



Nor'wester newsletter

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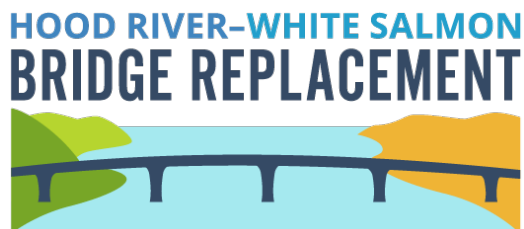
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Thank You, Newest 2023 Mission to Washington Sponsors!

Thank you to our newest 2023 Mission to Washington sponsors for your generous support:

Gold Sponsors:



Bronze Sponsors:

[Port of Lewiston](#)

Increase your organization's visibility to our members, partners and friends while supporting PNWA's advocacy efforts. The Mission to Washington and Taste the Northwest reception are signature events for our association, and your support is what makes this event special year after year! [Click here for details on each level.](#)

To become a sponsor, sign-up when you [register](#) online or contact [Anthony Peña](#) for more information.

We also are looking for sponsors for our annual Taste the Northwest Reception in Washington, DC, on March 21st from 6-8 PM ET, in Russell Senate Office Building Room 325. If you're able to donate any food or beverage items please contact [Anthony Peña](#).

Welcome New PNWA Member: Advanced American Construction!



PNWA is pleased to announce that [Advanced American Construction, Inc](#) has joined our association!

Headquartered in Portland, OR, Advanced American Construction, Inc (AAC) is a full-service general contractor providing heavy civil/marine, industrial, diving, underwater marine survey, demolition, and engineering services to public and private clients throughout the Western United States with a particular focus on the Columbia, Snake and Willamette River System. Since 1983, AAC has built respected relationships with clients, vendors, subcontractors, and members of the community. They have built a legacy of trust by delivering superior quality, diversified services, and innovative solutions. Their strength comes from our people. Their team is dedicated to meeting project objectives by providing exceptional service, extensive project experience, and a commitment to safety. They take on a broad range of projects that show their unique ability to find creative solutions for diverse challenges. To learn more about AAC, please visit our website at www.callaac.com

Dee Burch is the official PNWA representative from Advanced American Construction and can be contacted for more information at (503) 793-3756 or deeb@callaac.com.

Welcome New PNWA Member: KPFF Consulting Engineers!



PNWA is pleased to announce that [KPFF Consulting Engineers](#), has joined our association!

KPFF has established its place as a premier waterfront engineering firm, providing marine engineering services to port authorities, other government agencies, shipping lines, stevedoring companies, industry, and private clients in the Pacific Northwest and along the West Coast. Their core capabilities include marine, structural, civil and mechanical engineering along with prime project management and construction management services.

Their reputation for innovative solutions comes from our combination of creativity, technical expertise, and practical experience in the field. Their passion is to serve our clients with hands-on support that's critical to develop appropriate solutions for the unique set of permitting, technical, and operational challenges that are typically associated with marine and riverine design work.

Ellis Beckwith is the official PNWA representative from KPFF and can be contacted for more information at (202) 226-3283 or ellis.beckwith@kpff.com.

Oregon Delegation Supports Workplan Funding for Oregon Ports

Members of the Oregon congressional delegation have sent a [letter](#) to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget encouraging them to include funding for Oregon navigation projects in the FY23 Corps workplan. Development of this letter was broadly supported by PNWA, as well as our partners at FBB Federal Relations, the Oregon Public Ports Association, and Business Oregon.

The letter highlights a number of Corps projects that require additional funding in the FY23 work plan. These include the Yaquina River and Tillamook Bay coastal projects, work at Bonneville Dam and The Dalles Dam, and construction of a new dredge material disposal site for the Columbia River Channel Improvement Project. The letter stresses the importance of this funding to maintain critical navigation and maritime infrastructure for public safety and to support economic development activities within the state.

PNWA would like to express our gratitude to the Oregon congressional delegation for their unwavering support and advocacy for all of Oregon's 23 public ports, which are critical to the state's economy and support thousands of family-wage jobs in our region.

PNWA Seeks Input on WRDA 2022 Guidance

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has issued a [notice](#) of the agency's intent to provide virtual listening sessions on the status of implementation guidance for the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2022. The notice also advises that the agency is accepting public comments and recommendations for this implementation guidance, due by March 31, 2023. As Nor'wester readers will recall, [PNWA reported on the passage of WRDA 2022](#) late last year, and we are pleased to see this next phase of implementation begin.

The virtual public listening sessions with the Corps will be held on the following dates and times:

- February 15, 2023 – 11:00am-1:00pm Pacific (2:00-4:00 pm Eastern)
- February 22, 2023 – 11:00am-1:00pm Pacific (2:00-4:00 pm Eastern)
- March 1, 2023 – 11:00am-1:00pm Pacific (2:00-4:00 pm Eastern)

Each of the virtual meetings will use the following link information:

- Webex: <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/WRDA2022>
- Dial-in: (844) 800-2712
- Code: 199 937 4287

[Dena Horton](#) is coordinating PNWA's comment letter and we request that you email her your thoughts as early as possible for inclusion. To submit comments directly, use the subject line "Docket ID No. COE-2023-0002" and the following information:

- [Federal eRulemaking Portal](#) and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- [Email](#): Don't forget to include Docket ID No. COE-2023-0002 in the subject line.
- Mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Ms. Amy Frantz, CEW-P, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 3F91, 441 G St NW, Washington, DC 20314
- Information contact: Mr. Gib Owen - [email](#), 571-274-1929.

