



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee

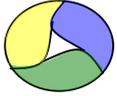
**0900 - 1200**

**Wednesday, January 9, 2013**

**Venue: USCG MSU Swan Island**

<b>Managing Board Members Present</b>					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
<b>Heather Stebbings</b>	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	<b>Eric Burnette</b>	Port of Portland	Ports
<b>Robin Wright</b>	Merchants Exchange	Associations	<b>Susan Johnson</b>	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
<b>Jon Gornick</b>	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	<b>Dennis Corwin</b>	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
<b>Capt. LeBlanc Lt. Morrison</b>	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	<b>Hans Meere</b>	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
<b>Dan Jordan</b>	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	<b>Mike Zollitsch</b>	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
<b>Anne McIntyre</b>	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	<b>Jim Townley Michael Titone</b>	CRSOA	Associations
<b>Roman Geigle</b>	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	<b>Phil Brotherton</b>	Transmarine Navigation Corp	Shipping Agents
<b>Duffy Daniels</b>	Wilhelmsen Ships Service	Shipping Agents	<b>Kirk Bonnin</b>	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Stu Sanborn	Tidewater	Ed Bowles	ODFW		
John Hellberg	USCG	Sencer Under	NCB		
Kimberly Rule	USCG	Dan Justis	USCG		
Mitch Cline	USCG	Ashley Helenberg	Port of Longview		
Maya Connell	USCG	Crescent Moegling	NOAA		

**A quorum was present for the meeting.**



### Call to Order

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introduced General Membership and Guests

### Review of Minutes

Minutes for November 14, 2012 meeting were approved.

### Old Business

- **Identify locations for 2013 meetings:**

March 13, 2013 – need confirmation of reserved large conference room at Merchants Exchange

May 8 – Millenium Bulk in Longview a possibility

July 10 – Astoria, Dan Jordan will check for space at the Maritime Museum

September 11 – TBD

November 13 – Portland Spirit

- Review update of **Subcommittee Membership list:**

Outreach – add Ashley Helenberg of Port of Longview

Navigation – get contact information for USCG members added at last meeting

- **Stern Buoy Project Update:** Eric Burnette met with representatives from Foss, Shaver and COLRIP to discuss issues with the new stern buoys (design of hook, placement of light, footholds). They can either retrofit the existing buoys or swap them out with some others that are available. In about a month there will be a request for five more buoys. This can be started as a new project or a continuation of the current one, as the locations have already been identified, permitted and prioritized. The new sites are all within existing anchorages.

### Committee Reports

- **Anchorage**

See Stern Buoy Project Update under Old Business. There was also discussion of designating the anchorages to their appropriate state waters in the Harbor Safety Plan.

- **Bridges**

Sellwood span is going to be moved and the bridge closed starting January 17 for several days. Tri-Met is ongoing with no complaints. There was an open house on the Columbia River Crossing in January. There was mention of the recent allision with Bay Bridge in San Francisco, and noted that there is no fendering on the piers of the Longview Bridge, which is a potential problem. The fendering was removed in 2007 as too costly to maintain. HSC had written a letter to WDOT a couple of years ago about the issue but received no response.

- **Extreme Water**

There was nothing new to discuss.

- **Finance**

NWFF Environmental has agreed to cover the cost of website fees for 2013 and the Columbia River Pilots in 2014.

- **Harbor Safety Plan**

The 2013 version of the HSP is almost ready to post on the website. There are a few additional changes needed: removing the “draft” from the bunkering guidelines and the description on Prescott anchorage has a typo. It was agreed to draft the changes and defer approval to the next meeting.



There was also discussion of changing the restricted visibility guidelines to reflect actual practice on the river, which will be addressed by the Navigation committee. There was discussion of abbreviating the document for vessel operations and working through the CRSOA to condense it down to an operational document.

- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**

Roman Geigle has been working to get some momentum going with outreach and communication between stakeholders above Bonneville, whose core issues involve dredging and maintenance. Discussion of trying to pull a subcommittee meeting together and getting periodic updates on issues of concern in the region.

- **Make Way**

The USCG has established four safety zones in the event there is lock out/strike activity by the Grain shippers/ILWU. Make Way was the impetus for the presentation later in the meeting by Ed Bowles of ODFW on the gill net issue.

- **Navigation**

See Emission Control Area Update under New Business. Also see Harbor Safety Plan under Committee Reports.

