

Grassroots Advocacy In Action
2017 Congressional Tugboat/Towboat Tours
September 9, 2017

Thank you to the AWO members that donated assets:

<i>American Commercial Barge Line, LLC</i> <i>American River Transportation Company</i> <i>Bay-Houston Towing Company</i> <i>Campbell Transportation Company, Inc.</i> <i>Economy Boat Store</i> <i>Foss Maritime Company</i> <i>Harley Marine Services</i> <i>Hunter Marine</i> <i>Illinois Marine Towing, Inc.</i>	<i>Marathon Petroleum Corporation, LP</i> <i>Marquette Transportation Company, Inc.</i> <i>McAllister Towing</i> <i>Moran Towing Corporation</i> <i>Norfolk Tug Company</i> <i>The Great Lakes Group</i> <i>Tidewater Barge Lines, Inc.</i> <i>Wepfer Marine, Inc.</i> <i>Western Towboat Company</i>
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2017 Congressional Attendee Totals	
Senate Staffers	46
House Staffers	68
State Legislators	4

On June 15, Wepfer Marine Inc., Marquette Transportation Company, Inc., and Economy Boat Store hosted a congressional towboat tour in Memphis, Tennessee onboard Wepfer's *m/v Ricky Robinson* and Marquette Transportation Company's *m/v Lori Eckstein*. Topics discussed include the Jones Act, CVIDA and waterways infrastructure improvements.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Wepfer Marine, Inc.	George Leavell, Walt Wepfer, Michael Block
Marquette Transportation	Darin Adrian, Chris Myskowski
Economy Boat Store	Mike McCaskill
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)	Chris Connolly
Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN)	Nick Kistenmacher
Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS)	Bill Crump
Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)	Chris Caldwell
Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR)	Vanessa Moody, Jeff Morris
Rep. Steve Cohen (D-TN)	Jeremy Jordan
Rep. David Kustoff (R-TN)	Ed Jackson III
Rep. Rick Crawford (R-AR)	Mitchell Nail, Charles Landrum

On June 29, Moran Towing Company hosted a congressional towboat tour in Jacksonville, Florida. AWO thanked Florida lawmakers for their strong support of the Jones Act and discussed the importance of uniform vessel discharges regulation.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Moran Towing Corporation	Tom Craighead
The American Waterways Operators	Brian Vahey
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Marco Rubio (R-FL)	Ashley Cook
Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL)	Michelle Barth
Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL)	Andrew Meiner
Rep. John Rutheford (R-FL)	Chris Miller, Jackie Smith

On July 12, ARTCO hosted congressional staffers for a towboat tour in St. Louis, Missouri on board the *m/v Andrew Cargill MacMillan*. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, CVIDA, Asian Carp in CAWS/Brandon Road Study and TSP, and the need to improve aging inland waterways infrastructure.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
American River Transportation Company	Brent Nissen, Bernie Heroff
SCF Marine Inc.	Tim Power
JB Marine, Inc.	Karen Shoot, Todd Dinsmoor
Inland Marine Service	Jason Adams
ACBL, LLC	Marty Hettel
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO)	Tricia LaValle
Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO)	Joeana Middleton
Sen. Richard Durbin (D-MO)	Alimyon Allen
Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-MO)	Randy Sikowski
Rep. William "Lacy" Clay (D-MO)	Sean Weller
Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO)	Jaci Winship
Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO)	Jim McNichols, Matt Thompson
Rep. Vicki Hartzler (R-MO)	Tuma Spencer
Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO)	Bryan Nichols
Rep. Jason Smith (R-MO)	Donna Hickman
Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL)	Philip Lasseigne
Rep. John Shimkus (R-IL)	Steve Tomaszewski
Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL)	Matt Rice, Laura Sanders

On July 14, Bay-Houston Towing Company hosted congressional staffers for a towboat tour on the *Lexie M* in Corpus Christi, Texas. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, waterways infrastructure, and towing vessel industry outlook.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Bay-Houston Towing Company	Larry Perryman, Capt. Michael Zepeda
T&T Marine Salvage, Inc.	Kelly Teichman
Kirby Corporation	Matt Woodruff
The American Waterways Operators	Mark Wright
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX)	Javier Salinas
Rep. Blake Farenthold (R-TX)	J.D. Kennedy, Luis Buentello

