



Nor'wester newsletter

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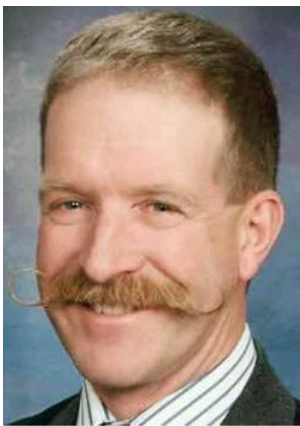
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Meet Your New PNWA President: Tom Kammerzell



After every phone call, you will hear Tom Kammerzell part with his signature catchphrase of “Onward and Upward!” Such words capture Kammerzell’s history of continuous growth and optimism, ever present in his work within the community of Whitman County, which he calls home.

Kammerzell was raised in a homestead farm family in Whitman County. His great-great-grandfather first started their farm in the Farmington area in 1885. Currently, Kammerzell lives on the segment of a family farm acquired in 1936 near Wilcox, just southwest of Colfax. Here, he and his wife Cheryl keep busy operating Maple K Farms LLC, where they care for their herd of Scottish Highland Cattle. They also serve as landlords for three wheat farms leased out to farm operators who properly care for the land and produce high-yielding crops.

Kammerzell didn’t initially plan to farm when he graduated from Colfax High School. At Spokane Community College, Kammerzell worked towards a degree in architectural drafting but soon decided that spending his career behind his desk was not something he wanted to do.

Kammerzell took a circuitous route to get where he is today, working at a local florist shop in Colfax before managing it and then moving on to work at the Colfax Grange Supply. During the early 1980s, Kammerzell received an offer to manage a 2,500-head cattle feedlot in Salina, Kansas working there for nearly two years before deciding to come back home. Back in Colfax, Kammerzell worked briefly for a local farmer before accepting a Maintenance Manager position for the Colfax School District, where he worked for 24 years.

During his time back in Colfax and working for the school district, Kammerzell involved himself heavily in his community and, in 1987, became the youngest council member elected to the City of Colfax. For seven years, he also served on the Whitman

County Conservation board and as a trustee of the Whitman County Historical Society. Kammerzell also served as President of the Educational Support Group of the Washington Education Association for three years, a role he believes developed his communication skills more than any other role he has held. Currently, Kammerzell serves as one of only three agricultural industry members on the Farmland Preservation Committee of the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office.

Kammerzell also serves as Commissioner of District 3 for the Port of Whitman County, a role he has held since 2012. He is proud of the port's accomplishments over the past decade, which includes millions of dollars in improvements and renovations made to various properties, including Boyer Park Marina near Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River.

As the incoming President of PNWA, Kammerzell brings a formidable level of civic and technical experience with a track record of effective advocacy for the agriculture, conversation, and port/maritime industry. He strongly believes in the importance of our Ports and their role in developing trade, our livelihoods, and the economy. As President, he wants to find new ways to strengthen PNWA and make a strong organization even better by continuing to improve into the future and tackling the issues presented to us. Kammerzell is excited to bring his experience to an organization he knows "has an excellent reputation here in the Pacific Northwest and in Washington D.C., and we plan to carry that momentum forward into the future."

Kammerzell can be reached at tomkammerzell@gmail.com.

From all of us at PNWA, thank you for your leadership and guidance as our new President.



EPA Hosting IRA Clean Ports Funding Listening Session



The Environmental Protection Agency is hosting a listening session on December 6th

from 11 AM to 12 PM PT on the Inflation Reduction Act's \$3 billion to fund zero-emission port equipment and technology and help ports plan to reduce air pollutants at U.S. ports.

This new funding program will build on EPA's Ports Initiative that the Agency established to ensure that our nation's ports, a critical part of our infrastructure and supply chain, help address public health and environmental impacts on surrounding communities.

This session will begin with a brief overview of the legislation and conclude with an interactive listening session. EPA is encouraging all to attend and is asking for folks to come prepared to share your feedback on the program, including:

What types of zero-emission port technologies or related planning support do you see as most critical for delivering emissions reductions?

What do you see as the biggest hurdles to transitioning to zero-emission port equipment?

How do you see this program complementing other available funding programs (e.g., at EPA, other federal or state programs) that can support efforts to reduce emissions at ports?

How would you like to see funding for zero-emission port technology, related planning and permitting, and the development of climate action plans work together?

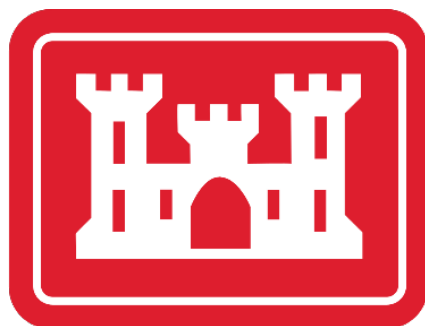
Should the funding opportunities be sequenced or combined?

How can we help ensure this program addresses the concerns of near-port communities and advances environmental justice?

Registration is required for this event, to do that click [here](#). If you are unable to attend, you may also submit suggestions about program implementation to cleanports@epa.gov.

Additional information about the IRA Clean Ports funding listening sessions can be found on the EPA Ports Initiative website [here](#).

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Hold Virtual Listening Session for Remote Lock Operations



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is holding a virtual listening session on December 15th, 2022 at 10 AM PT, or 1 PM ET, regarding the implementation of remote lock operations within the inland waterway system.

The Corps has begun developing a strategy to outline what remote operations might look like and how they can better implement the technology. Implementing remote lock operations on USACE inland waterways may alleviate unforeseen system impacts, modernize the system, improve overall system operations, and leverage technological innovations in the shipping industry. For more information about the Remote Lock Operations Assessment click [here](#).

As a part of this effort, USACE is seeking communication, input, and feedback from inland navigation and recreational partners and stakeholders. The agency would like to hear from you about how this change may affect our nation's inland waterways.

To RSVP for this event, please send an email to CW-Infrastructure-Team@usace.army.mil. Webex login information will be sent to you upon receipt of the RSVP. The Corps asks that representation be limited to less than three participants from each organization.

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