- **Outreach**

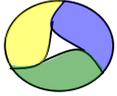
See Update of LCR HSC Flyer under New Business

**USCG Report on Vessel Incidents:**

- 11/29/12 – Clipper Valour, reduction in propulsion
- 12/24/12 – Trinity, loss of propulsion
- 12/27/12 – Saga Fortune, reduction in propulsion  
Low sulfur fuel was determined to not have been a cause in any of the three incidents.
- 1/02/13 – Robert Henry, grounded on the rocks of Cape Arago jetty, vessel complete loss, no human casualties

**New Business**

- **Update of LCR HSC Flyer:** Heather Stebbings noted that as part of the Outreach committee work that the managing board contact information needed to be updated on the flyer.
- **Emission Control Area Update:** Capt. LeBlanc reminded everyone that the emissions control area went into effect this summer. There has been anecdotal information passed from the pilots to the Coast Guard on power-related issues related to low sulfur fuel usage. At the industry breakfast it was agreed to convene a workgroup. They have assigned Lt. Arven Garcia to convene stakeholders with an eye toward evaluating incidents that happen in the river and present any problems to the EPA for potential solutions. Jeff Cowen has been reviewing incidents related to California emission standards for at least five years. They hope to have him give a talk to the workgroup at their kickoff meeting on his lessons-learned.
- **Discussion on current charter review:** Roman Geigle asked the membership to review the charter posted on the website.
- **ODFW Discussion on Changes to Fishing Practices:** Ed Bowles of ODFW gave a presentation on a solution set emerging from the gillnet issue that was on the November ballot which may impact Make Way issues (i.e. Rule 9 violations). A citizens' initiative on the ballot would have prohibited gill netting below Bonneville dam. The Governor proposed a compromise to finally settle this ongoing issue. The plan shifts emphasis for the commercial gillnet fishery to the off-channel areas in the Spring and Summer, coupled with commercial fishing in the main stem using alternative gear that would be most likely not to harm native fish.



It will be implemented over a transition period of four to five years. Because of potential impacts on commercial vessel activity, outreach is necessary to fill some holes and identify coordination needs. Fisheries change on a daily basis on the Columbia. Notices of these changes are automatically sent from ODFW for those who sign up at their website.

- **Status of Off-shore Wave Buoys:** Dan Jordan showed a map of the National Data Buoy Center's buoys in the ocean which have different purposes (weather, tsunami) and different users. The buoys are funded for one purpose, but they are used for multiple purposes by different users. The bar pilots use the buoys to monitor weather and wave heights as they get closer to shore to determine when it's necessary to close the bar to ship movements. The earmark for one of the buoys they rely on (46089) has expired and when it fails it won't be replaced, which would impact voyage planning with incoming storm activity. They are considering a letter-writing campaign to their congressional delegation to request some funding to maintain the buoy.
- **Discussion of future agenda items:** The renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty between the US and Canada. Matt Ray gave a presentation on the issue at a previous industry breakfast.

**For the Good of the Order:**

- Lt. Morrison gave a briefing on crude oil exports within the zone. Late last year Columbia Pacific in Clatskanie started exporting crude oil. The ATB Ocean Reliance handles the product on a weekly basis. There have been no issues with the facility to date. Two other prospective crude oil facilities in the Port of Grays Harbor are aggressively planning to be on line mid- 2013. There is an agreement to construct a third crude oil facility at the port.
- The Merchants Exchange received a port security grant to conduct an emergency preparedness seminar on March 1. Preliminary agendas are available.

**Next Meeting:** March 13, 2013; Location: Merchants Exchange, Portland, OR to be confirmed.

**Adjourned 12:00 p.m.**



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee

0900 - 1200

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

Venue: Portland Merchants Exchange  
200 SW Market Street, Propeller Room  
Portland, Oregon

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Robin Wright	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Jim Townley	CRSOA	Associations
Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Dan Jordan Gary Lewin	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
Paul Amos	Columbia River Pilots		Jim Townley	CRSOA	Associations
Roman Geigle	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation Corp	Shipping Agents
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Ed Irish	Tesoro	Brian Fletcher	Tidewater		
Rick Williams	Ocean Energy	Kevin Buffum	Pacific Terminal Services		
Kimberly Rule	USCG	Rven Garcia	USCG		
Steve Sanborn	Tidewater	Ashley Helenberg	Port of Longview		
Andy Myer	Columbia River Yachting				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

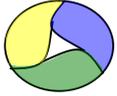
### Call to Order

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions

### Review of Minutes

Minutes for the January 9, 2013 meeting were approved.



### Old Business

- **Identify locations for 2013 meetings:**

- March 13 – Merchants Exchange
- May 8 – Millenium Bulk, Longview, WA
- July 10 – Maritime Museum, Astoria
- September 11 – Port of Vancouver, WA
- November 13 – Portland Spirit

- Review update of **Subcommittee Membership list:** Add the Columbia River Yachting Association.
- LCR HSC flyer has been updated and posted on the website.

### Committee Reports - Suggestion to list lead person for each committee along with contact information.

- **Anchorage**

- See Report on Stern Buoy Issues under New Business.

