

Press Release: March 19, 2020 Contact: Kayla Dunlap, Public Affairs Manager kdunlap@portgrays.org or 360-533-9590

For Immediate Release

## Port of Grays Harbor declares emergency; modifies operations amid COVID-19 pandemic

**Aberdeen, WA** – In response to the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Port of Grays Harbor Executive Director Gary Nelson issued an emergency declaration on March 18, 2020, to include modified operations at the Westport Marina office and the Satsop Business Park until further notice. The Port's main office reception area remains open at this time with limited access to the rest of the Aberdeen office. The marine terminals continue to operate as normal following U.S. Coast Guard protocols for all vessels and crew. In addition, Port maintenance crews and ILWU Local 24 working on the marine terminal are practicing safe social distancing and avoiding group congregations.

## Westport Marina Operations

The Westport Marina office, located at 326 Lamb Street in Westport, will be closed to the public. Marina staff will continue to conduct business Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm via telephone (360) 533-9562, and email marina@portgrays.org. Those wishing to make moorage reservations can do so by email, phone or via DOCKWA at the portofgraysharbor.com. Advanced reservations for the summer fishing season have been postponed until May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Westport Marina workshop and boat launch parking lot improvements ribbon cutting originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> have also been postponed until further notice.

## Satsop Business Park Operations

The Satsop Business Park's office is also closed to the public. Staff will continue to conduct business during normal business hours and can be reached at (360) 482-1600 or business@portgrays.org. All short-term agreements for film and photography will be canceled and rescheduled.

## **Friends Landing**

Friends Landing remains open for camping and day-use at this time, however, park users are reminded to practice social distancing and use the playground, picnic shelter, and common areas at their own risk. Cash transactions are restricted at this time. Payments and reservations can be taken over the phone (360) 861-8864 or online at friendslanding.org.

"We want to thank all of our tenants, users, and the public for their cooperation during this unprecedented time," commented Executive Director Gary Nelson. "We are committed to keeping the community, our customers and our staff as safe and healthy as possible."

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.