



# Nor'wester Newsletter

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## 2024 Virtual Regional Meeting Schedule

In preparation for the Mission to Washington March 3-7, 2024, PNWA will hold a series of virtual regional meetings to hear about emerging issues, new projects, review navigation funding and issues (including WRDA and Regulatory), and provide an overview of the Mission to Washington. Links to the meetings will be sent to registered participants. So please save the following dates and register below:

### Lower Columbia River Virtual Regional Meeting

February 21, 2024 from 10:00am - 12:00pm

### Inland Columbia River System Virtual Regional Meeting

February 21, 2024 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

### Oregon Coast Virtual Regional Meeting

February 22, 2024 from 10:00am - 12:00pm

### Puget Sound and Washington Coast Virtual Meeting

February 22, 2024 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

[Click here to register for the meeting\(s\)](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Dena Horton](#).

## Idaho Wheat Commission at Wheat Marketing Center

Neil Maunu and Anthony Peña presented to Idaho wheat farmers at the Wheat Marketing Center in Portland. We provided an updated on the Columbia Snake River System, and



the mediation and litigation history surrounding the system and the federal hydropower projects located on the river. This was a great opportunity to get in front a group of members and update them on current trends on the system and to provide advocacy updates on our own efforts. Additionally, in attendance was Captain Dan Jordan representing the Columbia River Bar Pilots, delivering an

outstanding presentation highlighting the crucial responsibilities of Bar Pilots in navigating the river.

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## Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers Roundtable

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At the Washington Grain Commission offices in Spokane, we participated in a Lower Snake River Dam (LSRD) Roundtable. In attendance was Anthony Peña, PNWA, Kurt Miller, NWPPA, Michelle Hennings, WAWG, and stakeholders including Ports of Lewiston, Clarkston, Whitman County, Northwest Grain Growers, McGregor and agriculture and utilities representatives.

This offered an opportunity to inform the congresswoman about the concerns related to the LSRD, as well as to rally supporters, showcase our backing, and bring increased attention to the matter. We discussed our involvement in the mediation, highlighting our exclusion and expressing apprehensions regarding the proposed commitments by both the US Government and the Plaintiffs. Expressing gratitude to Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers for her ongoing support, we pledged to maintain collaboration with her office in safeguarding the LSRD. Additionally, we addressed some of the Congresswoman's questions and concerns.

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## Revised Lock Closure Schedule

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For the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, the Seattle District of the Corps of Engineers announced the large locks reopened two days ahead of schedule on December 28, 2023. A temporary marine fender has been installed as the center miter gates were removed. Mariners are advised to operate at extremely low speed 2.5 knots or less, follow all Tower and lock operator

instructions, and to exercise extreme caution entering and exiting the large lock chamber. The large lock miter center gate will close to vessel traffic on January 14, 2024 at 12:01 AM and remain closed until February 12, 2024. It is anticipated that this will be the last large lock closure until mid-October 2024 when the new gates will be installed. For more information about the Chittenden Locks closure and navigation schedule information, click [here](#).

For the Columbia Snake River System, the Portland District of the Corps of Engineers *announced* that the scheduled closure for the John Day Lock and Dam will close one day earlier than previously stated. Currently, all other lock outage schedules remain the same. As a reminder, the extended lock closure schedule is as follows:

| Project          | Closes            |          | Reopens        |          |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| Bonneville       | March 3, 2024     | 12:01 AM | March 16, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| The Dalles       | March 3, 2024     | 12:01 AM | March 16, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| John Day         | March 2, 2024     | 12:01 AM | March 16, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| McNary           | January 14, 2024  | 6:00 AM  | March 29, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| Ice Harbor       | February 26, 2024 | 6:00 AM  | March 22, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| Lower Monumental | January 14, 2024  | 6:00 AM  | March 29, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| Little Goose     | January 14, 2024  | 6:00 AM  | March 29, 2024 | 11:59 PM |
| Lower Granite    | January 14, 2024  | 6:00 AM  | March 29, 2024 | 11:59 PM |

## 2024 PIDP Short Form NOFO Published



The Department of Transportation shared a *short form Notice of Funding Opportunity* (NOFO) for the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP).

