



PORT OF KLICKITAT

For Immediate Release

June 11, 2020

Fireworks At The Port Canceled

Bingen, Washington – Since 2004, the Port of Klickitat has hosted a do-it-yourself fireworks event at Bingen Point the evening of July 4 with assistance from the cities of Bingen and White Salmon, the Klickitat County Sheriff's Office, Fire District 13, and others. Quickly becoming an annual tradition and popular with locals and visitors alike, the fireworks event has drawn crowds from around the area.

However, 2020 will mark the first time in fifteen years the Port has canceled the event—a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. “Crowds of over 50 people are not permitted until Klickitat County has reached a point where it can reopen under Phase 4,” explained Marc Thornsby, the Port’s Executive Director. “It is our understanding the County is in Phase 2 and could not enter Phase 4 until July 6, even under perfect conditions.”

A jump in new cases that appears to be the result of activities occurring on another holiday, Memorial Day, has also given the Port Commission reason to be cautious. “The County has been doing well in limiting the spread of the virus, but we don’t want to become complacent and end up going backward,” said Port Commissioner Wayne Vinyard. “In addition, we have to consider the well-being of our partners, first responders, and volunteers.”

“With everything else people have been asked to forego this year, we waited to make the decision to cancel the event until it was clear there was no viable alternative,” added Thornsby. “We recognize this decision will be a disappointment to many, but it does not signal the end of the event and we look forward to playing host again in 2021.” As a reminder, the Port prohibits the use of fireworks anywhere on its properties and violations may result in removal from Port property.

At A Glance...

Who:.....Port of Klickitat
What:.....DIY Fireworks Event
When:.....July 4, 2020
Where:.....Bingen Point
Quick Facts:.....The 2020 Port do-it-yourself fireworks event has been **canceled**.

About the Port of Klickitat

The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84. More information can be found on the Port's web site at www.portofklickitat.com.

For more information, please contact:

Marc Thornsby, Executive Director ■ 509-493-1655 ■ mthornsby@portofklickitat.com