

# PORT OF CASCADE LOCKS SAIL PARK

The community of Cascade Locks has been hosting regional, national and international sailing events for years, and fully recognizes its potential for building capacity and growth of competitive sailing in the Columbia River Gorge. Since the completion of the Cascade Locks Sail Park Feasibility Study in 2005, we continue to make strides toward realizing our goal of becoming a world-class Sailing Center.

The unique location of Cascade Locks along the Columbia River, offers ideal sailing conditions such as; consistent winds, fresh water, a long sailing season and the natural beauty of the Columbia River Gorge. The non-profit Columbia Gorge Racing Association (CGRA) holds regional, national, and international events throughout the summer season. In August, 2009, Cascade Locks will receive additional international recognition when it hosts the US National Moth Pre-Worlds and Moth World Championships.

In just the past few years CGRA started a sailing school for youth throughout the Gorge interested in learning to sail. Every year the City of Cascade Locks helps purchase boats for the sailing school. Donations and contributions to CGRA's instructional fleet make the low cost sailing instruction feasible for anyone to participate.

In 2008, \$98,000 was made available by the Congressional delegation for the Final Design and Permitting of the Cascade Locks Sail Park. The Port has selected, WHPacific, an engineering firm from Portland, to complete this part of the project. Their tasks include bathymetric and land surveys of the existing beach area, preliminary planning, stakeholder meetings and permitting strategies.

The community welcomes the sailboat races every year, and graciously shares what little beach there currently is to accommodate the CGRA events. Expanding sailing events every year, has made it more apparent the immediate need to extend the beach.

## **FY10 Funding Request**

The City and Port of Cascade Locks are seeking \$750,000 in funds to construct a 1,000 foot beach, jetty extension, and a new eastern jetty to increase the capacity for larger and more economically significant racing events. Permitting agencies have indicated that the beach extension can be viewed as mitigation for the jetty construction and extension. Therefore, all components will need to be funded simultaneously. The beach enhancements are the critical next steps in developing a world-class Sailing Center on the Columbia River at Cascade Locks.