- **Bridges**

- The Tri-Met Bridge is moving forward without adverse impacts. The Sellwood Bridge was moved to new pilings in January. Oregon has signed off on their share of funding for the CRC.

- **Extreme Water**

- There was nothing new to report.

- **Finance**

- A motion to remove this item from the committee list was approved.

- **Harbor Safety Plan**

- Approval of the HSP was withheld at the last meeting pending additional changes to the restricted visibility guidelines. Those changes are still being developed. A motion to approve the 2012 version of the HSP passed.

- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**

- No additional outreach has occurred since the last meeting. There was discussion of getting contact information of upriver stakeholders to add to the general membership mailing list. PNWA will advise when the next upriver navigation meeting is scheduled.

- **Make Way**

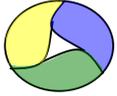
- Operation Make Way addresses recreational boater Rule 9 violations. ODFW has the ability to close down fisheries where there are frequent violations. The editor of *Freshwater News* is willing to print a message free of charge in their publication.

- **Navigation**

- Dan Jordan reported on items the committee is dealing with: (1) encourage WA to reinstall riprap around the towers of the Longview Bridge; (2) weather buoys off the Columbia River Bar – one broke away and was reinstalled, another is slated for removal. A letter campaign has been launched to keep funding for #46089; (3) The corps is going to realign the channel further away from shoals at buoy 14 upstream of Hammond. A section of the channel will be widened. The committee will be meeting after the close of the HSC meeting to talk about maneuverability issues due to low sulfur fuels, which frequently cause reductions in horse power. They will also be discussing procedures for dead ship tows, which require companies to submit a plan to the Coast Guard.

- **Outreach**

- Efforts have been focused on upriver interests. Ed Bowles of ODFW would like to incorporate HSC's message into their education efforts.



### USCG Report on Vessel Incidents:

- 1/16/13 – Fishing vessel crew member fell off setting crab pots; not recovered
- 1/19/13 – Motor vessel lost power
- 1/19/13 – Fishing vessel lost steering and grounded; freed on tide
- 1/24/13 – Motor vessel experienced reduction in power while outbound
- 1/27/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion
- 2/09/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion outbound
- 3/10/13 – Fishing vessel ran aground; freed on tide

### New Business

- **Report on Stern Buoy Issues and Updates:** Eric Burnette reported on progress since the January meeting. The new buoys have not proven to be safe for tug crews. The existing buoys are going to be swapped out with different buoys already available on the shelf. The current project is still open and could be extended to get additional stern buoys installed.
- **Update from Navigation on letter sent to WSDOT in regard to lack of piling fendering on the Longview Bridge:** There was no response to the letter sent two or three years ago. There was discussion of sending another letter of concern or bring into the public spotlight. Eric Burnette, Paul Amos and Heather Stebbings will contact lobbyists in Olympia and other WSDOT contacts regarding this safety issue.
- **Report on Impact to Navigation from Emission Control Area Implementation:** Lt. Rven Garcia also reported on the Low Sulfur Committee. They have collected data from seven random vessels – not enough to define trends so they have yet to find anything significant. Low sulfur fuel usage is also changing ship traffic patterns and causing exports of the fuel to South America for use coming back.
- **Possible Impact of Federal Sequester on Projects:** The Army Corps is looking at \$250 million in cuts across all business lines. They are still determining the nature of the impacts – mainly administrative, but they should not affect dredging projects. The Coast Guard is expecting reductions in travel and energy budgets, and civilian employee furlough days.
- **Overview of Maritime Stakeholders Regional Preparedness Seminar:** Robin Wright reported that the Merchants Exchange received a grant to conduct a comprehensive business continuity disaster recovery plan. Discussions included the basics of business continuity planning and impacts based on loss of resources; communications. They have a how-to kit available for continuity planning. They are designing a drill scenario to be conducted in the fall.

### For the Good of the Order:

- Sequestering follow-up – local customs is being affected; there have been reductions in night boardings.
- Rick Williams volunteered for the Navigation Committee. He reported that a marine danger zone off Camp Rilea was been published in the federal register (live fire area). Development of architecture for wave measurement is still in development stage with no funding. Well out on the horizon is ocean energy where three areas of interest to navigation have been identified. The Oregon Wave Energy Trust approved a study by the Oregon Military Department to initiate a conceptual design for Camp Rilea.

