



REALTOR®

Lincoln County Board of REALTORS®
2403 NW Hwy 101, Suite I
Lincoln City, OR 97367
541-994-4949 ♦ Fax 541-994-4959

11/25/2014

Admiral Paul Zukunft , Commandant
US Coast Guard Headquarters
2100 2nd St. SW STOP 7000
Washington DC 20593-7000

Re: Scheduled Closure of Coast Guard Air Station, Newport
Oregon

Dear Admiral Zukunft,

The Lincoln County Board of Realtors urges you to reconsider the scheduled closure of the Coast Guard air station in Newport, Oregon.

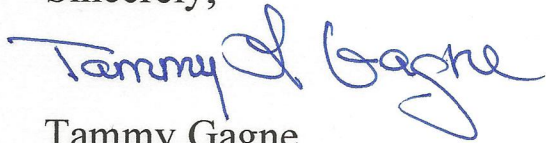
Thousands of pleasure and commercial watercraft each year will be left without a vital SAR helicopter close enough to save lives from our unforgiving cold waters. The national standard for response time might be 2 hours, but those of us who have lost family and friends to those waters, know painfully too well that standard is ridiculous.

Not only does this community depend on the SAR helicopter for water rescue, but also our local volunteer and paid emergency responders depend on them to assist with our land search and rescue missions. The logging industry in this area has had many

treacherous accidents that require a fast and capable response. The terrain here is steep and thickly forested, making rescue times lengthy by standard means.

We understand and applaud fiscal responsibility in government, but cannot condone a complete disregard for what most certainly will be a tragic event soon to follow the closing of the Newport facility. If the final decision is to close this air station, then the responsibility for the inevitable and needless loss of life will fall directly in the lap of those who made that decision.

Sincerely,



Tammy Gagne
Board President
Lincoln County Board of Realtors