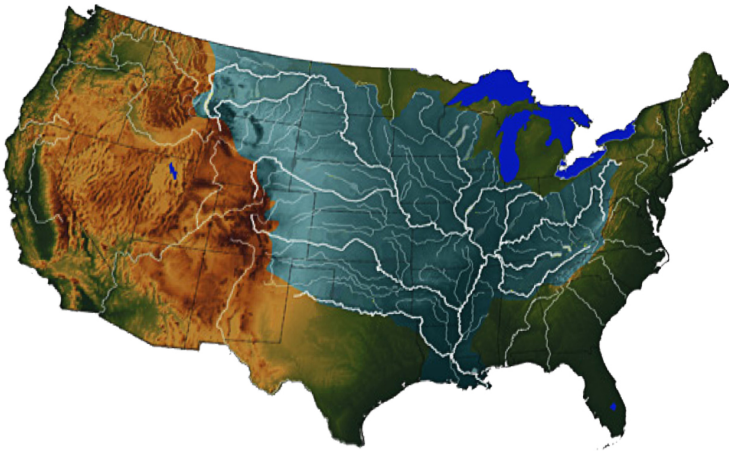


BIG RIVER COALITION



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March 26, 2019

Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Dredging Update 32619

Members,

The Corps of Engineers Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) continues responding to active shoaling in Southwest Pass (SWP) deposited by high river stages (flood event). There are two industry hopper dredges, two industry cutterhead dredges and one government hopper dredge working in SWP. There are two additional industry hopper dredges expected to arrive in SWP by this weekend. The MVN continues to operate the Bonnet Carré Spillway to ensure the maximum flow at New Orleans remains below 1.25 million cubic feet per second, 196 of the 350 bays remain open. The MVN is expected to resume closing more bays today as the river stages continue to recede.

UPDATED: TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS AT SOUTHWEST PASS:

The Bar Pilots maximum draft recommendation was increased to 42 feet (freshwater) on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 based on channel conditions.

The Crescent River Port Pilots' Safe Navigation Committee continues to recommend a maximum draft of 42 feet with one-way traffic for two vessels of 41 feet or greater between Mile 4.5 Above Head of Passes (AHP) to Mile 1.5 AHP.

GOVERNMENT HOPPER DREDGE(S) IN SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP): RED FLAG EMERGENCY CALL OUTS:

WHEELER: MVN's hopper dredge WHEELER is presently dredging in the area of the Head of Passes (Mile 0.7 AHP to Mile 0.2 AHP). The WHEELER began working under Red Flag Emergency Call Out #3-2019 (30-days) on March 1, 2019. The Red Flag Callout was recently extended an additional 30 days, this should keep the WHEELER in SWP until early May.

INDUSTRY HOPPER DREDGE(S) IN SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP):

STUYVESANT: The industry hopper dredge STUYVESANT (Dutra Group) is dredging in the area of Cubits Gap (Mile 3.5 AHP to Mile 3.0 AHP). The STUYVESANT began dredging in SWP on Thursday, March 7, 2019 under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #6-2019.

NEWPORT: The hopper dredge NEWPORT (Manson Construction) is presently dredging on the jetty end of SWP (Mile 17.5 Below Head of Passes [BHP] to 18.5 BHP). The NEWPORT is working under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #1-2019. The NEWPORT began dredging in SWP on November 28, 2018. The MVN intends to exercise the options on the NEWPORT's contract to keep the hopper dredge working in SWP until early June.

TERRAPIN ISLAND: The industry hopper dredge TERRAPIN ISLAND (Great Lakes Dredge & Dock) departed SWP last night (March 25, 2019). The TERRAPIN ISLAND began dredging under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #5-2019 on February 17, 2019.

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INDUSTRY HOPPER DREDGE(S) IN SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP): (continued)

GLENN EDWARDS: The industry hopper dredge is expected to resume dredging in SWP on March 28, 2019 in order to complete Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #6-2018.

