



Press Release:

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For Immediate Release

Port of Grays Harbor maintains solid financial position; modest cargo gain in 2019

Aberdeen, WA – Remaining committed to its fiscal policies and priorities, the Port of Grays Harbor finished 2019 in a solid financial position. Director of Finance and Administration Mike Folkers briefed the Commission on the Port's 2019 financial and operating results at Tuesday's Commission meeting, noting the Commission's sound business strategies resulted in the second highest operating revenue for the Port overall, and the highest revenue generated by the Marine Terminals at nearly \$34 million.

While vessel calls were down significantly in 2019, the Port of Grays Harbor still handled a record amount of cargo at its four deep-water terminals with nearly 3 million metric tons of cargo handled, setting a new level for tonnage in the Port's 108-year history. Notably, the opening of AGP's new processing facility in Aberdeen, South Dakota generated additional ag product exports at their Terminal 2 facility in Aberdeen, WA.

Busy and diverse shipping activity at the docks also resulted in a strong employment year for local longshore workers. Longshore hours worked topped 156,000 hours. "We are proud to see hours worked remain steady for our local longshoreman," shared Port Commission President Stan Pinnick.

2019 also marked a busy year of projects throughout the Port's facilities, with more than \$8 million going toward Capital Improvement Projects. Dredging began at the Westport Marina for the first

time in nearly 40 years. Investments in Marina user amenity improvements such as a new trash facility, new restrooms, and a complete overhaul of the boat launch parking lot facility including paving the entire parking lot, installation of a new restroom facility, a fish-cleaning station, a boat and trailer wash-down facility, an automated pay station, an information kiosk, picnic table, benches and trash cans. The Satsop Business Park paved West Park Lane, which services XNG's compressed natural gas facility and completed an important water connection project. After a 3-month closure, Bowerman Airport saw the completion of a critical drainage project.

"The Port of Grays Harbor thanks our users for their patience this past year while we completed improvements to the infrastructure that serves them," commented Commissioner Pinnick. "Our focus in 2020 is to continue to foster partnerships that result in additional investment and economic opportunities for our community."

On the heels of two record cargo years, the Port looks forward to future growth opportunities in 2020 and beyond, "We hope to increase the diversity of cargoes we handle here at the Port with progress on a potential new project and private investment at Terminal 3," shared Executive Director Gary Nelson. "We will also move forward with preparing the former pontoon site for future development to support cargo operations at adjacent Terminal 4. As you will hear from us throughout the year, The Future is Here, in Grays Harbor".

Founded in 1911, the Port of Grays Harbor is one of Washington State's oldest port districts and Washington's only deep-water port located directly on the Pacific Ocean. The Port of Grays Harbor operates 4 deep-water marine terminals, the Westport Marina, Bowerman Airport, Grays Harbor ship assist services, numerous public waterfront access facilities, in addition to industrial and business parks throughout the County. Strategically located midway between Seattle and Portland and only 1 ½ hours from open sea, the Port of Grays Harbor provides businesses a diverse portfolio of facilities. More information on the Port of Grays Harbor's facilities and operations is available at portofgraysharbor.com.



For the second year in a row, a record amount of cargo was handled at the Port of Grays Harbor's docks in 2019. The majority was export ag products from AGP's Storage & Export Facility at Terminal 2