



# Memo

**To:** Dan Grimmer – Acting City Manager  
**From:** Lucas Stotts – Harbormaster *LS*  
**CC:** Joy Baker – Port Director; Nome Port Commission  
**Date:** April 11, 2025  
**Re:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report F2025

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## Office/Accounting:

Winter months are a time for planning, budgeting and dealing with compliance issues along with reconciling customer accounts. Additional statistical efforts are also underway to facilitate tracking the Ports fiscal health. Port staff are working with Finance to prepare the F26 budget and plan for operational expenses and projects that will occur in the ice-free 2025 season.

Port staff continue to work through the open accounts receivable list contacting past due customers through email and phone notifications. Several past due port customers have set up payment plans as we continue to work with folks to reduce their account balances. Non-responsive customers have received notices of intent to impound as we continue to seek payment plan options. Unpaid account will have items auctioned in a spring surplus sale.

## Operations:

The first freight barges are looking to arrive as early in May as the ice will allow, currently planning for the last week of May. The changing climate, marine environment and more vessel activity in the region all contribute to the Port of Nome receiving more port calls for service and the need for more lengthy stays to accommodate their transfers of gear and crew, replenish stores, and conduct ship repairs/outfitting/fueling. Increased shoulder seasons are allowing more vessels to operate in the Bering Sea earlier in the spring and later into the fall, more so than what the facility has seen in the past.

Currently there are 11 separate cruise ships making port calls in Nome in the 2025 season. Port Admin staff are looking into short- and long-term options to address the increased need for security personnel for the large number of cruise ships scheduled to call on the Port of Nome this season.

2025 is expected to be another very busy shipping season for gravel and rock within our region, with multiple projects being planned in the region for this summer season, including several large gravel hauls and a potential massive shore armor erosion project slated for Utqiagvik (Barrow).



(Sunday March, 30 2025 – Bering Sea Lions Club – Youth Snow-machine Races.)

### **Maintenance:**

Port staff will continue or have done the work on all below maintenance items this past Fall into Spring months.

- Installed tide gauge boards to give staff and users a visual indicator to the current water levels in the facility.
- Continue to weld and service hand rails on South Wall ladders.
- Replace remaining ring buoy lines with line bags to provide further reach and protection from UV rays.
- Perform annual maintenance on port vehicles and install new radios and hand lighting units.
- Work with users to find the best place to store dredge and fishing vessels for the winter months on Port property that do not interfere with fall operations and still ensures they can launch early in the spring without being blocked.
- Work with users on major facility cleanup planned for spring of 2025, delivering notices that some items will need to be moved in the spring to allow for future development and a new layout.
- Conducted 2024 Fall facility annual cleanup.
- Maintain surfacing for cargo laydown areas for village freight on Lower IP. Add surfacing material to low areas and rock to cruise ship landing areas for reduced mud.
- Develop Snake River Moorage Facility for small craft in Small Boat Harbor through grant application.
- Coordinate with port customers to relocate items from the Garco area and container rows to a new storage location in preparation for the PON expansion project.
- Removed all existing lighting units to remove hazard from High Mast Light poles. New HML's are currently in Nome and will be installed in the spring.
- Developed and laid out new container row location on the North section of the TBS pad. Half of the existing containers have already been moved. Remaining will be moved in 2025 season.
- Surface grading and washout repair from heavy commercial equipment traffic and fall erosion due to storms.

**Vehicle Status:**

2010 Guardian SAR/Workboat (Good)

2010 Guardian Trailer (Good)

2012 GMC Sierra Crew Cab 4X4 (Needs new bumper)

2014 FORD F250 4X4 (Good)

2020 TuffBoat Work Skiff (Good)

2020 TuffBoat Work Skiff Trailer (Good)

2023 FORD F350 Flatbed (New)

2025 FORD Explorer (New)