



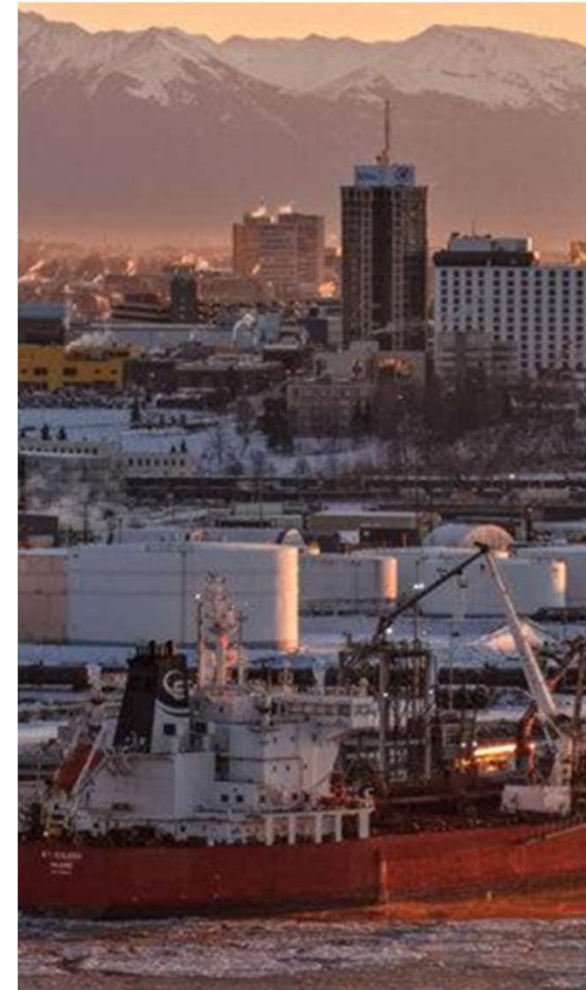
Pacific Northwest Economic Region

Regional Ties: Strengthening Alaska's Maritime Supply Chains

March 31, 2026

Senate Transportation Committee

Bruce Agnew, Director, Regional Infrastructure Accelerator



About PNWER

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory public-private economic development organization chartered by the states, provinces and territories of:

- Alaska
- Idaho
- Montana
- Oregon
- Washington
- Alberta
- British Columbia
- Northwest Territories
- Saskatchewan
- Yukon



PNWER has been at the forefront of fostering U.S.-Canada economic relationships and cooperation for over 35 years.

Alaska Delegates:

- Rep. DeLena Johnson (VP)
- Sen. Cathy Giessel
- Sen. Jesse Kiehl
- Sen. Löki Tobin
- Sen. Donny Olson
- Rep. Calvin Schrage
- Rep. Carolyn Hall

www.pnwer.org



Legislative Outreach

- PNWER visited Juneau in late January to engage with policymakers and strengthen Alaska - Canada ties
- Met with dozens of legislators, agency representatives and organizational leaders
- Key discussion topics:
 - Transportation supply chains
 - Critical minerals
 - USMCA and trade



Regional Infrastructure Accelerator

PNWER's Regional Infrastructure Accelerator is a USDOT-funded program that connects multi-state transportation projects with innovative federal financing tools, including TIFIA and RRIF loan programs and Public-Private Partnerships (P3s).



Build Northwest Center of Excellence

Connecting leaders to expedite project delivery, trade, supply chains and logistics hubs with a focus on **expedited project delivery** and **surface transportation reauthorization**.



Innovative Supply Chains

Advancing resilient supply chains and logistics hubs by integrating innovative technologies, data-driven solutions, public-private investments and smart infrastructure to **enhance the region's trade competitiveness**.



High Performance Rail

Accelerating investment in **freight and passenger rail networks** and connecting communities.



Critical Connections

Supporting improvements to **sea and inland ports and bridges** for increased connectivity for rural communities and Tribal nations.

Learn more at www.RIANorthwest.org



Our Work in Alaska

Project Partner: Alaska Municipal League

- A member-based organization composed of Alaska's 165 cities and boroughs that works to strengthen Alaska's local governments
- Innovative financing plan for Alaska
- Infrastructure improvements in Yakutat, Juneau, Seward



Economic and Supply Chain Corridors

- MARAD Alaska Supply Chain Lifeline - Northwest Seaport Alliance to Alaska Ports
- Regional commodities/critical minerals to Alaska Tidewater from Western Canada
- AlCan/Shakwak Highway and Yukon-Skagway corridor
- Prince Rupert-Alaska ferry connections and supply chain



Expediting Project Delivery

Alaska is a model for federal permitting reform through FAST 41 MOU with Permitting Council.

- **Coordination of bi-partisan federal legislation for permitting reform**
 - U.S. - Canada joint permitting for supply chains, trade and travel corridors, interdependent energy corridors
- **Congressional Surface Transportation Reauthorization**
 - \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure program (IIJA) - New legislation in House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
 - Northwest Congressional delegation in senior positions on powerful authorization and finance committees
 - Formula funds for state DOTs, transit agencies, regional planning organizations and Tribal governments
 - Discretionary grant programs for bridge, rail and port programs - Alaska greatly benefits
 - One Big Beautiful Bill Act includes enhanced benefits for Rural Opportunity Zones



Alaska Supply Chain Lifeline Working Group

- Sponsored by the USDOT's Maritime Administration (MARAD) and PNWER RIA with support from the Transportation Institute
- Connects federal transportation programs, government and industry to advance needed port and maritime supply chain projects, such as:
 - Enabling Roll-On-Roll-Off capabilities at the Port of Seward as backup port
 - Ensure consumer goods and emergency resources are delivered promptly to Alaska's residents
 - Second bridge crossing to Douglas Island: Providing Juneau residents with improved emergency response



TOTE



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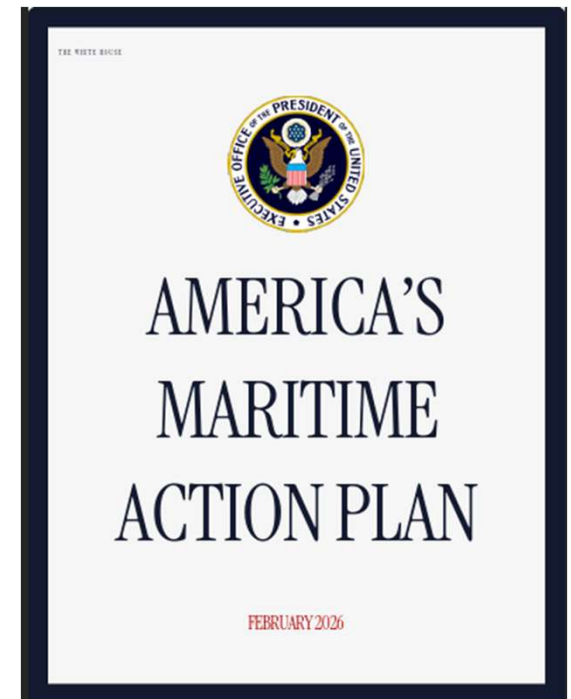


Alaska Marine Lines



Shipbuilding & Maritime Prosperity Zones

- **President Trump's Maritime Action Plan**
 - PNWER integrating AK, WA and OR shipbuilding, work force and supply chains
- **Bipartisan legislation pending in Congress - SHIPS Act**
 - Grant funding and Maritime Prosperity Zone tax credits for private investment



Promoting Federal Grant and Credit Programs

Alaska Case Study

- \$486M TIFIA loan for Don Young Port of Alaska Phase I and Phase II
 - Part of \$2.7 billion modernization project
- **Alaska ports are economic lifelines**
- PNWER RIA supports federal grants for Port MacKenzie investments and connection by Alaska Railroad



Don Young Port of Alaska



Port MacKenzie



Expanding Alaskan Port Access

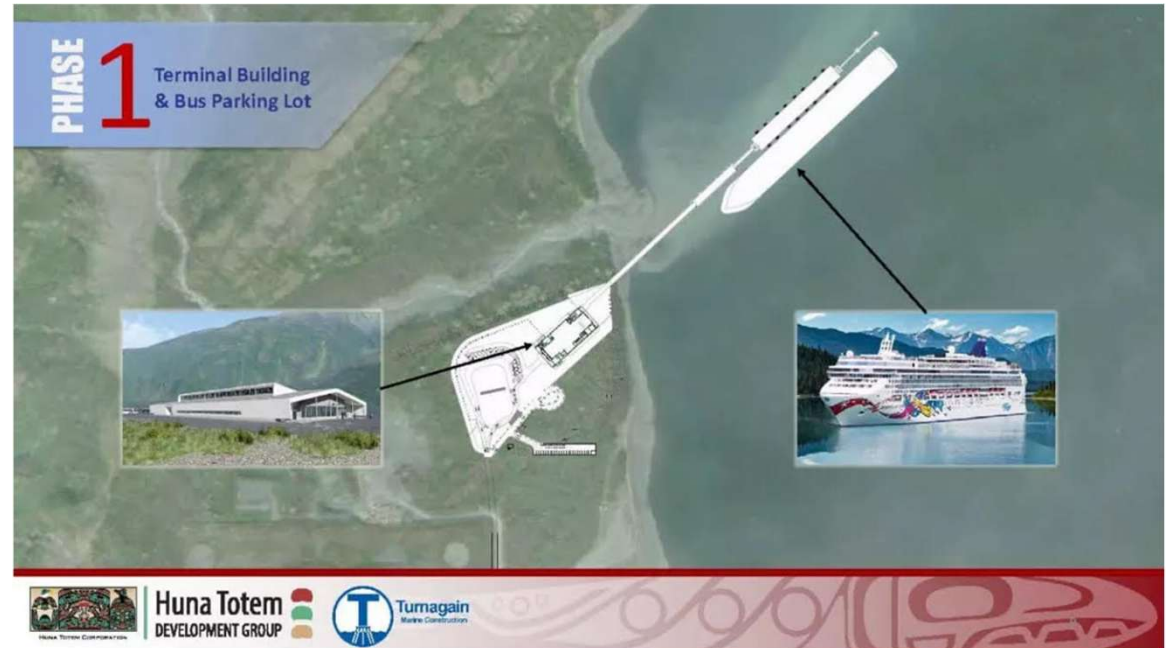
- Accessibility for both people and goods
- Alaska Green Cruise Corridor - PNW2AK



Port of Seward



JAG Shipyard - Seward



Head of the Bay - Huna Totem Whittier Cruise Terminal Project



Ties that Bind: Alaska - Arctic Marine Corridor

Strengthening Alaska - Washington Connections

- **Bringing Washington leaders to Alaska April 27 - May 1**
 - Juneau, Anchorage, Seward, Whittier, Wasilla
- **Proposed Alaska delegation visit to Puget Sound - last week in September**
 - Bellingham/Whatcom County - Alaska Marine Highway, Valdez to Puget Sound tanker
 - Everett, Seattle and Tacoma shipyards, Alaska freight carriers, Coast Guard expansion in PNW
 - Cruise Ship operations



Don Young Port of Alaska



*Whittier Cruise Terminal
(C: Cruise Timetables)*



Port of Tacoma



US Coast Guard Cutter



SAVE THE DATE

2026 PNWER ANNUAL SUMMIT

JULY 19 - 23, 2026 | EDMONTON, AB

WWW.PNWER.ORG/2026-SUMMIT

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

- **Collaborate** and establish partnerships with Canadian & U.S. public & private sector leaders
- **Learn** about key economic issues facing the region
- **Strengthen** regional networks and cooperation
- **Advocate** for regional policies and cross-jurisdictional initiatives



**REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!**

PNWER ANNUAL SUMMIT BY THE NUMBERS

10 Provinces, States & Territories

20+ Sessions & Networking Breaks

600 Leaders & Decisionmakers

125+ Speakers



Stay Connected!

Find more information at www.RIAnorthwest.org

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