



Docks & Harbors

The Tide Line

November 2013



Happy Thanksgiving

Docks and Harbors Meeting:

Operations/CIP Meeting

November 14th at
5:00 p.m. In the Assembly
Chambers

Finance Meeting

November 19th at
5:00 p.m. In CBJ Room 224.

Regular Board Meeting

November 21st at
5:30 p.m. In the Assembly
Chambers.

Meeting agendas and minutes
can be found at:

[http://www.juneau.org/harbors/
board.php](http://www.juneau.org/harbors/board.php)

Port Director's Corner

Though many harbor patrons will utilize CBJ facilities to access cabins or to hunt year-round, October typically marks the end of the Juneau boating season. Docks & Harbors has also let go the seventeen seasonal employees who make up over half of the work compliment from April to October. This in no way suggests Docks & Harbors goes into hibernation, in fact, this "off season" will be extremely challenging with numerous capital improvement projects from design to on-going construction. October brings an end to metered parking on Docks & Harbors managed lots, we collected about \$21K in the Auke Bay lot and \$3.5K at the downtown lot near the People's Wharf. The Auke Bay staff has retained two summer seasonal employees to continue with the bull-rail replacement project through the month of October. The downtown Harbor staff has pulled the North Douglas floats. This annual removal is done to protect the floats from being damaged by winter storms. The four year-round Harbor Officers assigned to the Aurora Harbor and two year-round Harbor Officers at Auke Bay will also be engaged in preparing the snow removal equipment for their respective areas.

Docks & Harbors also took the opportunity in September to hold two public meetings to review and take input regarding operations at the Don Statter Facility in Auke Bay and for the downtown vendor booth operations. Nearly two dozen interested personnel participated in the two events. Recommendations were received at both locations, the consensus was the facilities were managed adequately this past summer season. Overcrowding remains a major concern at Auke Bay both in terms of vessel congestion and in the parking lot. Docks & Harbors is hopeful that the Statter Harbor Boat Ramp and the future "for hire passenger float" will relieve some of the stress associated with harbor patrons. Likewise, the downtown vendor booth attendees sited congestion within the parking lots as issues requiring attention. We are confident the Cruise Ship Terminal Staging Area (CSTSA) Phase II will bring marked improvements to the flow and efficiency of the coaches, busses and shuttles.

Cruise Ship Terminal Staging Area (CSTSA) Phase II Update.

Miller's Construction has mobilized and is engaged in the demolition of the Columbia and Tram parking lots. There will be no available parking in these lots until the project is complete on May 2nd, 2014. The owners of Taku Smokeries and the Twisted Fish are aware of this crucial infrastructure investment and are developing work-around to accommodate parking during the scheduled special occasions over the winter. The final design is linked to

[www.juneau.org/harbors/documents/CSTSAPh2BidReadyPlan
Set-11x17.pdf](http://www.juneau.org/harbors/documents/CSTSAPh2BidReadyPlanSet-11x17.pdf)



Photo by Erich Schaal

Juneau Fisheries Terminal pier (behind the downtown UAS Building) is finally repaired.

After nearly 18 months since mechanical problems aboard a fishing vessel resulted in damage to the UAS owned pier, Trucano Construction has completed all structural repairs. Issues surrounding insurance and State of Alaska ownership complicated the \$105K project. The electrical work will be completed in the near future by Anchor Electric of Juneau.



Photo by Erich Schaal



Meet the Staff

Doug Unruh is the Operations Maintenance Supervisor at Statter Harbor. He grew up in Tampa, Florida and graduated from King High School. After graduation, Doug moved to Juneau, and worked construction jobs. He then started his own business operating a fishing lodge and after 20 years he decided it was time for a career change. He came to work at Docks & Harbors in 2002, with the mind set he could still work around boats and work with customers. He has two sons and two grandsons that live in Palmer and Wasilla. His interests include fishing and hunting. He enjoys his job and hopes to finish his working career with Docks & Harbors. Doug invites you to stop by the Statter Harbor Office to say hi.

