

## Port: Making a list

Continued from Page 1

in-depth look at the projects across the port so we can avoid having the same discussions over and over again," commission Chairman Dirk Rohne said. "I thought it was interesting and helpful to read."

Some of the projects at the top of the list:

**413 Gateway Ave.:** A building the port has previously leased to the Oregon State Police and Shooting Stars Day Care needs a new roof, siding, windows, and exterior paint. Estimated cost: \$72,800.

**422 Gateway:** Home to the port offices, it's in need of new siding, windows, heating and air systems, renovated bathrooms, paint inside and out, and interior remodeling. Cost: \$206,000.

**426 Gateway:** The parking lot south of the port's maintenance shop has some cash-generating potential. The port could construct a small office building that could bring in an estimated \$2,750 per month. Initial building costs would be \$124,000.

**Contamination:** The port learned in 2019 that it's required to pay 50 percent of the cleanup of an oil and gas leak discovered in 2001 at the south end of Slip 2. The site requires monitoring and \$2.258 million in costs for the port during the next three decades.

**Boatyard expansion:** The boatyard, a consistent money-maker for the port, could be expanded from its current four-acre footprint to bring in more revenue. Pier 3, which is no longer being used for log exports, could provide an additional 12 acres.

**East Basin Causeway:** The causeway was closed in 2018 due structural deterioration. Yet the facility is one of the key assets supporting the region's economic development, according to the state.

Work to reopen the causeway includes removing previous short-term fixes and replacing failing components, which could be completed by port staff.

## Scientists say new invader lurks off Pacific Coast

Research has identified a new invader threatening a vulnerable snail species on the northern Pacific Coast, the Oregon Department of State Lands says.

The lined shore crab is heading north, according to research conducted at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve south of Coos Bay.

The crab species, typically found between Baja California in Mexico and Southern Oregon, has shell-crushing capabilities. Normally, that wouldn't be a problem for the Sitka periwinkle, a snail that lives along the north coast.

Typically, the two species live in separate regions, but the lined shore crab's range expands north during El Niño events, which cause a strong ocean undercurrent that runs northward.

The undercurrent transports lined shore crabs outside of their usual range and into areas where indigenous species, like the thin-shelled Sitka periwinkle, are ill-equipped to protect themselves from such predators.

The study was conducted by researchers from the University of Guelph in Canada, Oregon State University, South

Slough Reserve and the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology.

In addition to tracking the prevalence of the lined shore crab in Oregon, Washington and Vancouver Island, Canada, the team conducted lab experiments to test the threat the crabs pose to the Sitka periwinkle.

The snails' defenses were ineffective against the lined shore crabs, which were able to eat 10 times more Sitka periwinkles, compared to crabs commonly found along the northern Pacific coast.

The team also assessed a scenario in which the lined shore crabs permanently establish farther north. Their findings suggest Sitka periwinkle populations may only survive in areas where the lined shore crabs are less likely to establish.

The lined shore crab is one of many aquatic species along North American coastlines that is advancing north as the ocean warms.

"We need to understand the impact of northward migration," said Dr. Shon Schooler, Lead Scientist at South Slough Reserve. "The disappearance of Sitka periwinkle populations may change parts



The lined shore crab has shell-crushing capabilities, making it especially dangerous to snails.

Oregon Dept. of State Lands

of the food web. Additionally, decreases in diversity can reduce ecosystems' resilience to environmental change, like

natural disasters."

The findings were published in the Canadian Journal of Zoology earlier this year.



LET US SERVE YOU TODAY!

YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS AT YOUR LOCAL KIA DEALER!

801 SE Marlin Ave, Warrenton  
Sales: (503) 420-0125  
Service: (503) 462-1219  
Parts: (503) 714-6018



www.warrentonkia.net

## Do your kids a favor.

Make your funeral, cremation or cemetery plans in advance. We can help.



Brian Dutton, Owner

**Ocean View**  
Funeral & Cremation Services  
Serving the area since 2008

1213 Franklin Ave., Astoria  
503 338-7200

www.OceanViewAstoria.com

## The UPS Store



Serving all your business needs

in one convenient location

- Color Copies
- Faxing & scan to email
- Business cards
- Laminating
- Notary public
- Nameplates, name badges, engraved signs
- Blueprints, posters, banners
- Brochures, postcards, fliers, business forms
- Rubber stamps
- Mailbox rentals
- Shredding

5 N Highway 101 (near Walgreens) 503-861-7447

8-6 weekdays, 9-5 Saturdays