

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Port of Skagit Executive Director elected PNWA President**

Port of Skagit Executive Director Patsy Martin was elected President of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association on October 13 at the PNWA Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. Martin will head a forty member Board of Directors representing navigation interests in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Northern California. She has been on the Board of Directors since 2003 and has served as the group's Senior Vice President since 2007.

Martin's first item of duty as President will be to lead the PNWA Mission to Washington, DC, in March 2012. The agenda will include meetings with the Northwest Congressional delegation, senior staff from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies, and national leaders from industry and trade groups based in Washington, DC. Issues to be addressed include funding for Swinomish Channel dredging and support for streamlining the federal regulatory process to ensure timely review of permit applications.

In addition to her current position as Executive Director, Patsy Martin has also served as the Planner and Environmental Manager and Deputy Director at the Port of Skagit, which is located in Burlington, WA. She has been with the Port since 1995 and is currently focusing on continuing the expansion and business promotion at the port and economic development throughout Skagit County. Specific projects include continued dredging of the Swinomish Channel by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, crown conversion of the main runway at Skagit Regional Airport and continued development of thriving agricultural applications throughout the valley.

PNWA is a regional association representing ports, steamship and towboat operators, grain and forest products shippers and other economic development and local government interests in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. Members include public ports, navigation, transportation, international trade, tourism, agriculture, forest products, energy and local government interests. Since its founding in 1934, PNWA led the way for development of economic infrastructure for navigation, electric power and irrigated agriculture on the Columbia and Snake River System. In 1971, PNWA expanded, adding Puget Sound and coastal port members to provide a comprehensive regional perspective. Today, PNWA works with the U.S. Congress, federal agencies and regional decision leaders on transportation, trade, tourism, energy and environmental policy to enhance economic vitality in the Pacific Northwest. Learn more at [www.pnwa.net](http://www.pnwa.net).

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