

December 7, 2020



The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
United States House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020**

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Madam Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA), I write to express our strong support for passage of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2020. PNWA supports keeping WRDA on a two-year schedule to ensure timely and consistent authorization of navigation projects and improvements to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers policies.

PNWA represents over 145 member organizations from Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Our membership is comprised of port authorities, marine cargo facilities, towboat companies, steamship operators, cargo shippers, agricultural producers, forest products manufacturers and other economic development interests in the Pacific Northwest region of the U.S. Nearly all of our members are partners of the Corps, and often serve as non-federal sponsors of civil works projects.

We understand the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee have been negotiating in good faith to address Corps policies and projects and have reached an agreement on a WRDA bill in a commendable bi-partisan fashion. PNWA supports full expenditure of annual Harbor Maintenance Tax collections, spending down the surplus in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF), and that certain amounts from the HMTF are available for specific categories of ports.

As we collectively try to recover from the recession and wrestle with new hardships as a result of the pandemic, keeping our navigation infrastructure maintained will protect U.S. jobs, and boost economic development. PNWA and our members appreciate your consideration and ask for prioritization in passing this legislation before Congress adjourns. If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact Dena Horton, PNWA Government Relations Director at [dena.horton@pnwa.net](mailto:dena.horton@pnwa.net).

Sincerely,

Kristin Meira  
Executive Director  
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA)