

INLAND PORTS AND NAVIGATION GROUP (IPNG)



The Inland Ports and Navigation Group (IPNG) is comprised of navigation stakeholders who work to balance economic prosperity with environmental stewardship. They strive to protect inland navigation and the eight locks and dams on the Columbia Snake River System, while supporting a healthy environment and robust fish runs in the Northwest. IPNG is a subset of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA), a broad regional trade group representing over 130 members from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

The Columbia Snake River system is a vital transportation link for the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. The economies of these four states rely on the trade and commerce that flows up and down this critical commercial gateway. The inland portion of the system is a 360-mile long “water highway” from the Portland/Vancouver area to Lewiston, Idaho. It moves approximately 8.6 million tons of commercial cargo each year. The eight navigation locks and associated 14-foot inland channel are vital components to this river system, and significant assets to the nation’s navigation infrastructure.

IPNG represents navigation and ports in the courtroom

IPNG is an intervener in the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) lawsuit. While Judge Michael Simon left the 2014 BiOp in place, he found that the federal agencies must produce an updated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and deliver a new Biological Opinion. The federal agencies have indicated a target deadline of September 2020. IPNG maintains an active role in this case, ensuring navigation concerns are represented before Judge Simon.

IPNG also supported the Corps’ Snake River Programmatic Sediment Management Plan (PSMP) and Snake River channel maintenance. Judge James Robart found in favor of the Corps on both of these matters in 2015 and 2016, and dredging was successfully completed.

The Inland Ports and Navigation Group is managed by the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association. Legal counsel is provided by Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt.

Members of the Inland Ports and Navigation Group

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Almota Elevator Company | Port of Longview |
| Clearwater Paper | Port of Morrow |
| Columbia River Pilots | Port of Pasco |
| Foss Maritime | Port of Ridgefield |
| Lewis-Clark Terminal, Inc. | Port of Umatilla |
| Northwest Grain Growers | Port of Vancouver |
| Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative | Port of Walla Walla |
| Pomeroy Grain Growers | Port of Whitman County |
| Port of Clarkston | Shaver Transportation |
| Port of Kalama | Tidewater Barge Lines |
| Port of Lewiston | Washington Association of Wheat Growers |

