlack assumed command of the Walla Walla District from Lieutenant Colonel Richard T. Childers. In this role, Lt. Col. KingSlack is responsible for the Civil Works, Interagency Programs and the Operations of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects and activities in Eastern Washington, all of Idaho and portions of Oregon, Nevada, Wyoming and Utah. She has an extensive and highly honorable military background, and has spent her career leading efforts for the Corps domestically in the U.S. and around the globe. PNWA is looking forward to working with Lt. Col.

KingSlack in her new role and to continuing our successful partnership with the District under her leadership.

Lt. Col. Childers led the Walla Walla District from July 2020 – July 2022. He has been an outstanding partner for the maritime community along the Columbia Snake River System and throughout the region, engaging heavily on efforts related to Snake River dredging, maintenance and long-term repairs on the locks and dams, and salmon recovery as it relates to the Columbia River System Operations. PNWA has greatly appreciated his leadership in these areas and wishes him well as he takes on a new Command for the Corps abroad.

For more information about the [Walla Walla District](#) and to read KingSlack's complete [biography](#), visit their website at www.nww.usace.army.mil.

White House to Hold Public Meeting on Environmental Justice

The White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC) will hold a two-day virtual public meeting on August 3-4 from 3:00 - 7:30pm ET. Meeting discussions will focus on draft recommendations related to climate resilience, the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, and implementation of the Justice40 Initiative. A public comment period regarding the development of an annual public performance scorecard will be considered by the WHEJAC during the meeting on August 3, 2022.

You must [pre-register](#) by July 27th if you would like to provide comment at the event. To learn more or submit a formal comment, click [here](#).

Public Review Period Open for the Corps' Lower Snake River 2022 Dredging Proposal

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District, invites your comments on the Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and the Lower Snake River Channel Maintenance Immediate Need Dredging for Commercial Navigation Environmental Assessment (EA).

The Corps is proposing to dredge accumulated sediment from the lower Snake River channel below the Ice Harbor Dam navigation lock near Pasco, Washington, and near the confluence of the lower Snake and Clearwater Rivers near Clarkston, Washington, and Lewiston, Idaho. The proposed dredging action would occur between December 15, 2022 and March 1, 2023. In-water disposal of the dredged sediment is proposed at Bishop Bar, located at River Mile 118 on the lower Snake River in Washington State.

The 30-day review and comment period is open from July 18 - August 18, 2022. You may email comments to NEPANWW@usace.army.mil, with "LSR 2022 Dredging" in the subject line, or online at [Environmental Compliance Comment](#)

The Draft FONSI, EA, and all supporting appendices are available [here](#).

Modernizing the Westport Marina at the Port of Grays Harbor

The House Appropriations Committee has advanced new funding to help modernize the Westport Marina at the Port of Grays Harbor. The funding will support the Marina's efforts to modernize and reconfigure its floating dock so that it can adequately support the needs of the region's robust fishing fleet. The funds will also be used to support jobs and local economic opportunity.

The Marina is the state's largest commercial seafood landing port and is considered a port of national significance due to the volume and value of the catch that comes through it. It's a critical economic hub for tribal, commercial, charter, and recreational fishing on the Washington coast, supporting nearly 2,300 jobs in its uplands.

NOAA Restoration and Resilience Grants Available

NOAA Fisheries announces two funding opportunities for habitat restoration and coastal resilience, including one focused on underserved communities. Funding has been made available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants

Up to \$85 million in funding is available for habitat restoration and coastal resilience through the [FY2022 NOAA's Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

This funding will support transformational projects that restore habitat for our nation's fisheries and protected resources, while also strengthening the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems. It will invest in projects that have the greatest potential to provide holistic benefits, through habitat-based approaches that strengthen both ecosystem and community resilience.

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities

Up to \$10 million in funding is available for habitat restoration and resilience awards for underserved communities through [NOAA's FY2022 Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Through this funding, NOAA will engage underserved communities in habitat restoration activities that promote resilient ecosystems and communities. This funding will provide capacity for these communities to more fully participate in developing future transformational habitat projects. This capacity is intended to ensure that communities are integral to the visioning and decision-making for coastal habitat restoration projects that affect them, and that they directly benefit from these projects.

For additional information visit the [NOAA Fisheries website](#).

Sea Otter Reintroduction Feasibility Report

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released a [report](#) regarding the feasibility and cost of Pacific Coast sea otter reintroduction.

The report concludes that reintroduction of sea otters in northern California and Oregon would benefit the species, improve conservation, improve ecological benefits in the nearshore marine ecosystem, and potentially benefit the threatened southern sea otter. At this time, no timeline for reintroduction has been set. If reintroduction moves forward, the agency recommends a number of steps to engage stakeholders to explore reintroduction options, develop a process for evaluating potential sites, perform a targeted socioeconomic impact study and create pilot study plans.

Contact [Lori Steele](#) at the West Coast Seafood Processors Association with questions.

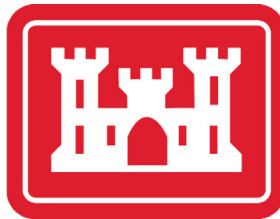
Catherine Simons Named Director of MARAD's Pacific Northwest & Alaska Gateway Office

Catherine Simons has been named the new Director of the Pacific Northwest & Alaska Gateway Office for the U.S.

Maritime Administration (MARAD). She has taken over the role previously held by both Bruce Lambert and Robert Loken. Ms. Simons is the new contact for PNWA members looking for information on the MARAD and the broad range of services they provide, including grant programs and opportunities. Her area of responsibility includes the states of Alaska, Oregon, and Washington.

We look forward to working with Ms. Simons and are very pleased to feature her at our upcoming Annual Convention in Vancouver, WA this October. You can reach Catherine at catherine.simons@dot.gov or by phone at 202-366-5209.

USACE Virtual Environmental Justice Meeting



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) announced their solicitation of input on efforts “to modernize the Civil Works program of the Corps through a number of related policy initiatives. This effort includes a series of public and Tribal virtual meetings, as well as a public docket, to gather oral and written input that will be used to inform future decision-making related to: Native American/Tribal Nation issues; potential rulemaking actions regarding the Corps' Regulatory Program's implementing regulations for the National Historic Preservation Act as well as Civil Works implementation of the Principles, Requirements, and Guidelines; and, environmental justice, including definitions of certain terms used in policy making.”

A virtual public meeting on Environmental Justice will be held:

July 26, 2022

11am to 1pm Pacific/2pm to 4pm Eastern

To register, click [here](#).

Comments are due by August 2, 2022 and must include Docket ID No. COE-2022-0006 in the subject line and can be submitted via the e-Rulemaking Portal, by email, or mailed to:

Stacey M. Jensen

Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)

108 Army Pentagon

Washington, DC 20310-0108

For more information, contact Stacey Jensen via [email](#) or call 703-697-4671 or contact Joseph Redican via [email](#) or call 202-761-4523.

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