**Next Meeting:** May 8, 2013; Location: Millenium Bulk in Longview, WA.

**Adjourned 11:15 a.m.**



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Board Meeting

**1000 - 1200  
Wednesday, May 8, 2013**

**Venue: Millenium Bulk Terminals  
4029 Industrial Way  
Longview, Washington**

<b>Managing Board Members Present</b>					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
<b>Heather Stebbings</b>	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	<b>Eric Burnette</b>	Port of Portland	Ports
<b>Robin Wright</b>	Merchants Exchange	Associations	<b>Susan Johnson</b>	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
<b>Kirk Bonnin</b>	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	<b>Jon Gornick</b>	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies
<b>CAPT LeBlanc LT Morrison</b>	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	<b>Hans Meere</b>	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
<b>Dan Jordan Gary Lewin</b>	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	<b>Mike Zollitsch</b>	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
<b>Dennis Corwin</b>	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators	<b>Mike Titone</b>	CRSOA	Associations
<b>Roman Geigle</b>	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	<b>Pete Pawlicki</b>	Kirby Offshore Marine	Vessel Operators
<b>Ernie Quesada</b>	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port & Vessel Services	<b>Ashley Helenberg</b>	Port of Longview	Ports
<b>Andy Meyer</b>	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations	<b>Bob Troyer</b>	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Rick Williams	Ocean Energy	Peter Bennett	Millenium Bulk		
Crescent Moegling	NOAA	Robert McFarland	USCG		

A quorum was present for the meeting.



### Call to Order

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions

### Old Business

The 2013 Harbor Safety Plan has been posted to the committee's website.

### Committee Reports

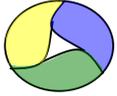
- **Anchorage** – The swap-out of the buoys will take place in the next few weeks. Shaver Transportation was thanked for their help in facilitating the swap-out. After the swap-out is complete, the Columbia River ports will need to discuss whether to petition the Army Corps for expansion of the project to include another two to four stern buoys.
- **Bridges** – Progress continues on the light rail bridge on the Willamette. Capt. LeBlanc and Lt. Morrison noted that the USCG Bridge Administration will be holding two public hearings on the Columbia River Crossing I-5 replacement bridge project:

5-8 PM Tue 04 June 13  
Red Lion Inn  
909 N Hayden Island Dr.  
800-992-2694

5-8 PM Wed 05 Jun 13  
Hilton Inn  
301 W 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
360-993-4500

There are three upstream businesses that are potentially impacted by restricted bridge heights.

- **Extreme Water**  
Eric Burnett reported that he has been in contact with the Northwest River Forecast Center. The freshet has increased in magnitude and the peak seems to have occurred about two weeks earlier, and the tail off into low water could also happen earlier than normal – probably near the end of September.
- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**  
No additional outreach has occurred since the last meeting. There was discussion of getting contact information of upriver stakeholders to add to the general membership mailing list. PNWA will advise when the next upriver navigation meeting is scheduled.
- **Make Way**  
There was nothing new to report.
- **Navigation**
  - Dan Jordan reported that the managing board approved incorporating USCG standards and language on dead ship towing into the Harbor Safety Guidelines.
  - They will also be revising the guidelines to include the use of electronic charts in lieu of paper charts, as long as they are part of an approved ECDIS system.
  - The new anchorages will be included as well.
  - The Corps of Engineers is in the process of realigning the Desdemona Channel downstream of Astoria.



- Low sulfur fuel issues are being tracked: some vessels cannot provide maximum horsepower or are losing propulsion at lower speeds.
- One of the wave buoys off the bar will be swapped out in June. Nationally, maintenance funding for these buoys is competing with dredging funds.
- Rick Williams gave a wave energy project update. The marine danger zone off Camp Rilea will soon be charted and published. This is an historic live-fire zone that has been there since the 1800's but has never been marked on the charts.

- **Outreach**

Heather Stebbings reported that she has been in contact with Ed Bowles of ODFW to provide information they can incorporate into their make-way education efforts.

**USCG Report on Vessel Incidents:**

- 3/13/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion due to a failed valve
- 3/20/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion; emergency fuel shut down activated accidentally
- 3/31/13 – Motor vessel grounded; no damage
- 4/08/13 – Motor vessel safety inspection found the master was extremely inebriated; arrested and banned from the U.S. for two years
- 4/09/13 – Motor vessel grounded at anchor

Update on safety zones for grain vessels:

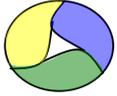
- Ships – 500 yards clear ahead; 200 yards clear port, starboard and astern
- Tugs and other support vessels – 100 yards clear ahead; 50 yards clear port, starboard and astern
- There was a violation of the safety zone by a protest vessel on May 7

**New Business**

- **PNWA 2013 Columbia-Snake River System Funding Update:** Heather Stebbings provided a handout and gave a summary of PNWA supported Corps projects for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. The handout itemized funding for construction projects, studies, operations and maintenance in the region.
- **CRSOA 2013 Organization Vision:** Mike Titone, new executive director for the Columbia River Steamship Operators' Association, gave an overview of the organization's mission and focus. They represent the interests of deep draft vessels and are comprised mainly of vessel agents as members. Their focus is on cross-jurisdictional coordination and acting as an information clearinghouse.

