



Port of Grays Harbor | Celebrating 100 Years

A Century of Milestones

1911: Grays Harbor becomes Washington's second public port district
December 1911: First Port of Grays Harbor Commission Meeting (Frank Lamb, A.C. McNeil, W.J. Patterson First Port Commissioners)
1913: Washington State deeds 70 acres in Aberdeen & Hoquiam to PGH
1920: Commissioner Joseph A. Vance takes office
1921: Construction begins on Marine Terminal No. 1
1922: Construction of Marine Terminal No. 1 completed and first ship is loaded at PGH docks
1923: Port purchases the dredge Washington No. 4 that would later be named the Robert Gray
1924: Over one billion feet of lumber is loaded at PGH terminals Commissioner C.N. Wilson takes office
1925: Port signs its first lease with Harbor Oil Company
1927: Commissioner J.W. Clark takes office Union Oil provides oil bunkering services at Pier 1 Lease No. 8 signed with Port Machine Works. 84 years later Port Machine Works is still a Port tenant to this day PGH designates 3,000 ft long property in Aberdeen as airstrip to be known as the Grays Harbor Airport
1929: Commissioner Richard J. Ultican takes office PGH constructs first dock at Fisherman's Cove (Westport)
1933: Commissioner Captain Ralph E. Peasley takes office "Old Ironsides" the <i>USS Constitution</i> docks at PGH
1937: Commercial tuna fishing begins off Westport
1940: Port of Grays Harbor works with the Army Corps of Engineers to rebuild and maintain South Jetty The Port agreed to furnish the Robert Gray Dredge to help the United States Government's Works Progress Administration in the construction of Moon Island Airport
1942: PGH aids in the war effort in the Pacific by shipping various military and non-military cargo to troops in the Asian Theater
1944: US Congress authorizes channel depth of -32' MLLW
1945: Diking of Westhaven begins
1946: Commissioner Robert M. Ingram takes office First landing by a civilian airplane at Moon Island Airport piloted by PJ Schmidt Captain Robert Bowerman begins Western Washington Airways
1948: 2 log floats were constructed and placed in the Westhaven Fishing Base to allow for as many as 300 boats to utilize the facility simultaneously
1950: Post World War II Boom Felt By PGH as shipping tonnage is the highest it's been since 1941

1951:	Port of Grays Harbor founder and original commissioner, Frank Lamb, passed away while still in office. The Commission passed Resolution No. 474 in memoriam of Mr. Lamb and his 40 years of service for the Port Commissioner F.S. Foster takes office
1952:	Commissioner Captain Alfred S. Henderson takes office Commissioner Chapin Collins takes office
1953:	Moon Island Airport renamed Bowerman Field Airport
1955:	A record 451 boats are moored at Westhaven Fishing Base
1957:	Westhaven Fishing Base renamed Westport Fishing Base
1959:	Westport Fishing Base Office constructed
1958:	Westport expansion completed doubling the size of the marina from what it was in 1948
1961:	Commissioner John A. Earley, Jr. takes office
1962:	Grays Harbor County transfers ownership of Bowerman Airport to the Port of Grays Harbor Warehouse A constructed (would eventually house Long Beach Shavings & Paneltech) Warehouse E constructed (would eventually house Westway Terminals) Washington Crab warehouse constructed at Westhaven
1962:	Columbus Day Storm creates a rebirth of log shipping for the Port. For approximately 20 years prior to the Columbus Day Storm the Port's shipping numbers had been on the decline. The storm flattened 17 billion board feet of timber and as part of an effort to salvage the downed timber the State of Washington contracted out to Japanese logging firms for the timber. This affected the Port in that for the first time in nearly 20 years the Port began shipping large amounts of raw, round logs to Japan
1963:	Commissioner John K. Yearout takes office Land is leased to Vernon T. Holland to construct The Westport Shipyard Warehouse B constructed (would eventually house Port Machine Works)
1964:	PGH builds a new boat launch at Westport Industrial District #1 officially created
1965:	PGH dredge "Robert Gray" is decommissioned after more than 50 years of harbor maintenance
1965:	Industrial District #2 is officially created
1965/1966:	Port begins selling property along Westhaven Drive in Westport to tenants and transferred the roads, sidewalks, and parking lots to the City of Westport
1966:	Marine Terminal No. 4 constructed Port Industrial Road opens to traffic Warehouse C acquired (This is the building housing the Port's Main Office.)
1968:	Commissioner Hans Bielski takes office
1971:	Commissioner John K. Yearout is re-elected after a three year break An experimental Fish Protein Concentrate plant was built on Industrial District No. 2 (Aberdeen Landing) next to Pacific Protein. Fish Protein Concentrate was envisioned as a super food and food additive to increase the health and nutrition of certain foods. The concentrate would be made from hake.
1972:	The Port conducted a land swap between themselves and the United States Coast Guard for lands in Westport. The Port acquired the old Coast Guard Station (built in 1939) and the land on which it sat and the Coast Guard acquired land to build a new station

