Happy 2014 and I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays! 2013 was a very successful year for Docks & Harbors and we look forward to what’s ahead in 2014. Last year saw the on time, on budget completion of $8.5M Statter Harbor Phase I project which replaced the DeHart’s Marina by Pacific Pile and Marine. The project added the new Statter Harbor “A” and “B” floats and enabled Petro-Marine to install a new 100 foot fuel float to the facility. At the downtown cruise ship docks, Trucano Construction completed a $2M “deckover” project of the old ferry transfer bridge which now allows for pedestrian access along the waterfront’s Sea Walk from the Franklin Dock to Marine Park. Trucano Construction is completing a $1M project to improve commercial fishing vessels access to the Taku Dock, the project is anticipated to be complete in mid-February. Trucano Construction also completed replacement of the Juneau Fisheries Terminal Pier which was severely damaged by a fishing vessel with a mechanical failure. Finally, an on-going construction project to be completed by May 2nd is the $3M Cruise Ship Terminal Staging Area by Miller’s Construction. This project will reconfigure the parking lots by the Mt. Roberts Tramway to improve the safety and efficiency of the lots.

Summer 2013 saw the Docks & Harbors’ Engineering staff achieve a contested Conditional Use Permit for the new Statter Harbor launch ramp. The efforts will enable Docks & Harbors to pursue efforts to build the new $13M launch ramp anticipated to commence in the fall. Docks & Harbors also completed 95% design efforts for the $11M Aurora Harbor Phase I projects, including three public meetings soliciting design input. Aurora Harbor Phase I is anticipated to be advertised and awarded this spring with construction beginning in September.

2013 was a milestone year in that we offered for the first time, on-line launch ramp permit. Nearly 100 patrons took advantage of this system in purchasing daily, annual and commercial launch ramp permits online. In December we also rolled out optional electronic billing for moorage customers which alleviates receiving monthly paper billing.

Congratulations to the annual Christmas Boat Lighting Contest Winners! First Place - Salty Logger, second place - Flyfisher, and the third place - Steller. A special thank you goes out for their efforts in lighting up the Harbors.
United Way Day of Caring
CBJ employees Teena Scovill, Mary Johns, Erin Russell, Michelle Brown, Mary Grant, and Andrew Migel volunteered for Day of Caring in October of 2013. This was an all day event where the group was assigned outside clean up tasks at the Juneau Youth Services campus. Other CBJ employees who volunteered were sent to different locations and assigned different tasks. Visit http://getconnected.unitedwayseak.org/ for a list of volunteer opportunities.

New Cruise Ship Berth Project. We anticipate the bid award in January for the construction of the new cruise ship berths. In an abundance of caution, Docks & Harbors elected to delay the bid opening until after receiving the Final Finding & Decision from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources for a tideland conveyance. The Final Finding & Decision was completed on January 2nd, 2014 clearing the path to bid opening and award. The successful contractor will mobilized on site in September 2015.

Boat Owner Responsibilities. We have experienced a wet winter season thus far leading to a handful of vessels either sinking or requiring attention by Docks & Harbor staff. Harbor patrons are reminded to pay attention to your vessels especially during heavy snowfall and during cold snaps which tend to affect through-hull fittings and deck drainage.

Statter Launch Ramp Public Meeting. We anticipate our first public meeting to discuss the proposed ramp facility in late January or early February. If you wish to be notified of the date and location please send an email to Carl_Uchtyil@ci.juneau.ak.us

New Cruise Ship Terminal Staging Area (CSTSA). At the Docks & Harbors Operations/Planning meeting at 5:00 on January 23rd, there will be a presentation on the changes resulting from the new parking lots design in near the Tram. Coach, bus, shuttle and taxi operations will be discussed at this forum.

Vendor Booth Permits
Three one year Vendor Booth permits will be sold in an outcry auction on Thursday February 20th at 2:00 pm. Interested bidders must meet the permit eligibility requirements and submit an application and a $5,000 bid deposit by Monday February 10th by 4:30 pm. Applications are available at http://www.juneau.org/harbors/applications.php. If you have any questions please call 586-0292 or email teena_scovill@ci.juneau.ak.us.

Cold Weather Safety Tip
Hypothermia, or cooling of the body’s temperature, can happen any time of the year with fatal results. Most cases occur when temperatures are between 30 and 50 degrees F. Windy conditions and wet clothes can work together to chill the unaware. Once chilled, the body begins to “shut down”. The brain loses function, leading to poor judgment. Hypothermia victims often can’t help themselves so it is important for each group member to be aware of prevention and treatment methods.

Prevention –
• Dress in layers. The outer layer should be wind and water resistant, and inner layers should be fabrics that are “warm when wet” (wool or synthetics, but not cotton). A hat may be your most important layer in preventing heat loss. Take layers off if you begin to sweat and put them back on when you cool down.
• Stay well fueled. Snack on high carbohydrate foods and drink lots of water. Water helps your body turn calories into heat.
• Watch for signs of hypothermia. If someone in your party gets cold, take a break to give them clothes and food.

Hypothermia symptoms include: intense shivering, fatigue, stumbling or poor coordination, slurred speech, and irrationality.

Treatment –
• Shelter the victim from the wind and weather. Remove any wet clothing and place victim in dry clothes or a sleeping bag. If necessary put another warm person in the sleeping bag with them. If the victim is alert, give them warm liquids and food. In the case of advanced hypothermia, handle very gently and get medical help immediately. Rough handling can cause a heart attack.