Port Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12:00 to 1:00
586-0292

Port/Field Office

Closed

October 1 - May 1

Aurora Office Winter Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
586-5255

Statter Harbor (Auke Bay) Winter Office Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed 12:00 to 1:00
789-0819

All CBJ Offices will be closed on Monday November 11th for Veterans Day and November 28th for Thanksgiving

New Cruise Ship Berths Update. Docks & Harbors recently elected to amend the new cruise ship berths to allow the general contractor the option to extend the contract completion date one year to 2017. The contractor is still required to complete the project in two consecutive years (i.e. 2015 & 2016 or 2016 & 2017). The change was precipitated by contractors indicating an inability to secure the concrete floating pontoons critical for this project. The issue is related to the Seattle 520 Floating Bridge project caused by delays and lack of industrial capability to provide 300 feet by 50 feet concrete floats. The new extension should provide for a more competitive bidding process. A tri-fold informational document is provided at www.juneau.org/harbors/documents/trifold.pdf

The Auke Bay Loading Facility. Docks & Harbors has now procured the necessary equipment to haul-out vessels, wash down hulls and store vessels. Please contact the Auke Bay Harbor Office (789-0918) if you are interested in using this facility. The equipment is capable of hauling out vessels up to 60 feet and 45 tons.



Photo by Dwight Tajon

Aurora Harbor Rebuild Phase I Update. Docks & Harbors is reviewing the 65% design submittal which will replace A, B, C & D floats, the approach bridge and the head float. The public is invited to review and provide input to the 65% design. The drawings can be found at www.juneau.org/harbors/documents/auroraHarbor65percentdesign_000.pdf

The 65% design will also begin focusing on how to best accommodate the harbor patrons who will be displaced for approximately 6 months beginning in the fall of 2014. We anticipate bid award in the Spring 2014 with construction completion in Summer 2015.

Vandalism & Criminal Activity. Docks & Harbors is working with JPD to help find the culprits associated with breaking into and damaging several vehicles near the "N" Float Ramp at Aurora Harbors on October 2nd. Last year with the assistance of Harbor cameras we were able to help arrest an arsonist who set fire to a port-a-potty. Unfortunately, none of our camera picked up any activity when the vandalism occurred recently. Please contact the Harbormaster or JPD (586-0600) if you have any information which could help in solving this crime.

Preventative measures that can be taken to prevent a vessel from sinking during our winter months.

1. Remove snow and ice accumulation including keeping scuppers clear of blockage.
2. Check shaft packing for excess leakage.
3. Perform routine checks for signs of loose or deteriorating planks on wooden hulled vessels.
4. Conduct a routine inspection of your automatic bilge pump.
5. Visually inspect all thru-hull fittings for damage or loose connections.
6. Remove all unnecessary fuel from your boat if you are planning to be away for an extended period of time.
7. Verify and update your contact information with the Harbor Office.
8. Arrange reliable snow removal for both your boat and the finger pier which it occupies.

Ice Safety

Never venture onto ice without checking your path with an ice chisel, pole, or other tool you can use to tap the ice. Snow cover can camouflage the real condition of the ice and what appears to be solid ice cover may not be. The best way to travel on ice is to check the path ahead with an ice chisel or other tool. If the ice sounds hollow when tapped or breaks through when jabbed, find another route. Be especially careful around the vicinity of lake inlets and outlets, feeder streams, down river from towns, where the lake is shallow, and near warm underground springs. Observation of the color and texture of the ice cover can help you determine whether or not to trust that the area is strong enough to hold your weight or that of your vehicle. Be aware of overflow conditions where several inches of water and a thin layer of ice may lie on top of a good bed of thick ice. When in doubt, do not attempt a crossing! Note that river ice is 15 percent and sea ice is 50 percent weaker than lake ice. Air temperature should be no higher than 20F (-6C) for traveling on ice. Repeated use weakens ice so always watch for cracks.

Coming Soon!
The Annual Christmas Boat Lighting Contest. Make sure to watch for more information.