

# INTERSTATE 5 (I-5) BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

## Background

Currently, the modified locally preferred alternative is being put forth for further study and refinement. The Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) is seeking a Preliminary Navigation Clearance Determination from the U.S. Coast Guard for a clearance of 116 feet. The Coast Guard sent a letter to the Federal Highways Administration and the Federal Transit Administration requesting analysis of an option that allows for at least 178 feet of vertical clearance. The IBR project is also now studying an option for a movable span bridge as a design variation to the modified locally preferred alternative.

PNWA represents river and multi-modal freight users participating in the planning process for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program's Citizen Advisory Group (CAG). PNWA advocates for a bridge height that will allow for maintenance dredging to continue the inland Columbia Snake River System to ensure safe and efficient barging of goods and cruise operations.

The future bridge design should consider water level and flow changes stemming from climate change, the expiring pre-paid flood control agreement and operational modifications resulting from the Columbia River Treaty between Canada and the United States of America, and the potential need for a "High, Wide and Heavy Corridor" for the movement of very large products.

More IBR project information can be found at: <https://www.interstatebridge.org/>

## PNWA Supports Interstate Bridge Replacement that ensures continued safe and efficient navigation and multimodal freight movement

The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) has over 150 members, including ports, barge companies, steamship operators, grain elevator operators, agricultural producers, electric utilities, irrigation districts, and union labor throughout Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Our association supports projects to advance and protect the region's navigation infrastructure, freight mobility, economic health, and the environment. We support the region's multi-modal transportation system, which provides safe, efficient, and reliable links to competitive domestic and world markets.



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