Maritime Commerce Club Announces Kristin Meira as 2023 Old Salt Award Recipient

PNWA congratulates Kristin Meira on being awarded the Maritime Commerce Club's 2023 Old Salt award. This is presented annually to someone who has made significant contributions to the advancement of the Willamette and Columbia River maritime industry, and we cannot think of anyone more deserving.

Kristin currently serves as the Government Relations Director for American Cruise Lines, and previously spent a 20-year career with PNWA, most recently as executive director. Kristin has extensive knowledge of the maritime industry and in advocating for our diverse community of ports, pilots, shippers, agricultural producers, and more.



The Old Salt award recognizes Kristin's dedication to advancing the interests of the Columbia Snake River System, as well as the lasting impact of her passion and commitment to the industry.

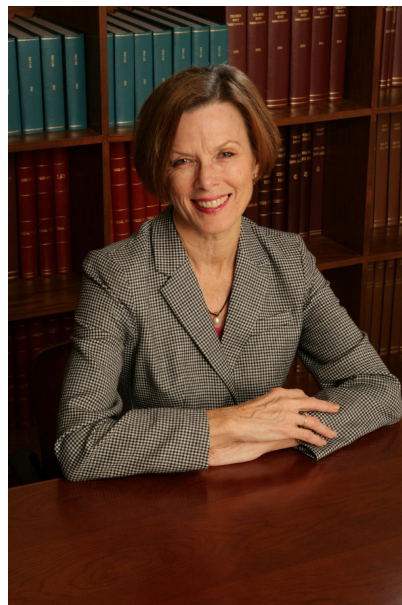
Congratulations, Kristin, on the much deserved award and recognition!



After 27 years of dedicated service to the Merchants Exchange, Elizabeth “Liz” Wainwright has announced her retirement effective July 31, 2023. Liz has over 40 years of marine transportation industry experience and has led the Merchants Exchange since 1996. During her tenure, she has actively engaged with various committees, boards, regional workgroups, and organizations focused on marine transportation system issues and government regulations.

Under her leadership, the Merchants Exchange has accomplished several significant milestones including implementing a successful organization-wide strategic planning program, creating the Merchants Exchange Scholarship Fund, providing sustainable financial leadership, and cultivating a diverse and versatile staff team.

Throughout her tenure, Liz has been a great friend to PNWA and our members. We send her a hearty congratulations on her retirement, thank her for her leadership in the region and wish her the best in this next chapter of life!



Department of Ecology Rulemaking Announcement Regarding Washington State Maritime Pilots & Tug Escort Requirements in Washington Waters



The Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC) and Washington Department of Ecology are beginning a rulemaking process to amend Chapter 363-116 WAC, which governs the training, licensing, and regulation of Washington State maritime pilots to ensure safe pilotage. The amendment will also include tug escort requirements for oil tankers in Washington waters. The proposed rule changes will be informed by 2019 legislative

changes made to the Pilotage Act through the passage of [Engrossed Substitute House Bill \(ESHB\) 1578](#).

The amendment will describe tug escort requirements for oil tankers of 5,000 to 40,000 deadweight tons, as well as for articulated tug barges and towed waterborne vessels or barges greater than 5,000 deadweight tons designed to transport oil in bulk internal to the hull. The proposed rules will specify operational and functionality requirements for tug escorts and will consider existing tug escort requirements in Rosario Strait, and connected waterways to the east, established in [RCW 88.16.190](#)(2)(a)(ii), and adjust or suspend those requirements as needed.

Additionally, the proposed rules will describe exemptions to tug escort requirements and make other changes to clarify language and make necessary corrections. The BPC and Ecology will ensure that the rulemaking process achieves the best achievable protection, as defined in [RCW 88.46.010 B](#), and is informed by other considerations in ESHB 1578.

The BPC and Ecology will act as co-lead agencies under SEPA and share lead agency responsibilities. They have determined that the rulemaking could have a significant negative impact on the environment and will require an environmental impact statement (EIS) under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). Therefore, agencies, tribes, and the public are invited to provide comments on the scope of the EIS. The SEPA Determination of Significance and Scoping Notice can be viewed [here](#).

Scoping comments may be submitted in the following ways and must be received by April 8, 2023:

- **Online:** <https://sppr.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=drNJK>
- **By mail to:**
Kim Morley
Washington State Department of Ecology
Spill Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Program
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
- **As verbal comments during the online scoping meeting :** Register [here](#).

Below is the proposed rulemaking timeline:

- **February 22, 2023** - Rulemaking announcement (CR-101 filing)
- **May 2023 – December 2024** - Rulemaking meetings and workshops
- **July 2025 (anticipated)** - Rule proposal - start of the comment period (CR-102 Filing)
- **December 2025 (anticipated)** - Rule adoption (CR-103 Filing)
- **Anticipated January 2026 (typically 31 days after filing the CR-103)** - Rule effective date

If you have questions about the rulemaking, contact Jaimie Bever, BPC Executive Director, at beverj@wsdot.wa.gov or (206) 515-3887.

Additional information about the rulemaking will also be posted, [here](#).

