

From: jim wirkkula <jwirkkula@yahoo.com>
Subject: Fwd: Salvage Chief
Date: April 14, 2021 at 5:37 AM
To: Astoria Scuba fholcom@astoriascuba.com

JW

Begin forwarded message:

From: jim wirkkula <jwirkkula@yahoo.com>
Subject: Salvage Chief
Date: April 4, 2021 at 11:34:00 AM CDT
To: Sen.LeeBeyer@oregonlegislature.gov

Dear Senator Beyer,

April 4th, 2021

I am a Native Astorian, an emergency and family practice physician. I am also ship's physician of The Salvage Chief. I believe this vessel has multiple uses for disaster planning with earthquake preparedness in particular. At its moorage, on a slave anchor it will survive both the earthquake, tsunami, and resulting fires. Water tight storage allows for placement of 100 tons of food, shelter and shelter and medical supplies. The onboard desalination unit can provide 3,000 gallons of potable water a day. Generators can provide 1.25 million watts of ship to shore or ship to ship power for up to six months. It has complete communications capabilities which includes satellite and a helipad. These resources combined with available deck space and crew quarters would allow the vessel to function as an emergency command center and or field hospital. The Chiefs 100 ton winches can bar used to clear river debris.

There are really no best cases scenario for a Cascadia Event. Multiple authorities and fire chiefs are on the record as saying it will be at least thirty days before survivors can expect any outside help. I believe it is critical that resources be pre-stationed, they be redundant and stored at multiple locations. The Salvage Chief can have a useful role in disaster preparedness with your committee's support. Benjamin Franklin summarized it best, "Failure to plan, is planning to fail." Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Wirkkula, DO