

Port of Newport International Terminal – Current Usage
March 7, 2019

This document describes the fishing-related activities that have traditionally and more recently taken place at Newport's International Terminal. The commercial fishing industry have been paying customers at the IT since the 1970's and the IT is a critical component to the success of the Newport fishing industry.

Three hundred commercial fishing vessels are home-ported in Newport and many more transient vessels visit and utilize the Port's facilities. Newport-based vessels participate in many fisheries and Newport is also home to many in Oregon's Distant Water Fleet. In 2018 over 124.9 million pounds of seafood worth \$62.7 million dollars came across Newport's docks making Newport the number one Oregon fishing port in terms of ex-vessel value. Earned revenue associated with Newport's fishing industry was \$171.6 million in 2017 – that's almost as much as all other Oregon fishing ports combined. There are close to 4,000 equivalent jobs in Newport related to commercial fishing. Fishing opportunities have been steadily increasing in recent years and the trend is towards further expansion. This can easily be seen in the expanding fisheries-related activities at the Port.

The International Terminal (IT) is a critical component to Newport's commercial fishing success. Large, locally-owned fishing vessels have been paying customers at the IT since the 1970's. There are no other docks in the Port of Newport which can accommodate these large vessels. It is not unusual to see 12-15 vessels moored at the IT during critical use times each year. Crab and shrimp boats as well as Groundfish trawlers use the IT heavily to stage and switch gear throughout the year. Bering Sea crabbers and other transient vessels stage at the IT before moving up river to one of the three shipyards. In addition to significant fishing gear storage, the IT houses important support businesses, including a net shop and fishmeal plant. In more recent years due to the expansion in fishing activities, the Port has moved some services to the IT from other places. The public hoist at Port Dock 7 is often fully utilized and the Port started allowing unloading of crab at the IT. Paying customers at the IT have contributed over \$2.6 million in revenue to the Port of Newport in the last five years.

With the importance of the commercial fishing industry to the Port of Newport, and the economies of the county and the state of Oregon, the Commercial Fishing User's Committee recommends that the Port keep in mind the importance of the IT to the industry when they are considering additional revenue generation at the IT. The IT is used as follows:

- Between November 1st and January 10th and between April 1st and May 15th the entire length of the dock has been occupied by locally-owned vessels that are too large to fit elsewhere in the Port. During these times the vessels are loading and unloading gear, doing vessel maintenance, and taking on supplies and fuel
- During the other times of the year there are anywhere from 2 to 6 catcher vessels moored at the Terminal, actively loading and unloading gear, getting work done and staging for trips up river to the shipyards
- Throughout the year there are crab, shrimp and trawl vessels using the hoist to load and unload gear
- During crab season (December 1st - ?) there is live crab being unloaded at the hoist
- In March the shrimp vessels are changing out gear for the April 1 start date for the shrimp season
- Throughout the year there is gear work being done on nets which stretch out hundreds of feet – there is no other place left in the Port of Newport to do gear work, but at the IT
- Throughout the year there are trucks transiting the IT to get to the fishmeal plant