Inland Rivers, Ports & Terminals, Inc.

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STORMS, FLOODING & SEA LEVEL DEFENSE CONFERENCE





IRPT: Rediscover the strength of America's Inland Rivers

IRPT is the trade association for the nation's inland waterway, port and terminal professionals.

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America's Inland Rivers: Short Sea Shipping



Short Sea Shipping: Inland Waterway System

The Stats...

- 41 States (including all east of the Mississippi River) are served by Corps ports and waterways
- Nearly 12,000 miles of inland and intracoastal shallow-draft waterways (9- to 14-foot draft) and 13,000 miles of greater than 14-foot deep channels, for a total of 25,000 miles are operated and maintained for commerce
- 236 lock chambers at 191 lock sites on 41 waterways serve commerce
- Deepest lock is John Day Lock on the Columbia River at 110 feet



Short Sea Shipping: Inland Waterway System

Challenges...

- Permitting
 - Dredging:
 - Continuous/planned schedule of funding
 - Sediment testing
- Communication
- Resilience Planning
- Development:
 - Coast Guard regulations
 - EPA policies and regulations
- Government delays:
 - Jurisdictional discord



Short Sea Shipping: Inland Waterway System

Paths Forward to move the Nation's Freight:

- Develop accurate economic impact data
- Level competitive funding opportunities
- Advocate for continuous/planned regulatory activities



Short Sea Shipping: Inland Waterway System - The good news is...

- Inland waterway system is operating *under capacity* and can easily accommodate more freight tonnage
- Inland waterways can accommodate the freight transportation needs based on projected future of freight
- Intermodal marine transport is on the rise



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