This notice announces the availability of up to \$450 Billion in funding for grants under this program. The Maritime Administration intends to amend this notice by February 16, 2024, with complete program requirements and application information.

Grant applications are due via Grants.gov before midnight on April 30, 2024.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

[Click Here for Port Infrastructure Development Program](#)

## Ships Under Construction for American Cruise Lines



American Cruise Lines announces they have five new ships under construction, all scheduled for delivery over the next two years. These are in addition to the three ships the Line took delivery of this year. All five ships will be for the U.S.

market and will include a mix of American Riverboats and Coastal Cats. The new ships will further American's expansion on the coasts and renew its focus on the Mississippi and Columbia Rivers, where the Line's acclaimed modern riverboats lead the U.S. market. [Read the Press Release here](#)

Congratulations and thank you for your continued commitment to expanding the cruise capacity of the Columbia Snake River.

## Welcome New Members



Welcome our newest member, [Port of Edmonds](#). The Port of Edmonds Boat Marina was created in 1962. It provides the only public boating access between Seattle's Shilshoole Bay and Port of Everett.

We look forward to working with the Port and seeing them at our next event.

## Taste of Northwest Sponsors Wanted!

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Pacific Northwest Waterways Association

***You're Invited!***  
**Taste the Northwest  
2024 Reception**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 6:00 pm - 8:00pm | RUSSELL 325**

Join us for our annual Taste the Northwest Reception featuring refreshments and hors d'oeuvres from all across the Pacific Northwest!



Taste the Northwest is a "widely attended event" and adheres to Congressional ethics guidelines

As part of the Mission to Washington DC, we hold our signature **Taste the Northwest reception** featuring refreshments and hors d'oeuvres from the Pacific Northwest. Our members donate the Northwest foods and beverages we serve at the reception, and we would love to feature a local flavor from your neck of the woods. Past examples of donated items include beer, seafood, cheeses, jams, chocolates, and even fresh tulips. If you are interested, please contact Mary Wiley by *email* or by telephone at (503) 234-8550.

Monetary donations are also very much appreciated and help to offset the many costs of hosting this popular event. You can sign up to be a Bronze (\$500), Silver (\$800), Gold (\$1,000), or Platinum (\$1,500) Level Sponsor when you register to attend the Mission or by contacting *Mary Wiley*.

To view more information on sponsorship levels, please click *here*.

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## 2024 Mission to Washington

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The 2024 PNWA Mission to Washington promises to be an event you will want to attend! Join us in the nation's capital as we meet with lawmakers and their offices to ensure our priorities and issues are top of mind.

Throughout the program, participants will gain valuable insights and network with key federal agency officials, industry partners, and DC insiders. In addition, we will spend two days on Capitol Hill meeting with the Northwest Congressional delegation. Details of the agenda will be released in the coming weeks. Make your plans to join us today!

[Register for the 2024 Mission to Washington](#)

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**Welcome Carli Kreinbring, Operations Coordinator**



Carli Kreinbring joined the PNWA team in January of 2023 as Operations Coordinator. Bringing more than seven years of expertise in the banking and mortgage industry, Carli possesses strong customer service skills and a keen understanding of financial practices; as well as abilities to create and maintain organizational systems to increase productivity and enhance efficiency.

She earned an Associate's degree with honors from Clark College. She volunteers as a registered State of Washington Emergency Worker. Carli lives in Vancouver, Washington and enjoys spending time with friends, traveling, and going to concerts. Please welcome Carli at [carli.kreinbring@pnwa.net](mailto:carli.kreinbring@pnwa.net).

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Pacific Northwest Waterways Association