



## USCGC Fir WLB 213

Active Duty Personnel: 46  
Reserve Personnel: 2  
Civilian Personnel: 0

**Mailing Address:**  
Commanding Officer  
[USCGC Fir \(WLB 213\)](http://www.uscg.mil)  
Astoria, OR 97103-2099  
Tel: (503) 325-1601

For more information on the Coast Guard visit the Internet at <http://www.uscg.mil>. For recruiting information call 1-877-NOW-USCG.

**Established:** The USCGC Fir is a seagoing buoy tender built in Marinette, Wis., by Marinette Marine Corporation. The Fir was launched on Aug. 18, 2002, delivered to the Coast Guard on June 27, 2003, and commissioned into active service on Nov. 8, 2003. The present day Fir was the thirteenth WLB class Buoy Tender built of the sixteen in service. The Fir was named after the USCGC Fir (WLM 212), which was built for the U.S. Lighthouse Service at Moore Dry Dock Company in Oakland, Calif., in 1939 and began working for the U.S. Coast Guard as well the Lighthouse Service that same year. Spending its entire career along the Oregon and Washington coasts, the original Fir was a medium or "coastal" tender that re-supplied lighthouses and serviced buoys until it was decommissioned in 1991.

As a result, Fir crewmembers have a strong sense of pride in working the Coast Guard's most rugged buoy inventory in the "Graveyard of the Pacific." The Fir's crew proudly proclaims their motto, which has been passed down through several buoy tenders that served in Astoria, Oregon, "No bar too rough, too tough, too far."

The Fir is also capable of performing fisheries law enforcement, search and rescue, homeland security and marine environmental protection missions.

**What we do:** The Fir maintains more than 160 buoys along the Oregon and Washington coasts, home to some of the most dangerous sea and bar conditions in the world. The cutter also services five NOAA weather buoys off the Oregon and Washington coasts. These buoys provide the raw weather data used by meteorologists to provide daily weather forecasts. The cutter maintains buoys that must withstand some of the most infamous sea and bar conditions known.



USCG FILE PHOTO High resolution copy can be found at <http://www.uscg.mil/images.html>