**For the Good of the Order:**

- Crescent Moegling of NOAA advised that they are doing a study for an ocean use atlas. There will be listening sessions in June in Portland, Coos Bay and Newport.
- Eric Burnett reported that the Army Corps is at the tail end of drawing up an O&M plan for the Columbia River – routine operations and maintenance for dredging. They are in the process of reviewing the draft intergovernmental agreement between the five ports for approval by July.
- Notice of a public comment period for the proposed Columbia River Crossing has been issued by the USCG and will run through June 19, 2013.



- Robert McFarland introduced himself as the Incident Management Preparedness Advisor for the USCG in Seattle. He is involved in vessel traffic risk analysis and the derelict vessel taskforce, and has a role with FEMA for coordination in natural disasters.
- Rick Williams announced that September 24-28 is Oregon Wave Week in Astoria. There will taskforce and developer meetings in the area, and a conference in downtown Astoria with field visits and site trips. Information can be found at [WWW.OREGONWAVE.ORG](http://WWW.OREGONWAVE.ORG).

**Next Meeting:** July 10, 2013; Location: Maritime Museum in Astoria, OR. This could be a good time to have a Make-Way discussion on outreach to recreational boaters.

**Adjourned 11:35 a.m.**

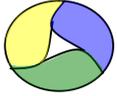


## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Board Meeting

**1000 - 1200  
Wednesday, July 10, 2013**

**Venue: Columbia River Maritime Museum  
1729 Marine Drive  
Astoria, Oregon**

<b>Managing Board Members Present</b>					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
<b>Heather Stebbings</b>	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	<b>Eric Burnette</b>	Port of Portland	Ports
<b>Robin Wright</b>	Merchants Exchange	Associations	<b>Susan Johnson</b>	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
<b>Kirk Bonnin</b>	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	<b>Jon Gornick</b>	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies
<b>CAPT Jones CAPT Ropp LT Morrison</b>	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	<b>Hans Meere</b>	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
<b>Dan Jordan</b>	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	<b>Fred Harding</b>	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators
<b>Lars Uglum</b>	Port of Vancouver	Ports	<b>Jim Townley Audrey Gurule</b>	CRSOA	Associations
<b>Roman Geigle</b>	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	<b>Ashley Helenberg</b>	Port of Longview	Ports
<b>Phil Brotherton</b>	Transmarine Navigation	Shipping Agent	<b>Bob Troyer</b>	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
<b>Andy Meyer</b>	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations			
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Randy Clark	USCG	Peter Bennett	Millenium Bulk		
Crescent Moegling	NOAA	Heather Sievers	Millenium Bulk		
Sonha Gomez	USCG	Dale Beasley	CRCFA		
Brian Fletcher	Tidewater	Sarah Pulliam	USCG		
Scott McMullen	OR Fishermen's Comm.	George Kisel	Customs		
Sencer Under	NCB	Samud Looney	USCG		
Hauk Bynaker	Port of Astoria	Sean Clark	Port of Kalama		
Norm Krehbiel	Port of Longview	Tim Patching	Shaver Transportation		



**A quorum was present for the meeting.**

**Call to Order**

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions

**Review of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2013 meeting was seconded and carried.

**Old Business**

Dead ship two guidelines were approved and added to the 2013 Harbor Safety Plan. Electronic charts will be discussed during committee reports.

**Committee Reports**

- **Anchorage**

Eric Burnette is working on a letter to sponsor ports to begin the next phase of the economic development study for additional stern buoys. The three new stern buoys were swapped out with a more functional style. Paul Amos added that the Prescott deep water buoy isn't working out very well with respect to ships maintaining their positions. There is also a need for funding to dredge the anchorages.

- **Bridges**

The Columbia River Crossing did not receive funding from the Washington legislature. There is nothing new to report on any other bridges.

- **Extreme Water**

There is nothing new to report.

- **Harbor Safety Plan**

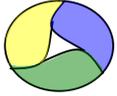
There is an additional update pending before posting the 2013 version to the website.

- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**

Heather Stebbings reported the Army Corps has a public comment period open for Snake River dredging for the first time in eight years. There is likely to be litigation against the dredging. They are going to be hosting Congressional tours in the area to raise awareness. There is funding to do the dredging, but if litigation stops the dredging the funding will be lost.

- **Make Way**

Paul Amos reported that they are planning to conduct some operations in the fall in the upper river and try to focus on ebb tides. Dan Jordan reported that they usually start when salmon season opens at buoy 10 on the bar. The Coast Guard auxiliary helps out at boat ramps and sheriff's departments are involved in ticketing violations. Public announcements on the radio warn recreational boaters of the operations. Sarah Pullium, USCG acting chief of enforcement, explained that they will conduct boater education and enforcement this year. CG Auxiliary will be at ramps handing out packets of information including flyers on Rule 9 violations. Sector boarding teams will be working with Clatsop County Sheriff and Oregon State Police the entire month of August and into Labor Day weekend.



