Port Dock 5 Pier Replacement Project

- Newport’s commercial fishing fleet is the largest and among the most impactful in the State of Oregon.
- According to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), Newport has ranked in the top five west coast ports for annual landings of seafood for the past decade; Newport’s fishing industry led the West Coast in 2014 with 124 million pounds.
- NMFS data also shows that Newport is Oregon’s #1 port for the total value of fish landed, with a total of $393,600,000 between 2007 and 2016 (most recent year for which data is available).
- During that time period, Newport led the state for 7 out of the 10 years.
- Statistics generated by the Lincoln County Commissioners show that commercial fishing and aquaculture have accounted for over 19% of Lincoln County’s total personal income in 2012.
- The Port of Newport’s Commercial Marina is the heart of commercial fishing in Lincoln County.
- At 4,562 linear feet of available moorage, the Port Dock 5 complex is the largest and best operational commercial moorage in the county, and is home to over 65 businesses.
- The Oregon Employment Department reports that Newport accounted for an annual average of more than 300 commercial fishing jobs directly, with a high of 500 jobs in July.
- The bridge from the shore to the floating Port Dock 5 complex is a dilapidated wooden pier of late 1960’s vintage called the Port Dock 5 Pier.
- The cores of the wooden pilings supporting the Port Dock 5 Pier have rotted away; many of those pilings are now hollow, and the pier is in danger of failing.
- As a result of the structural degradation of the pier, access to the floating Port Dock 5 complex has been restricted; if the pier is not rebuilt, those restrictions will continue to become more severe, in an attempt to prevent failure of the structure.
- Demand continues to increase for additional commercial fishing businesses to come to Newport, and the configuration and infrastructure in the Port Dock 5 complex has become obsolete and deficient.
- The Port has had to turn away 14 new businesses in the past year due to lack of space and failing infrastructure, which in turn diminishes the Port’s opportunity to generate new revenue.
• A new Port Dock 5 Pier is needed to both retain the Commercial Fishing Industry, which is a vital part of Lincoln County’s economy, and to configure the Port’s infrastructure to allow for growth and changes in vessel construction over the next 40 years.

• The Port of Newport has invested in planning for the replacement of the Port Dock 5 Pier, and is in possession of all the required permits and final plans to complete the project, but does not have funding for the $2.4M construction project.

• The Port of Newport is asking for a grant from the Economic Development Administration of the U. S. Department of Commerce to fund 50% of the pier construction so that we can maintain access to Port Dock 5, which is the main operating base for the Commercial Fishing Industry in Lincoln County.

The Port of Newport respectfully requests your support for the Port Dock 5 Pier Re-construction, which will protect and provide future growth potential for the Commercial Fishing Industry that accounts for over 19% of the total personal income of Lincoln County.

Please send letters of support for this shovel-ready construction project to Aaron Bretz at the Port of Newport: abretz@portofnewport.com

Letters should be addressed to:

A. Leonard Smith, Regional Director
Jackson Federal Building
915 Second Avenue, Room 1890
Seattle, WA 98174-1012
Holes in the existing pilings

A bridge to industry; gateway to the future

Port Dock 5 Pier