On July 17, McAllister Towing Company hosted a state legislative tour in Portland, Maine. Topics discussed included basic information on the towing industry, the Jones Act, and state efforts on oil spill prevention and response.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
McAllister Towing	Brian Fournier
The American Waterways Operators	Brian Vahey
State Legislators in Attendance	
State Representative Bob Duchesne (D-ME)	
State Representative Jessica Fay (D-ME)	
State Representative Tom Saviello (R-ME)	
State Representative Jeffrey Pierce (R-ME)	

On July 19, Foss Maritime Company hosted a congressional tugboat tour in Tacoma, Washington aboard the *m/v Delta Lindsey*. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, water quality initiatives, and waterways infrastructure.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Foss Maritime Company	Susan Hayman
The American Waterways Operators	Charles Costanzo
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Rep. Denny Heck (D-WA)	Lauren Adler, Phil Gardner
Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA)	Andrea Roper
Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)	Jayna Smith

On July 20, Hunter Marine hosted a congressional towboat tour in Nashville, Tennessee onboard the *m/v Nashville Hunter*. Topics discussed included the need to pass CVIDA and preserve Jones Act, infrastructure improvements on the inland waterways and Asian Carp in CAWS/Brandon Road Study.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Hunter Marine	Glenn Hendon, Reggie Tubbs
Trinity Marine Products	Jason Knoll, Jo Ann Harris
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)	Evann Freeman, Molly Graham
Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN)	Kyle Johnson, Matt Minor
Rep. Jim Cooper (D-TN)	Kathy Buggs, John Wood
Rep. Scott DesJarlais (R-TN)	Shirley Pond, Becky Moon, Isiah Robinson
Rep. Marcia Blackburn (R-TN)	John Clement
Rep. Diane Black (R-TN)	Emily Buck

On July 26, Norfolk Tug Company hosted congressional staffers for a towboat tour in Norfolk, Virginia aboard the *m/v Anne Jarrett*. Discussion covered the Jones Act, vessel discharges regulation, activities at the Port of Virginia, and the towing industry's safety initiatives.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Norfolk Tug Company	Hugh McCrory
The American Waterways Operators	Brian Vahey
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Mark Warner (D-VA)	Drew Lumpkin, Alana Caesar, Hannah Wheaton
Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA)	Anna Przebinda, Diane Kaufman
Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA)	Ryan Jackson, Demontre Boone

On July 27, ACBL, LLC, hosted congressional staffers for a towboat tour in Louisville, Kentucky and Jeffersonville, Indiana onboard the *m/v AEP Leader*. Topics discussed included the need to preserve the Jones Act and pass CVIDA, recapitalization of the Coast Guard Cutter fleet, infrastructure improvements on the inland waterways, and the Brandon Road Study and TSP.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
ACBL, Inc.	Mark Knoy, Paul Tobin, Jim Masters, Mark Carr, Marty Hettel, Mike Morris
JEFFBOAT, Inc.	Mike Poindexter, John Wallace
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan

Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN)	Melanie Douglas, Kent Yeager
Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)	Lucas Phillips
Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	Andrew Condia
Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)	Robert Augustine
Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY)	Bob Porter, Stacie Rockaway
Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY)	Chase Sanders
Rep. Bret Guthrie (R-KY)	Brian Smith
Rep. Trey Hollingsworth (R-IN)	Victoria Rommes
Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN)	Jonathan Matthes

On August 3, The Great Lakes Group hosted congressional staffers for a roundtable discussion in Cleveland, Ohio. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, CVIDA, improving the nation's aging waterways infrastructure, and the release of the Brandon Road Study and the TSP.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
The Great Lakes Group	Lindsay Dew, Michael Burnes
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH)	John Patterson
Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH)	Caryn Candisky
Rep. Jim Renacci (R-OH)	Kate Dolansky

On August 4, Western Towboat Company hosted congressional staffers for a tour of the Lake Washington Ship Canal and the Port of Seattle. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, port competitiveness in the Pacific NW, Puget Sound NDZ, the Ballard Locks, Columbia/Snake River dams, and VIDA.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
The American Waterways Operators	Charles Costanzo
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)	Lylianna Allala
Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	Dayna Lurie
Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)	Rich Lazaro
Rep. Suzan Delbene (D-WA)	Molly Keenan

