



# Nor'wester newsletter

Issue #850 | April 21, 2023

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## PNWA Summer Conference - Registration Open!



Join us at the [Hotel Indigo](#) in Everett, WA, on June 21-23 for the PNWA Summer Conference! This year's event will feature engaging speakers and panelists covering various topics, including infrastructure, transportation, trade, recreation, and more! This is the perfect opportunity to stay informed on the PNWA issues as we hit the mid-year turning point and engage with fellow industry colleagues and agency partners. We can't wait to see you there!

[Registration is now open!](#)

Visit the [Summer Conference webpage](#), for more information!

## PNWA is Hiring - Office Manager



The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) is excited to announce that we are hiring for the position of Office Manager. The Office Manager will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the PNWA office, including administrative support, event coordination, and database management. The successful candidate will have excellent organizational and communication skills and experience with office administration and database management. Proficiency with Microsoft Office and QuickBooks are required.

To learn more about the position and to apply, please visit the job posting [here](#). We encourage you to share this opportunity with anyone who might be interested.

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## Merchants Exchange Seeks Executive Director

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The Merchants Exchange is seeking an Executive Director to advance the association's mission, goals and objectives. The successful candidate will lead the Exchange in strategic management, service development and oversight, financial management, and association management services.

The ideal candidate for this position will have a bachelor's degree in business administration or a related field, demonstrated experience developing, supervising, and inspiring teams, a strategic mindset, financial acumen, and the ability to communicate effectively. Proven success in managing organizations with various stakeholders is essential, and exposure to the maritime industry is helpful.

This position is full-time, exempt with an annual salary range of \$167,500-\$209,400 depending on experience. It comes with a comprehensive benefits package, including medical, vision, and dental insurance, a flexible spending account, long-term disability, life insurance, a 401(k) plan with an employer contribution, and a bonus opportunity based on performance.

To apply, submit your cover letter and resume to Trudy Hylemon at [recruitment@cascadeemployers.com](mailto:recruitment@cascadeemployers.com) no later than 12:00pm Pacific on Friday, May 5th.



Washington State Board of Pilotage Commissioners has announced a rulemaking regarding tug escort requirements for oil tankers, and pilot training, licensing, and regulation. The rulemaking will describe tug escort requirements for oil tankers of 5,000 to 40,000 deadweight tons and 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. It will specify operational and functionality requirements for tug escorts, describe exemptions to tug escort requirements, and make other clarifying changes.

The rule will be in the development phase until mid-2025, during which several workshops and informal meetings will be held with interested tribes and stakeholders to develop a draft document. The 2023 rule development calendar includes three workshops for stakeholders and tribes and one public meeting, all to be held virtually via Zoom. The Board of Pilotage Commissioners will email additional details before each meeting, and agendas will be emailed to those who pre-register. The 2024 workshop and meeting dates will be announced later this year.

**Workshop #1** - May 17, 2023, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

**Register Online:** <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwucOugpjwtH9zugs-k1i-sVsaiPeu2thNO>

**Join by phone:** (253) 205-0468, **Access code:** 883 7288 7758

**Workshop #2** - June 29, 2023, 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Register Online:** <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pdOysqD4tH9f4d2wGjsuYqucnNKrq3NS5>

**Join by phone:** (253) 215-8782, **Access code:** 894 3546 5753

**Workshop #3** - September 27, 2023, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

**Register Online:** <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpc6ggqj0uGdSHx5HkCf5sKiyDnMC1u2YF>

**Join by phone:** (253) 205-0468, **Access code:** 874 6784 6430

**Public meeting** - October 31, 2023, 10:00am – 12:00pm

**Register Online:** <https://waecy-wa-gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlkd--upjMtH9EekA7K2md8e9qEZEJaeg-1>

**Join by phone:** (253) 215-8782, **Access code:** 869 0668 8755

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## Maritime Transportation Interests Urge DOT Secretary Buttigieg to Engage on the Lower Snake River Dams

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On Wednesday, a coalition of Pacific Northwest transportation stakeholders sent a [letter](#) to U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg expressing their concerns with the federal government's current exploration of dam breaching on the

Lower Snake River. The letter emphasized the value of the lock and dam system, which enables the transportation of commodities via barging – the most efficient, least emitting mode of cargo movement. Additionally, the letter highlighted the negative impacts dam breaching would have on low-income and underserved communities due to their proximity to these projects, and the effects of land acquisition and construction of new projects that would be needed to replace the transportation benefits provided by the four Lower Snake River Dams.

PNWA's [Inland Ports & Navigation Group \(IPNG\)](#) remains very active on this issue as it relates to the Columbia River System Operations (CRSO) mediation which will continue through August 31, 2023. For more information, please view our [fact sheet](#) or contact [Heather Stebbings](#).

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## 2023-2025 WSDOT Airport Aid Program Grants

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### Washington State Department of Transportation

Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division has opened the first round of the [2023-2025 Airport Aid Program grants](#). This funding opportunity will allocate \$2 million to support airport projects throughout the state.

To be eligible for the grant, airports must have previously submitted their project proposals through the [Statewide Capital Improvement Program](#) (SCIP). This program is a prioritized list of projects entered by Washington's 132 public-use airports, outlining their individual airport needs and requirements.

Interested airports can apply for the grant by completing the [online application](#) and [airport aid application checklist](#). It is important to note that WSDOT requires airport aid grant assurances to be submitted with the application package. The deadline for applying is 5 PM PT on May 19, 2023.

Qualifying projects should be targeted for completion by June 30, 2024. However, eligible projects may include work beginning after July 1, 2023. The applications will be evaluated and prioritized based on the SCIP project scores. More information about the scoring process can be found in the [WSDOT Airport Aid Grant Procedures Manual](#).

If you have any questions about the grant application process, please visit the [WSDOT website](#) or contact their [Aviation Division](#).

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