

Salmon Bay Marina Docks A, B, C Closure

FAQ

Updated 9.19

What is happening?

After careful review of escalating safety issues, the Port of Seattle made the decision to **close Docks A, B, and C at Salmon Bay Marina**, with no plan to reopen. All moorage agreements for those docks will be terminated no later than March 18, 2026.

Salmon Bay Marina was built in 1961. Though the Port has completed routine maintenance over the years, those docks and covered moorage are nearing the end of their usable lifetime, due to issues discovered with the original configuration along with typical structure degradation over time. Fall and winter pose additional safety hazards for customers and Port Staff staying under or working around the covered moorage due to the increased frequency and intensity of snow and wind events. Therefore, Port Engineering and Health and Safety teams have determined that docks A, B, and C can no longer be maintained to an acceptable level of safety and must ultimately be vacated.

For all vessels under covered moorage, including those with liveaboard status, **no overnight stays will be permitted on or after November 18, 2025**. Floating On-Water Residence (FOWR) customers not under covered moorage may remain overnight on their vessels until March 17, 2026.

Emergency and severe weather protocols will be shared and remain active throughout the 180-day term.

Is this facility safe?

The safety of our customers and Port staff is our highest priority. Port Engineering teams, in close consultation with our Health and Safety team, have determined that for the immediate time being and, barring any severe weather or vessel impacts, typical marina use can continue into early fall.

Beyond that timeframe, trends anticipate worsening weather, including increased potential for high winds and accumulation of snow or freezing rain. In those conditions, docks A, B, and C can no longer be maintained to an acceptable level of safety for overnight stays under covered moorage. For that reason, **no overnight stays will be permitted on or after**

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November 18, 2025 for any vessels under covered moorage, regardless of liveaboard status.

Short term access to docks A, B and C is safe unless the conditions outlined in the Severe Weather Protocol occur. We will post the Severe Weather Protocol for the transition period that balances the needs of customers to access their vessels with protecting customers and Port staff from specific safety hazards through active mitigation measures.

What is the timeline for closure?

September 18, 2025. Marks the start of a 180-day timeline for closure to customers. All moorage agreements for customers on docks A, B, and C will be terminated effective March 18, 2025, including vessels with liveaboard status.

November 18, 2025. Overnight stays are no longer permitted under covered moorage on docks A, B, or C. Vessels or FOWR customers not under covered moorage, regardless of liveaboard status, may continue overnight stays on the vessels, provided they adhere to all Port of Seattle emergency and severe weather protocols. The last permissible night for overnight stays is November 17th to 18th.

March 18, 2026. All moorage agreements for customers on docks A, B, and C will be terminated by Salmon Bay Marina and all vessels must be removed from the marina by their owner(s).

What happens to the vessels currently moored at Salmon Bay?

The Port is making several resources available for customers from docks A, B, and C.

- For liveaboard status vessels – total 9: the Port is holding priority slips at Shilshole Bay Marina. Liveaboards under covered moorage (8/9 vessels) must no longer overnight on their vessels after November 17, 2025, because the roofs are not safe in severe winter weather. They are strongly encouraged to relocate as soon as possible and we will hold liveaboard slips at Shilshole Bay Marina for them through November 17, 2025. Liveaboard customers are encouraged to contact the moorage coordinator at salmonbay@portseattle.org for assistance.
- All existing Salmon Bay customers who relocate to a Port facility will pay existing Salmon Bay Marina tariff rates until March 17, 2026.
- Salmon Bay Marina will pro-rate billing for customers who vacate the marina mid-month, any time during the 180-day timeframe.
- If a vessel can be placed on a trailer, Salmon Bay Marina may be able offer temporary uplands storage on a month-to-month lease.
- Should severe weather that necessitates the temporary evacuation and closure of Docks A, B, and C occur between now and March 17, 2026, the Port will provide

reimbursement up to \$250 per night for hotel stays for liveaboard and FOWR customers. Reimbursement will not be given to liveaboards under covered moorage after November 18, 2025, since overnight stays are not allowed after this date.

We have also assigned a dedicated team to support Salmon Bay customers in their search for new moorage opportunities, coordinate on the timing to vacate their slips, ensuring the completion of paperwork, and properly closing moorage accounts as needed.

In general, questions or requests should be shared to salmonbay@portseattle.org.

Do customers have to pay during the 180-day timeframe?

Yes. All Salmon Bay Marina customers are currently on month-to-month moorage agreements and must pay for their slip, including all applicable charges such as moorage fees, utilities, and taxes, as long as it is under contract, for the full 180-day timeframe or the duration through the termination of the moorage agreement and vessel vacation, whichever is sooner.

What is the plan for the marina?

A detailed plan for docks A, B, and C, as well as the overall Salmon Bay Marina, has not yet been fully determined by Port of Seattle leadership and Port Commission. However, docks A, B, and C must close because of irreversible and worsening safety concerns and infrastructure degradation. While these plans only apply to Docks A, B and C, the Port is also reviewing conditions at docks D and E and may take future measures there to ensure the continued safety of our customers and staff. Customers should not plan on a return to Salmon Bay Marina.

Can existing customers return to Salmon Bay Marina in the future?

No. Customers should not anticipate a return to Salmon Bay Marina because the Port currently has no plan to renovate or rebuild any docks. Customers with liveaboard status are being offered priority space at other Port of Seattle facilities for the first 60 days and should work through the dedicated coordinator to identify appropriate slips. All other vessel owners may be able to secure a slip at a Port of Seattle facility or non-Port marina and should work with the dedicated coordinator on this transition.

What is the nature of the existing moorage agreements at Salmon Bay?

All customers at Salmon Bay Marina are on a month-to-month moorage agreement with the Port of Seattle. The moorage agreements, which all customers have signed, include 15-day notification termination timeframes. Note that this is different than a lease agreement

that a tenant would have, and the Port is not a landlord. The Port does not have any obligations that a landlord would under state or local landlord-tenant laws.