

January 2023 Harbormaster Report

Staff: We have settled into a nice pattern with a fully staffed crew this past year. Ted Hutchison joined the staff last fall as our split schedule guy and Stacey Hjort has worked out well in the new position that provides a 5 day a week bridge schedule covering the day and evening shifts including weekends. Late last spring, Cade Clay left one of the maintenance positions for Bristol Bay and we replaced him with Kenny Whitmore.

Maintenance:

North Harbor –Seasonal cleaning and upkeep is ongoing, including having a diver clean the potable and fireline of growth. We will continue to look at replacing the NH fire shed. We are also looking into covering the adjacent dock to the Harbor Office with a roof to give us a covered area for work/ equipment.

Middle Harbor – Normal upkeep. Working with Tamico and a local diver to install anodes this spring.

South Harbor - Diver scraped the water lines to help with weight/drag along the main float. Tamico will be sleeving a piling that rotted off at the mudline last summer with one of the stored 16 inch piles purchased with this kind of event in mind.

Crane Dock – Tamico is working to replace two piling that the Alaskan Girl rammed and broke last summer.

Drive Down – Busy! The inside work stations continue to be reserved in advance for projects and loading gear that is time sensitive.

Scow Bay – Continue to monitor area daily and maintenance as needed.

Port Storage - Graded & rolled regularly.

Dredge update: Western Marine successfully bid and was awarded the project late last spring. They mobilized on scene in early November, and got to work dredging the week prior to Thanksgiving. They were able to get another couple weeks of work before breaking for Christmas/New Year's holidays. Since January the progress has been slow largely due to the temperament of the compressed soils (blue clay) that makeup the expanded portion of the project. Staff attends weekly progress meetings where the USACE has been questioned by the contractor on next steps. There might be a point where a priority list is required to complete the project and keep it within budget.

PETRO Trade update: PETRO is still monitoring the areas of concern the DEC investigation identified. Hopefully there will be a consensus soon.

Scow Bay: Mid-January the USACE staff came to Petersburg prior to the Federal annual budget development. They seemed impressed with favorable elements the are currently in place and expect proposed shared cost feasibility study project forthcoming. The Assembly will be asked to provide an updated request in the upcoming months.

Misc:

- Budget review: Attached
- Raw Fish tax came in substantially higher than expected. Borough reduced the General Fund take back to taking the first \$350,000 and the Harbor Enterprise Fund received the balance.
- Tour ship calendar is firming up. It looks to settle in at roughly the same number as last year (110) landings.
- Waiting list continues to grow for permanent over 50 ft. stalls. Under 50 ft. is largely full.
- Added pieces of equipment to the department – Bobcat telehandler replaced the need for replacing the forklift and this spring we will be receiving a new Chevy 1 ton to replace #113. We also added a used 17 ft. fiberglass seine skiff /60 hp Yamaha that will give staff more ability to service the department.
- Staff is in conversation with PMPL on hiring a contractor to survey the South Harbor electrical system as the last facility upgrades that occurred in 2002 (20 yrs).
- Added projects to the Capital Outlays include:
 - Drive Down Approach paving project
 - Shed roof on North Harbor dock adjacent to the office
 - Finger Float replacement South Harbor
 - ATV with plow to replace the 2011 model we currently have
 - Utility Float replacement