Regional Security Initiatives in the Columbia River

One Port’s Prospective
Agenda

• Port Overview
• Area Maritime Security Committee
• Regional Maritime Security Coalition
• Urban Area Security Initiative
• Columbia River Maritime Organizations
• Future Plans
• Conclusion
Columbia / Snake River System
Columbia River

• A 465 mile river of commerce
• Includes the Snake River
• Designed channel depth is 14 feet above Vancouver
• Deep draft channel to river mile 105 deepening from 40 to 43 feet by 2010.
Strategic Trade Corridor

- $13 billion in waterborne cargo
  - 1st in the nation
    43% U.S. Wheat exports
  - 2nd in the world
    25% U.S. grain exports

“Total waterborne trade on the Lower Columbia River will grow by 38% over the next twenty years.”

Port of Vancouver, USA
Port of Vancouver, USA

- Created in 1912 by the people of Vancouver
- To keep the critical waterfront transportation facilities for public use
- One of 76 port districts in Washington
Port of Vancouver, USA
Port Marine Facilities

- Four marine terminals with 13 berths
- Over 9,000 feet of dock
- Over a million sq. ft. of dockside warehousing
- 250 acres of open storage
- Handles about 5 million tons of cargo
  - 70% in wheat exports
  - 30% in break-bulk, autos and other bulk cargo
  - Japan, Australia, Korea, SE Asia, China, South America, Europe
Area Maritime Security Committee

- Works for the COTP
- Develops and trains to the AMS Plan
- Reps from:
  - Feds
  - States
  - Local Public Safety
  - Law Enforcement
  - Maritime Labor
  - Other Port Stakeholders
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AMSC Focus

• Identify Critical Infrastructure
• Discuss Port Security Risks and Vulnerabilities
• Determine Mitigation Strategies (AMSP)
• Advise and Assist COTP (Port Security)
• MARSEC or Threat change “comms link” to Port Stakeholders
AMSC Training / Exercises

- MARSEC Elevation
- “Columbia Challenge – 06”
- PortSTEP (April ’07)
- ICS Training
- Top Officials – 4 (Oct ’07)
AMSC Meetings

• Quarterly; as required
• Recent Agenda Focus:
  – Recent Security Incidents
  – LNG Site(s) Update
  – MDA Overview
  – TOPOFF-4 Planning
  – Critical Infrastructure Review
  – Port Security Grant Program
AMSC
“Bottom Lines”

- Federally mandated
- Diverse, professional cross-section of Zone
- COTP Port Security “sounding board”
- Key link between
  COTP <=> Maritime Stakeholders
Regional Maritime Security Coalition

- Focus is on protecting regional cargo supply chains
- Organized supply chain experts to advise local, state and federal officials during events.
- In support of maritime domain awareness, working to establish secure web-based communications platform on river system.
Regional Maritime Security Coalition

• Many organizations in the region are involved in the RMSC
• Sponsors exercises to practice procedures
• Focus is on MDA, training, planning, communications
Urban Area Security Initiative

• DHS Program for urban areas threatened by terrorism.
  – Communicate, Prevent attacks, Reduce vulnerabilities, Training
• The Port participates in both Portland, OR and SW Washington groups
• Composed Urban Area Working Group and committees
Urban Area Security Initiative (con’t)

• Port Working Groups
• Focus is on
  – Interoperable Communications
    • Plans and equipment
  – Planning
    • Disaster / recovery planning
  – Critical Infrastructure Protection
    • Leveraging regional security assets
Columbia River Maritime Organizations

- Merchants Exchange
- Steamship Operators and Agents
- Longshore
- Tug Operators
- Pilots
- Tenants
Future Plans

• Focus on Regional and Port beneficial solutions
• Continue to coordinate regional security with ports and other maritime organizations
• Remain engaged IAW capabilities
Conclusion

• Communication and planning significantly improved
• We know the faces before events happen
• Potential for another source of revenue to supplement port security grants