

BIG RIVER COALITION



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Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Dredging Update 83115

Members,

The Corps' Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) continues to address the shoaling carried down river by the extended high water on the LMR. **The Bar Pilots were able to return to full drafts (47 feet freshwater) in Southwest Pass as the channel has now been recovered.** The MVN is working four dredges (3 dustpans and 1 hopper) on the central 250 feet of the channel on the Crossings Above New Orleans.

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

The New Orleans Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association (NOBRA) Pilots increased their maximum draft restriction for all vessels transiting above Mile 210 AHP to 42 feet. The draft restriction of 42 feet was implemented at 1800 hours on Thursday, August 27, 2015 and increased the previous restriction for this same area from 40 feet.

White Castle Anchorage: The dustpan dredge JADWIN moved to Alhambra Crossing (Mile 191 Above Head of Passes [AHP]) on Friday, August 28, 2015. **While the JADWIN is working at Alhambra Crossing the White Castle Anchorage (Mile 191.1 to Mile 190.4 Above Head of Passes [AHP]) will be off limits to allow the JADWIN to work uninterrupted and to increase navigational safety.** The JADWIN is expected to complete this assignment on September 12, 2015 and reopen the White Castle Anchorage for vessel usage.

Navigation Transit Recommendation(s) in Effect at SWP:

The Bar Pilots were able to increase the maximum draft for vessels transiting Southwest Pass to 47 feet freshwater at 1030 hours on Sunday, August 30, 2015. The maximum draft in Southwest Pass had been reduced to 45 feet since 1030 hours on Friday, August 7, 2015. The official Notice for the Bar Pilots is attached.

Industry Hopper Dredge(s) on the Crossings Above New Orleans:

GLENN EDWARDS: The hopper dredge is dredging the central 250 feet at Medora Crossing (Mile 212 AHP). The GLENN EDWARDS is scheduled to undergo minor repairs but is expected to return to dredging by Wednesday September 2, 2015. The hopper dredge should complete this contract by September 11, 2015.

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

HURLEY: The dustpan dredge continues dredging the central 250 feet at Red Eye Crossing (Mile 224 AHP). The dustpan began dredging on Tuesday, August 18, 2015.

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

WALLACE McGEORGE: The dustpan dredge is dredging the central 250 feet at Granada Crossing (Mile 205 AHP). The dustpan returned to dredging on August 13, 2015 after remaining idle during a period of elevated river stages.

JADWIN: The dustpan is dredging the central 250 feet at Alhambra Crossing (Mile 192 AHP). **The White Castle Anchorage will be unavailable for vessel usage until approximately September 12, 2015.** The dustpan dredge began dredging on the Crossings on Thursday, August 20, 2015.

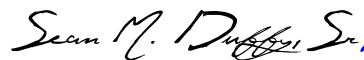
Government Hopper Dredge(s) in SWP:

WHEELER: The MVN's hopper dredge WHEELER is dredging from Mile 6.5 to Mile 7.5 Below Head of Passes (BHP). The WHEELER is dredging under Emergency Call Out #5-2015 authorized by Red Flag approval until September 7, 2015. The WHEELER also has one remaining Readiness Exercise that is tentatively scheduled from September 15 to September 28, 2015.

Cutterhead Dredge(s) at the New Orleans Harbor:

MARION: The cutterhead dredge began dredging at the New Orleans Harbor in the area of the Julia Street Cruise Terminal (Mile 95.7 AHP) on August 27, 2015. The MARION is expected to complete this contract by the end of September.

Sincerely,



Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director