On August 9, Tidewater Barge Lines hosted congressional staffers onboard the *m/v Granite Point* in Pasco, Washington for a tour on the Snake River. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, vessel discharge legislation, and navigation on the Columbia/Snake River System.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Tidewater Barge Lines	Dave Konz
The American Waterways Operators	Charles Costanzo
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA)	Josh Lozano, Sean O'Brien, Will Boyington
Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA)	Cathy Schaeffer, Andrew Neill
Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)	Josephine Eckert, Raquel Crowley
Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)	Anna Schartner
Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA)	Madison Strader

On August 16, Harley Marine Services hosted congressional staffers onboard the *m/v Abra Franco* for a tugboat tour of San Francisco Bay. Topics discussed included the Jones Act, vessel discharge legislation, waterways infrastructure, and port competitiveness.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Harley Marine Services	Doug Houghton
The American Waterways Operators	Charles Costanzo
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA)	Jack Bathelor, Angel Melchor, Jacqueline Hartsough, Kiana Okhovat
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)	Yvette Williams-Barr, Ryan-Thomas Brown, Jasper Son
Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA)	Nicole Burak

On August 18, Illinois Marine Towing, Inc. hosted congressional staffers for a tugboat tour in Chicago, Illinois onboard the *m/v Aggie C*. Topics discussed included the Brandon Road Study/TSP and the importance of preserving navigation in the CAWS, CVIDA, the Jones Act, and the need to improve infrastructure on the inland rivers and Great Lakes.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Illinois Marine Towing	Del Wilkins, Nathaniel Ross, Dan Vascik, John Sicinski
James Marine, Inc.	Sarah Perry McGee
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan, Ben Lerner, Matt Kent

Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)	Marina Faz-Huppert, Leif Anderson
Sen. Todd Young (R-IN)	Courtney Papa, Chris Salatas
Rep. Dan Lipinski (D-IL)	Jerry Hurckes
Rep. Bill Foster (D-IL)	Chris Adams

On August 23, Marathon Petroleum Corporation, LP hosted a congressional towboat tour in Catlettsburg, Kentucky onboard the *m/v Speedway*. Topics discussed included the preservation of the Jones Act, the importance of passing CVIDA, and the need to improve waterways infrastructure.

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Marathon Petroleum Corporation, LP	Fred Nyhuis, Guy Beeman, James Mathis, Chet Smith
Amherst Madison, Inc.	Bill Barr
AEP River Transportation	Gary Johnson
McGuiness, Inc.	Rick Griffith, Dwaine Stephens
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan
Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY)	Shane Noem
Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY)	James Stephens
Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV)	Ryan Thorn
Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH)	Todd Shelton
Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY)	J.R. Reed
Rep. Harold Rogers (R-KY)	Adam Rice
Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH)	Juli Stephens
Rep. Alex Mooney (R-WV)	Fred Joseph
Rep. Evan Jenkins (R-WV)	Teri Booth, Morgan Pratt

On September 7, Campbell Transportation Company, Inc. hosted congressional staffers for a towboat tour in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania onboard the *m/v Tommy H*. Topics of discussion included the Jones Act, CVIDA, the urgent need to improve our nation's waterways infrastructure, and the Brandon Road Study and TSP

AWO Members/Staff in Attendance	
Company	AWO Member/Staff
Campbell Transportation Company, Inc.	Peter Stephaich, Mike Monahan, Ryan Newton
Murray American Transportation, Inc.	Dave Podurigiell
The American Waterways Operators	Tom Horgan

Congressional Staff in Attendance	
Office	Congressional Staff
Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA)	Elizabeth Fishback
Sen. Patrick Toomey (R-PA)	Matt Blackburn
Sen. Shelly Capito (R-WV)	Jessica Cross, Heather Lile
Rep. Keith Rothfus (R-PA)	Joe Weidner
Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH)	Paul Mitchell
Rep. Tim Murphy (R-PA)	Doug Steeber
Rep. Alex Mooney (R-WV)	Stephen Smoot