

# BIG RIVER COALITION



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## **Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Dredging Update 11115**

Members,

The Corps' Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) is now working two dustpan dredges on the Crossings in an effort to restore authorized channel dimensions. Once again the dustpan dredge JADWIN has been released to address an urgent situation on the shallow-draft channel at Slack Island (Mile 483 Above Head of Passes [AHP]). The MVN, NOBRA Pilots and BRC are working cooperatively to utilize the dustpan dredges to restore channel dimensions in the most deficient areas on the Crossings. **The White Castle Anchorage will not be available for vessel usage over the next two weeks, the NOBRA and Federal Pilots will keep the anchorage clear.**

### **Navigation Transit Recommendation(s) on the Crossings Above New Orleans:**

**The New Orleans Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association (NOBRA) maximum draft recommendation for all vessels transiting up to Mile 180 Above Head of Passes (AHP) is 47 feet. The maximum draft recommendation from Mile 180 AHP to Mile 222 AHP is 45 feet and vessels transiting above Mile 222 AHP are limited to the maximum draft recommendation of 43 feet.**

### **The Vessel Traffic Service Lower Mississippi River has implemented the following VTS Measure at Belmont Crossing:**

"Due to shoaling encroaching into the Belmont crossing reach, VTS Lower Mississippi River has established a VTS measure restricting all deep draft vessels 42' and greater to one way traffic while transiting between MM152.5 and MM154 AHP until further notice. Vessels should contact VTS on ch 5A or at 504-365-2514 for any questions."

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## **Dustpan Dredge(s) on the Crossings Above New Orleans:**

**WALLACE McGEORGE:** The dustpan dredge is dredging the full channel width of 500 feet at Bayou Goula Crossing (Mile 198 AHP). The dustpan returned to dredging on August 13, 2015 after remaining idle during a period of elevated river stages.

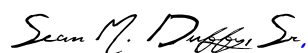
**HURLEY:** The dustpan dredge is presently setting up at Alhambra Crossing (Mile 191) while the dredge is working at Alhambra Crossing the White Castle Anchorage (Mile 191.1 AHP to Mile 190.4 AHP) will be unavailable for vessel usage. The HURLEY has just completed restoring full channel dimensions (500 feet) at Red Eye Crossing (Mile 224 AHP). The dustpan began dredging the Crossings on Tuesday, August 18, 2015.

**JADWIN:** The dustpan dredge was released on October 28, 2015 to work on the shallow-draft channel at Slack Island (Mile 483 AHP). The JADWIN is expected to return to the Crossings by November 20, 2015.

## **Submerged Dredge Pipeline Removal Mile 1.4 AHP:**

The submerged pipeline at Mile 1.4 was successfully removed during the scheduled closure on October 27, 2015. The official closure began at 0800 hours and the VTS LMR reopened the channel at 1402 hours.

Sincerely,



Sean M. Duffy, Sr.  
Executive Director