

News and Information from Oregon International Port of Coos Bay

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U.S. Economic Development Administration Announces Performance Award

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce has announced that the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay has qualified for an EDA Performance Award in the amount of \$119,000. The award recognizes completion of the Port's North Spit rail spur accessing industrial and marine industrial property on the North Spit of lower Coos Bay.

The Port proposed construction of the North Spit Rail Spur to spur new industrial activity on land zoned for development under the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan. Completion of the rail spur coincided with the opening of the Southport Forest Products sawmill, representing a private-sector investment of approximately \$17 million and the creation of family wage jobs in the Coos County area.

Port staff will be pursuing additional infrastructure development projects on the North Spit to leverage future private-sector investment and job creation. Port Executive Director Jeff Bishop said, "This is great recognition for Mike Gaul and the staff who put many hours into moving the rail spur project to a successful outcome for a local company and the community."

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