



Celtic Marine and Logistics

A FULL SERVICE LOGISTICS COMPANY

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Specialist in Eliminating, Minimizing and Solving Transportation Problems

River Operations Update

March 21, 2019

OHIO RIVER:

Closures for dredge work below RC Byrd Lock (OR 279) – River will be closed daily from 0600 – 1800 through Saturday, 3/23.

Upcoming Montgomery Lock (OR 32) closures - Main chamber will be closed from 3/11 - 4/30 with one lockage every 2 hours from 06:00 - 02:00, additional lockages will be performed between 02:00 - 06:00, primary chamber will be fully open on the weekends. Main chamber will be fully closed during weekdays from 5/1 - 6/14, tows will pass through the small chamber during this time. Small chambers can only fit one barge at a time. There will be three days when both chamber will be completely closed, 4/4, 4/18, and 4/23.

WARRIOR TOMBIGBEE RIVER:

Flood Conditions on the Warrior Tombigbee River - Shoaling has the river closed in the Aberdeen area (TT 357) on the Tennessee Tombigbee, this area is impassable to traffic. Latest predictions in the Aberdeen area have the river closed for an additional 5 weeks, end of April. Limited movement through Coffeeville Lock (WT 117) on the Warrior Tombigbee due to high water/flows.

LOWER MISS:

Max draft coming into or out of the Gulf through the SouthWest Pass (LM 3) - **Bluewater vessels are restricted to 42' in this area**, dredging is ongoing, 67 vessels in queue to come in/out of the Gulf.

Bonnet Carre Spillway opening - In an effort to prevent flooding in the city of New Orleans, the Corps has opened the Bonnet Carre spillway. The Corps recently closed 10 bays, the total number currently open is 196. The river has stabilized, they do not anticipate opening anymore bays. At this time there is no plan to open Morganza.

Reduced tow sizes Cairo to Gulf - High water has reduced tow sizes between Cairo and the Gulf by one-two strings, 5-10 barges. Expect increased await pickup delays on SB barges. The max tow size has been reduced from 40 barges to 25 or less per tow.

Due to high water, daylight only through the following bridges:
Vicksburg (LMR 435) and Baton Rouge (LMR 237)



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GULF/CANALS:

Significant Lock Delays: Calcasieu Lock (WC 238) – Current queue is 14 boats.

Algiers Lock – Current queue is 13 boats.

INHC Lock – Current queue is 13 boats.

UPPER MISS:

Daylight only transit through St. Louis harbor (UM 174) and Thebes bridge (UM 50) - Expect this to last until the middle of April.

Significant ice/snow melt expected coming off the Upper Miss and Missouri Rivers - Record snow falls on the Upper Miss are beginning to melt and make their way down river. The following locks are expected to close:

Lock 16 (UM 457) closed at 19:30 on 3/16, expected to reopen beyond 3/28

Lock 17 (UM 437) closed at 10:50 on 3/16, expected to reopen beyond 3/28

Lock 18 (UM 410) closed at 01:00 on 3/18, expected to reopen 3/27

Lock 20 (UM 343) closed at 01:00 on 3/18, expected to reopen 4/1

Lock 21 (UM 325) expected to close Friday, 3/22

Lock 22 (UM 301) closed at 02:00 on 3/20, expected to reopen on 3/29

Louisiana RR Bridge (UM 282) closed @ 1400 on 3/20

****There is another wave of water forecasted to come out of St. Paul within the next week, this increase has the potential to push the lock closures into April. More information to come as it becomes available.**

ILLINOIS:

Illinois River 2019 Spring/Summer lock outages - Marseilles Lock and Starved Rock Lock will be closed to traffic 6/01/19 to 8/15/19 from 0600 to 1800 HRS. The locks will be open 1800 to 0600 HRS, but with a 70' width restriction, assist boats will be required. Both locks will be closed to all navigation starting at 0100 8/16/19 to 2359 HRS 8/29/19. RIVER CLOSED 15 days. Lock will be fully open beginning 7/3 @ 0530 through 7/8 @ 0600.

Illinois River 2020 planned work at LaGrange, Peoria, Marseilles, Starved Rock Locks, 90-120 days closures, THIS WILL BE A COMPLETE RIVER CLOSURE.

<http://celticmarine.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Celtic-Marine-Corp-River-Operations-Update.pdf>

Special Note - Please be aware Celtic's Service Agreement under the "Tolls, Taxes, or User Charges" clause gives Celtic the right to bill costs for lock delays.



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Inland Waterway Weather Report

Rain tomorrow-Monday and a wet April highlight the weather today.

- A cold front stretches across the Ohio/Red River Valleys. It will move through the watershed today with light rain expected.
- A cold front will remain over the Southern/Central Plains tomorrow/Saturday with moderate to locally heavy rain predicted. The front will move through the watershed Sunday/Monday with moderate to locally heavy rain predicted during its passage.

7day QPF totals (through Thursday morning):

- ½" or less of rain/snow is forecasted for the region north of Keokuk.
- ½-2" of rain is forecasted for the region south of Keokuk. Bill Frederick, USACE