The command center will also be sending out Make Way radio broadcasts. The Port of Longview recently integrated Rule 9 information into their newsletter Port Talk. Make Way information is also published in the state sport fishing regulation publications from in Oregon and Washington.

- **Navigation**

- Dan Jordan reported that two days ago the wave buoy near buoy 2 quit communicating. Station Cape Disappointment went out and towed it in yesterday. A new buoy will be installed within the next week or two.
- A new Corps chart came out about a week ago with the realignment of the Desdemona Channel going from Tansey Point to buoy 14 – a seven year process.
- They are looking at adding a paragraph revising the guidelines to charts and publications to include the use of electronic charts in lieu of paper charts, as long as they are part of an approved ECDIS system. The proposed language repeats what the Coast Guard is already using.

- **Outreach**

Heather Stebbings advised that Congressional tours on dredging, stern buoys and anchorages, will also be taking place on the lower river as well. There was a stakeholder meeting with the Corps regarding sedimentation from the White Salmon and the safety concerns it's causing to barge operations upriver. There will be a follow-up meeting later in the summer.

**USCG Report on Vessel Incidents:**

- 5/20/13 – Fish processing vessel had engine room fire, causing the vessel to lose power.
- There are no deep draft vessel casualties to report.

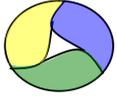
Capt. Patrick Ropp was introduced as the new commander at MSU Portland.

**New Business**

- **Make Way:** A discussion on Make Way operations, past issues and what works – Paul Amos noted that what has been working well is working cooperatively with the Coast Guard and the sheriff. Coast Guard officers have gone out on vessels with the pilots to identify Rule 9 violators for citation. Sometimes it's difficult to get people out on the best high traffic dates, and it's hard to predict which days will be chaotic for recreational boating traffic. Capt. Jones added that currently, there are a lot of assets on the water for moving grain ships (ILWU lockout) which takes away from their ability to assist Make Way operations. It was noted that one or two tickets issued early in the season helps get the word out and changes boater behavior (ticket early and often). Members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary were in attendance. As a volunteer organization, they don't ticket, but they do hand out informational packets at boat ramps. They reported that in 2012 there were 19 recreational boating deaths in Oregon, and 30 in Washington: 84% of victims were not wearing life jackets. The Auxiliary will be working Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays starting August 9, passing out informational material and conducting courtesy vessel inspections. Stakeholders and members of the public should report recreational boater violations to the regular Coast Guard.

**Public Comment/Future Agenda Items:**

- There was a question about whether there were any plans in place if a major event such as an earthquake occurs. Under the Maritime Security Plan there are two contingency plans: the Marine Transportation Recovery plan and the Salvage Plan. One focuses more on disruption and priorities and the other on salvage of assets in the affected area. FEMA is planning an exercise event from Washington to California in 2016. There is a website (NANOOS) that list evacuation zones and assembly areas in the event of a tsunami.



- It was noted that the number paddle craft fatalities are catching up with motor boat fatalities – more outreach should be focused on that group.
- Crescent Moegling says NOAA has issued a request to identify data gaps in the primary gauges that exist in the area to see where new gauges should be placed. Feedback is due by July 28.
- Crabbers concerns: avoiding commercial traffic; staying on the edge of the channel; maintaining communications on channel 13. It has been working well and the pilots have maintained good communications with them. There is also a meeting twice a year (towboat-crab lanes agreement) on the second Friday of March and November.
- The fishing industry also has problems with recreational boaters. With the burning of the Pacific Seafood Plant in Warrenton, some fishing vessels have to travel upriver to Tongue Point to offload their catch. Delays in transit equate to loss of income.
- Columbia River Treaty Draft: Would it be appropriate for the committee to provide comment on the draft? PNWA will be submitting comments, which are due August 16. There is concern that navigation has not been an important consideration. There was discussion of having a presentation on the Treaty at a future meeting. PNWA will send a copy of their comments to the managing board, and offered to do a presentation at the next meeting. There are going to be two-hour webinars, one on July 16 and one on July 23 on this issue. PNWA has participation information.

