

News and Information from **Oregon International Port of Coos Bay**

For Immediate Release: April 19, 2010

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Awards Grant to State Marine Board and Port of Coos Bay

In September 2009, the Oregon State Marine Board, working in partnership with the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay, submitted a grant application on behalf of the Charleston Marina to the Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The grant request was for \$645,000, to go with \$742,500 in funding from other state and local project partners, including \$382,500 from the port.

Port staff was notified of its successful grant application by the Washington, D.C., office of U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio on April 16, 2010, when Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced more than \$12 million in BIG grants to 10 states, including Oregon. Congressman DeFazio said, "These funds will help the Port expand the Charleston Marina to accommodate more permanently-moored boats and will allow the Port to attract more transient boat traffic. This will be a shot in the arm for the local economy by bringing needed tourism dollars to the area."

The Charleston marina project will rehabilitate transient moorage facilities and create additional recreational vessel moorage on B Dock. In recent years the marina has maintained a waiting list of annual moorage requests for recreational boats, and by reconfiguring various docks throughout the marina many of those requests have been satisfied. The current list has four boats in the 20-foot to 50-foot range, although the list is expected to grow as summer approaches. Annual moorage – recreational and commercial – accounts for 67% of all marina moorage.

The scope of the B Dock project includes architectural and engineering design and drawings, all required permits, replacement of steel piloting and concrete floating docks, upgrade of utility connections for electric power, water and waste water, a new shore-to-dock gangway, minor landscaping and information kiosks.

– more –

U.S. Fish & Wildlife BIG Grant Award / April 19, 2010 / 2-2-2

The Charleston Marina B Dock project represents both a public/public and public/private partnership due to the variety of participating entities. In addition to the BIG program and port funds, the following organizations may participate in funding the project; Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, Charleston Merchants Association, Charleston Community Enhancement Corp, and the Bay Area Sportsmen's Assn. The total project cost is \$1,387,500.

The project will be in the design and engineering phase during the 2010-11 fiscal year, and will be scheduled for construction during the fall of 2011, to coincide with the approved in-water work window maintained by environmental and regulatory agencies for the Coos Bay estuary.

###

For additional media information, please contact:

Martin Callery, Director of Communications & Freight Mobility
Oregon International Port of Coos Bay
Phone 541 267-7678 / Email mcallery@portofcoosbay.com

Wayne Shuyler, Facilities Program Manager/Deputy Director
Oregon State Marine Board
Phone 503 378-4597 / Email wayne.shuyler@state.or.us