1973: Commissioner J. Neil Logue takes office Commissioner John A. Stevens takes office
1974: The Boldt Decision changes fishing laws in Washington State granting Native American Tribes half of the harvestable fish every season. This decision dramatically impacted the Westport Marina by drastically reducing the number of fish that could be caught at Westport annually
1975: PGH officially renames the Westport Marina Warehouse D purchased from Grays Harbor Hardwood
May 1975: Hank Soike travels to Washington D.C. to speak before the United States Senate Sub Committees on Public Works and request funding for general investigation studies that would determine the feasibility of the Deeper Draft Project.
February 1976: A Public Works Appropriation in the amount of \$125,000 was approved for the Deeper Draft Project Investigation.
May 1976: Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act passed and the Port sent letter of appreciation to Senator Warren G. Magnuson for his leadership in passage of the act which keeps foreign fishing vessels out of U.S. coastal waters except as authorized by the United States. Hank Soike was instrumental in bringing the issue of foreign fishing to the attention of the Senator.
November 1977: <i>Authorization for Phase I: Advanced Engineering and Design of the Deeper Draft Project</i> was passed by the US Congress.
1977: Port sells the old Coast Guard Station at Westport to the City of Westport. The City would eventually turn the station into the Westport Maritime Museum in 1985
1978: Commissioner Robert L. Aiken takes office December 1978: President Jimmy Carter proposes changes in cost sharing for water resources projects. The President's proposal included a cash contribution of 5% by local sponsors in projects such as Grays Harbor Deeper Draft. The Port acknowledged the importance of the Deeper Draft Project to the future of Grays Harbor and vowed to be the local sponsor for the project and put up the 5% contribution.
1979: PGH becomes involved with the Chehalis Basin Fisheries Enhancement Task Force
1979: Marine Terminal No. 2 is constructed Westport 107 project completed establishing the Westport Marina in its present state
1980: US Army Corps of Engineers dredges basin and extends Westport Marina breakwater
1981: Commissioner Gerald S. Terrell takes office Terminal 1's Slip 2 is diked and filled
1982: Industrial District No. 3 is officially created
1983: Forest products exports to the People's Republic of China account for 44% of PGH volumes
May 1983: Washington State's House of Representatives passes <i>Resolution No. 83-25 Supporting the Grays Harbor Deeper Draft Project.</i>
1983: Terminal 1's Slip 1 is diked and filled
1984: Authorization was granted for the Deeper Draft Project as part of the Roe Bill H.R. 3678 passed by Congress to a depth of -38 feet Mean Low Low Water (MLLW)
1986: Commissioner J.K. "Bun" Lewis takes office The first jet array anti-siltation berth maintenance system is installed at T4; the system still operates today mechanically removing silt from the river's bottom so ships do not touch ground while being loaded or unloaded.
1987: Jet Array System created and installed at Terminal No. 4 and Terminal No. 2. The purpose of the Jet Array System was to prevent silt buildup at the terminal births and in turn reduce dredging costs Industrial District No. 4 Officially Created
1988: Commissioner Russ Richardson takes office

1989: Westport Marina bankline and esplanade enhancements are completed
1990: PGH completes construction of on-dock rail at T4, opening the door to diverse breakbulk cargo movements Rail dedication ceremony at Terminals 4 – Port of Grays Harbor, the <i>West's Next Great Port</i> Construction begins on Deeper Draft Project
1990-1991: Terminal 4 Transit Shed constructed to aid in the efforts to diversify cargo at the Port of Grays Harbor.
1991: U.S. District Court Judge William Dwyer blocks timber sales to protect the northern spotted owl. This decision affected the Port by drastically cutting the amount of logs and lumber shipped across the Port's Terminals
1991: PGH & USACE complete channel deepening to -36' MLLW
March 1991: "Deeper Draft on Tap" Celebration for Completion of Phase I of the Deeper Draft Project.
1992: Commissioner Jack Root takes office Instrument Landing System installed at Bowerman Field
1992: Inaugural visit of the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines' <i>Sun Viking</i>
1992: Warehouse F constructed (eventually to be home to Paneltech)
1994: Commissioner Jack Thompson takes office Warehouse G constructed (eventually to be used by Paneltech)
1995: Warehouse H constructed (eventually to be used by Westport Shipyards)
1996: Commissioner M.W. "Mac" McWhorter takes office
1997: Puget Sound and Pacific Railroad purchases rail line serving Grays Harbor
1998: Commissioner Isabelle Lamb takes office Warehouse I purchased in 1998
1998: PGH joins the GH PUD and GH County to take local, public ownership of Satsop Development Park – The Grays Harbor Public Development authority is formed
1998: PGH purchased 150 acre uplands and marine terminal in Hoquiam, Terminal 3
1999: Construction of Phase I of the Deeper Draft Project is completed
2001: Port is authorized by the Washington State Legislature to provide pilotage services for the GH Pilotage District
2002: Commissioner Charles Caldwell takes office
2003: Ag Processing Inc constructs and operates their bulk product ship loading facility at T2
2004: Commissioner Stan Pinnick takes office
2006: AGP ships the millionth ton of soybean meal through Grays Harbor
2007: Imperium Grays Harbor constructs the nation's largest biodiesel plant at T2/T1 Phase II of Deeper Draft Project begins. Phase II includes deepening the downstream portion of the channel to its authorized depth of -38'.
2008: Ocean Cold Seafoods constructs cold storage facility at Westport Marina First shipment of US grown whole soybeans Willis Enterprises relocates wood chip operation to T3, begins barge shipments

<p>2009: The Pasha Group signs a joint marketing agreement with the Port of Grays Harbor to market Marine Terminal 4 facilities</p> <p>Partner Shipping makes inaugural visit to PGH to begin bi-monthly port calls</p> <p>RPPM constructs a hoist for seafood offloading at the Westport Marina</p> <p>Westway Terminal Company builds liquid bulk facility at T2//T1</p> <p>Dkoram, Inc returns log exports to the Port after a nine year hiatus</p>
<p>2010: Pasha Automotive Services begins processing Chrysler automobiles in Grays Harbor for export to Pacific Markets</p> <p>First shipment of corn to Saudi Arabia -- AGP</p> <p>PGH begins major marine, rail and road improvements to serve growing tenant base AGP begins construction of storage facilities with plans to triple exports of American grown agricultural products</p>
<p>2011: Port of Grays Harbor invites fourth graders from throughout Grays Harbor to tour the Port marine terminal in celebration of 100 years as a port district</p>