**For the Good of the Order:**

- There has been a lot of discussion about the new bunkering/lightering facilities being proposed at the Port of Vancouver – possible future presentation.
- The Oregon Legislature has approved funding for another Connect Oregon grant for \$42 million. The program will now consider bike and pedestrian project applications. This program funded the Bar Pilots' Under-keel Clearance Study and included two wave buoys. There has been some discussion about potentially extending that work upstream.
- The Port of Astoria will put a marine asset on the water later this year – a 33-foot quick response vessel with 1500 gallon/minute firefighting capability. It was procured through a port security grant. The Port will be responsible for maintenance of the vessel but the City of Astoria has agreed to provide manpower either through volunteer or staff firefighters. There was discussion of having a presentation on what first responder assets are currently available in the region.
- Capt. Jones reminded everyone about the Coast Guard's monthly industry breakfast on the third Thursday of every month. He noted that Admiral Gromlich, the new commander for the 13<sup>th</sup> District, will be attending the next meeting on July 18. There will be a presentation from the Army Corps on dredging.
- Jim Townley that they have been asked by the district commander to put together their introduction program called COBALT (Columbia Basin Leadership Training). The program introduces our federal partners to the complexities and capabilities of the river system, stakeholders they can talk to on different issues, industry perspective and priorities. The program will be conducted from 7/16-18.
- NOAA has released for forecast for the lowest river stages for this year (-.5), which will occur from the last week of August through October. Northwest River Forecasters will be posting this information on their website.

**Next Meeting:** September 11, 2013; Location: Port of Vancouver, WA, with a 9 a.m. Managing Board meeting and a 10 a.m. General Membership meeting.



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Board Meeting

1000 - 1200  
Wednesday, September 11, 2013

Venue: Port of Vancouver  
3103 NW Lower River Rd.  
Vancouver, Washington

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Robin Wright	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators	Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen Ship Svc.	Shipping Agents
Roman Geigle	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Mike Titone	CRSOA	Associations
Fred Harding	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators	Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver	Ports
Ray DeBuhr	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations			
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Tony Sellers	USCG	Pete Bonebakka	Phillips 66		
Sean Clark	Port of Kalama	Matt Rea	Corps of Engineers		
Kim Ogren	Corps of Engineers				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

### Call to Order

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions



## Review of Minutes

Minutes for the July 10, 2013 meeting were approved by the managing board.

## Old Business

2013 Harbor Safety Plan Electronic Charts Guidelines were approved by the managing board. A paragraph was added defining the use of electronic chart use on approved ECDIS systems in the Harbor Safety Plan, which models USCG language.

## Committee Reports

- **Anchorage**

Eric Burnette advised that he was behind on preparing a draft letter to PNWA to officially start the planning process for more stern buoys.

- **Bridges**

There is nothing new to report.

- **Extreme Water**

There is nothing new to report.

- **Harbor Safety Plan**

The revised electronic charts guidance will be posted to the 2013 version on the website.

- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**

The managing board voted to stand down this committee because there are no active issues at this time.

- **Make Way**

A new issue was raised regarding hog-lines in the St. Helens area that were preventing the Army Corps from completing surveys. The Coast Guard will not intervene because they are not violating navigation rules. The Corps won't publish incomplete surveys, creating a safety issue for especially now during low water.

- **Navigation**

There was nothing new to report beyond the approval of the revised electronic chart guidelines.

- **Outreach**

There was nothing new to report. Roman Geigle made a request to the general membership for involvement on the managing board, particularly for unrepresented stakeholders. It was noted that Vigor is coming in with a new dry dock soon, bringing a different class of operation to the river – suggest outreach to see if they have any interest in participating on the committee (Ken Swingle?).

## USCG Report on Vessel Incidents

- Fishing boat sank about two weeks ago.
- The dredge Essayons recently ran aground and is in dry dock.
- A barge was found floating loose on the river, but was secured before causing any damage. News reports suggested the ILWU strikers may be implicated. The pilots continue to have security issues with the ILWU in the form of harassing encounters. There have been reports of fish hooks found in working lines.



### **New Business**

- **Make Way** – The USCG continues to conduct outreach and education with recreational boaters; and maintains communications with the pilots to identify problem areas.
- **Columbia River Water Treaty** – Matt Rea and Kim Ogren of the Army Corps of Engineers gave an update on the 2014-2024 Columbia River Treaty review. This 60-year agreement goes on in perpetuity; or can be changed or terminated if notice is given by 2014. The presentation covered the draft regional recommendation, navigation impact assessment summary, regional goals, and recommendation timeline. The Department of State will be visiting on September 13 for a listening session at the BPA in Portland. A handout was circulated with the presentation and contacts for more information.
- **Oil Export Facilities in the Columbia River System** – Speakers on this topic did not materialize for this meeting. DEQ noted that there were no permits being processed for such facilities in Oregon. An emergent risks report will be available by the first of the year.

### **Public Comment/Future Agenda Items**

A general call was made for November agenda items.

