



Aids to Navigation

Sector Columbia River operates two Aids to Navigation Teams (ANT). ANT Astoria, located at the mouth of the Columbia River, maintains six lighthouses, 280 primary minor aids, 270 secondary minor aids and an assortment of

private navigational aids along the Washington and Oregon coasts and approximately 150 miles of the Columbia River. ANT Kennewick, located in the eastern extreme of Sector Columbia River's AOR, has primary responsibility for 241 Aids to Navigation in an area spanning from the Dalles, Oregon along the Columbia River to Lewiston, Idaho on the Snake River.

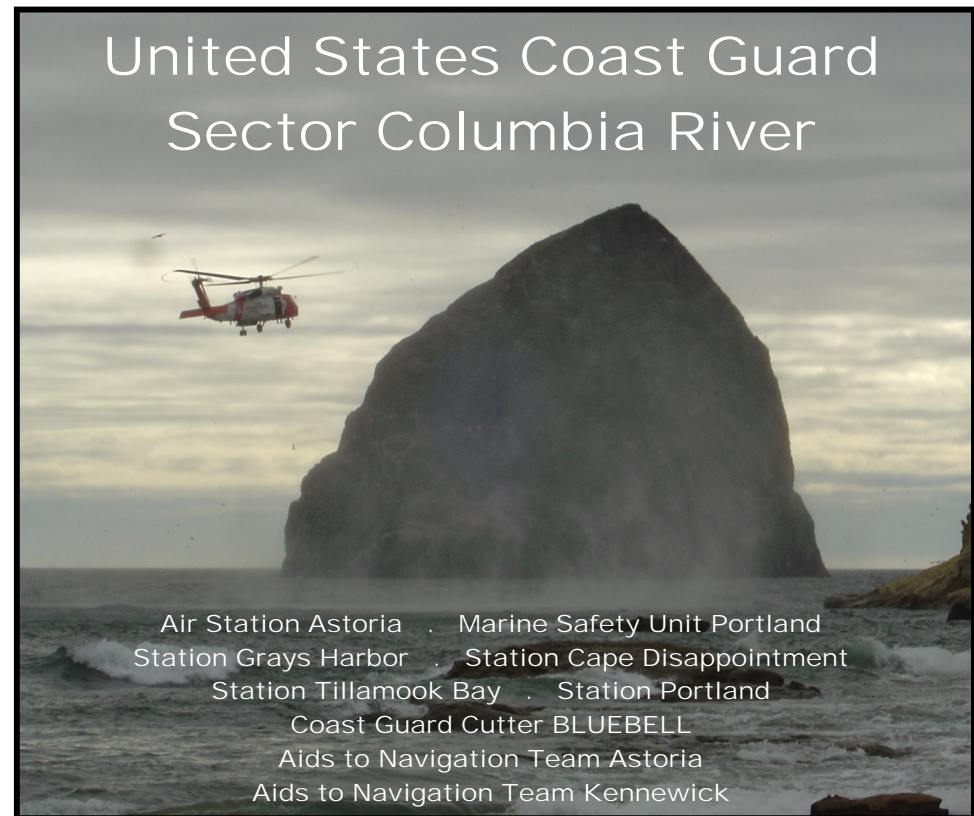
Sector Columbia River also operates a 100-foot inland Buoy Tender, Coast Guard Cutter BLUEBELL, to maintain over 420 Aids to Navigation covering more than 500 miles of the major river systems in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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United States Coast Guard Sector Columbia River

Air Station Astoria · Marine Safety Unit Portland
Station Grays Harbor · Station Cape Disappointment
Station Tillamook Bay · Station Portland
Coast Guard Cutter BLUEBELL
Aids to Navigation Team Astoria
Aids to Navigation Team Kennewick



*Sector Columbia River's Area of Responsibility (AOR)

Sector Columbia River

Sector Columbia River is located at the Astoria Regional Airport in Warrenton, Oregon approximately two hours driving time from Portland, Oregon. The missions of the Sector include: Captain of the Port, Search and Rescue, Marine Safety, Vessel Inspections, Ports Waterways and Coastal Security, Law Enforcement, Aids to Navigation support, Environmental Protection, and support for units in the area.

Sector Columbia River's Area of responsibility extends 50 nautical miles west of the coastline and includes all navigable waters within the state boundaries of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. During an average year, Sector Columbia River will respond to 794 search and rescue calls for assistance, save 87 lives, and assist over 1773 lives and \$160 million in property. The Sector Command Center operates continuously throughout the entire year, 24 hours a day coordinating resources in response to all Coast Guard Missions.



AIR STATION ASTORIA

Air Station Astoria operates 3 MH60T "Jayhawk" helicopters in support of the USCG's 11 congressionally mandated missions which include Search and Rescue, Fisheries Law Enforcement, and Marine Environmental Protection.

The MH60T is equipped with Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), surface search radar, a glass cockpit, and improved autopilot functions; making it the most capable helicopter in the Coast Guard fleet.

Marine Safety Unit (MSU)

Portland, OR

Sector Columbia River's Marine Safety Unit (MSU) maintains maritime domain awareness in the nation's seventh largest port by screening more than 2,500 ship movements per year and inspecting vessels to verify compliance with U.S. and International safety, security, and pollution prevention regulations. MSU Portland provides regulatory compliance oversight of 78 facilities in the Columbia River Maritime Transportation System that handle cargo from U. S. and foreign flagged vessels. MSU Portland also ensures the safety, security, and environmental integrity of the Columbia, Willamette, and Snake River waterways systems by managing aids to navigation, approving and tracking marine event permits, recording and monitoring movements of derelict vessels, determining bar closures, and working closely with local partner industries.

Supported Sector Units



Small Boat Stations

Sector Columbia River incorporates three Motor Lifeboat (MLB) stations along the Washington and Oregon Coasts – MLB Station Grays Harbor, MLB Station Cape Disappointment, and MLB Station Tillamook Bay. Each station operates several assets including the 47-foot MLB, 52-foot MLB,

and 25-foot Response Boat Small (RBS). The 47-foot and 52-foot MLBs are designed to operate in heavy surf conditions and are capable of being rolled over by breaking swells and re-righting themselves with minimal damage. All MLB stations respond to a number of Coast Guard missions including Search and Rescue, vessel safety inspections, and Ports, Waterways and Coastal Security (PWCS).

Station Portland operates the 25-foot RBS and supports numerous missions including Search and Rescue, law enforcement, boating safety inspections, and Ports Waterways and Coastal Security.