### **For the Good of the Order**

The next meeting is November 13, 2013; Location: Portland Spirit, Portland, OR

**Adjourned 11:45 a.m.**



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting

0900 - 1000  
Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Venue: Portland Spirit  
110 S.E. Caruthers Street  
Portland, Oregon

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Robin Wright	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Vessel Operators	Jim Townley	P.I.E.	Association
Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators	Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen Ship Svc.	Shipping Agents
Roman Geigle	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Mike Titone	CRSOA	Associations
Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation	Shipping Agents	Andy Meyer	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations
Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal	Terminal Operators	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept. of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Andrew Williamson	USCG	Ed Irish	Tesoro Corp.		
Michael Moreno	Merchants Exchange	Crescent Moegling	NOAA		
Brian Fletcher	Tidewater	Tony Sellers	USCG		
Matthew Pete	Consultant	Stu Sanborn	Tidewater		

### Call to Order

Chair: Roman Geigle  
Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions

### Review of Minutes

Managing Board Minutes for the September 11, 2013 meeting were approved. Approval of the General Meeting Minutes for that date was deferred to the January meeting.



### Old Business

- **Make Way: Columbia River Pilots, USCG** – Request to contact Ed Bowles/ODFW and Army Corps for advice on Columbia River survey issues – Recreational boats were blocking Army Corps survey efforts in the Columbia City/St. Helens area of the river. It's a moot point now, but will likely happen again next summer.
- **Columbia River Water Treaty** – There was a great presentation at the last meeting on the re-negotiation of this treaty. Copies of the presentation are available. Stakeholders are working to ensure that navigation is seriously considered in the negotiations.

### Active Working Committees Reports

**Anchorage** – The committee is working with PNWA, the Columbia River Pilots and CRSOA to install more anchor buoys. There will be a committee meeting on Thursday.

**Bridges** – Nothing new to report; they are on schedule with no major issues.

**Extreme Water** – Nothing new to report.

**Harbor Safety Plan** – Nothing new to report.

**Make Way** – The program was successful this year. (Also see Old Business)

**Navigation** – Nothing new to report.

**Outreach** – The Lower Columbia River Infrastructure group has created a subcommittee to generate positive press for the river system. They have brought in a public relations expert to assist.

### USCG Report on Vessel Incidents

- A commercial fishing vessel grounded at the north jetty. Two crewmembers survived, one died.

The Coast Guard Industry Breakfast is scheduled for November 21

### New Business

**Security and Infrastructure: Michael Moreno, Portland Merchants Exchange** – Mr. Moreno, Accounting and Grants Specialist, gave a presentation on the Port Security Grant Program and assisted security and safety resources that have been acquired through the program. MEX handles grant management and administration. Handouts of the presentation are available.

### Request for Public Comment / Future Agenda Items

- Eric Burnette and Capt. Anne McIntyre attended the recent West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Summit in California. It was well attended with representatives from CA, OR, WA, BC and AK. They noted that our harbor safety committee is behind other states in dealing with issues. Other HSC's in comparable ports are more active, organized and have more regulatory involvement in prodding issues along. However, those committees also have public or stakeholder funding. They also saw other states currently dealing with issues that are coming soon to our river system.



There was discussion of taking the LCRHSC to a more organized level and have more regulatory involvement in prodding issues along. Lack of response on issues raised is common among HSC's. Our committee should devise ways to escalate concerns efficiently.

- Request for solicitations to join the Managing Board for 2014.
- Connect Oregon V – The Columbia River Bar Pilots had obtained Connect Oregon III funds to conduct a dynamic under-keel clearance study. Eric Burnette is now working with the Columbia River Pilots to extend the study upriver. The funding application deadline is February 25. There is a 20% funding match for the project. The grant will be for a one-year demonstration of a fully integrated system which goes from open ocean to Portland/Vancouver, to sequence and time vessels optimally for under-keel clearance and for safety.
- Brian Fletcher of Tidewater shared an ongoing development they are working through with the Army Corps in The Dalles river basin. In 2010, the Army Corps surveyed from Bonneville to The Dalles. The data from the survey raised no concerns. This October, Bonneville has been working on their lamprey weir project, and have been reducing flows daily to an average of 2-3 feet lower. This has caused Tidewater to have to hold up tows up to twelve hours waiting for adequate water. They did an independent survey in November and found one area had gone from 14 feet to 10 feet of water which is concerning.

#### **For the Good of the Order**

- Crescent Moegling advised of recent changes to NOAA's charting mission. With the availability of digital technology on vessels it means the availability of printed charts for sale is going away (mainly because sales have plummeted). They are reverting to sales of print-on-demand services and providing charts in a PDF format. It was noted that sole use of electronic charts will require an endorsement on federal licenses.
- Mike Zollitsch of DEQ advised that next Tuesday (11/19) at the Hilton is the northwest area committee meeting of the Northwest Area Contingency Plan for response to hazardous material incidents.
- New contact from EPA is interested in attending future meetings.

**Next Meeting:** Tentatively scheduled January 8, 2014; Location: MSU Portland

**Adjourned 11:10 a.m.**