BAYPORT: The industry hopper dredge is expected to begin working under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #7-2019 by March 30, 2019

CUTTERHEAD DREDGE(S) IN SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP):

R.S. WEEKS: The industry cutterhead dredge R.S. WEEKS (Weeks Marine) continues to undergo repairs and is now expected to return to dredging at approximately Mile 0.73 BHP by March 30, 2019. The cutterhead will continue the assignment from Mile 1.5 AHP to Mile 2.0 BHP on the western side of the channel. The cutterhead started dredging in SWP on December 15, 2018.

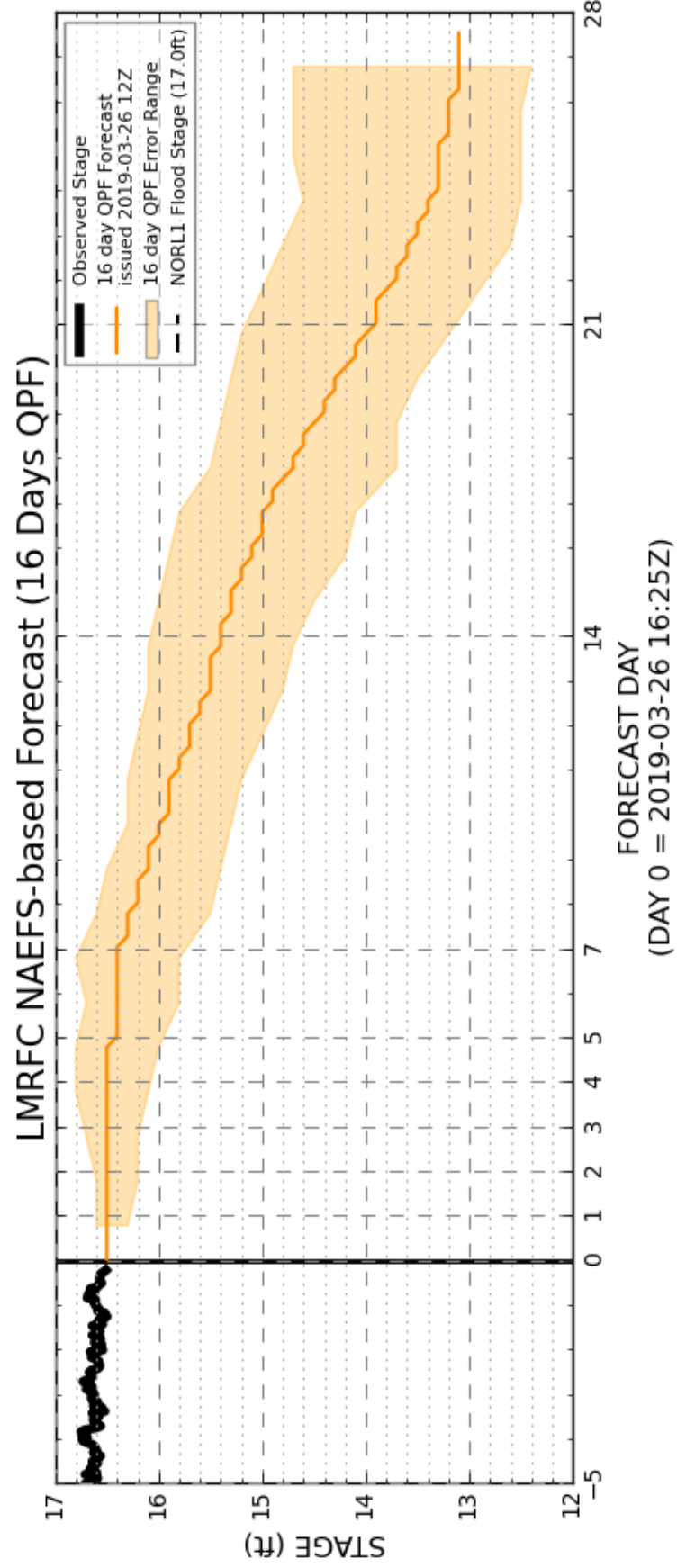
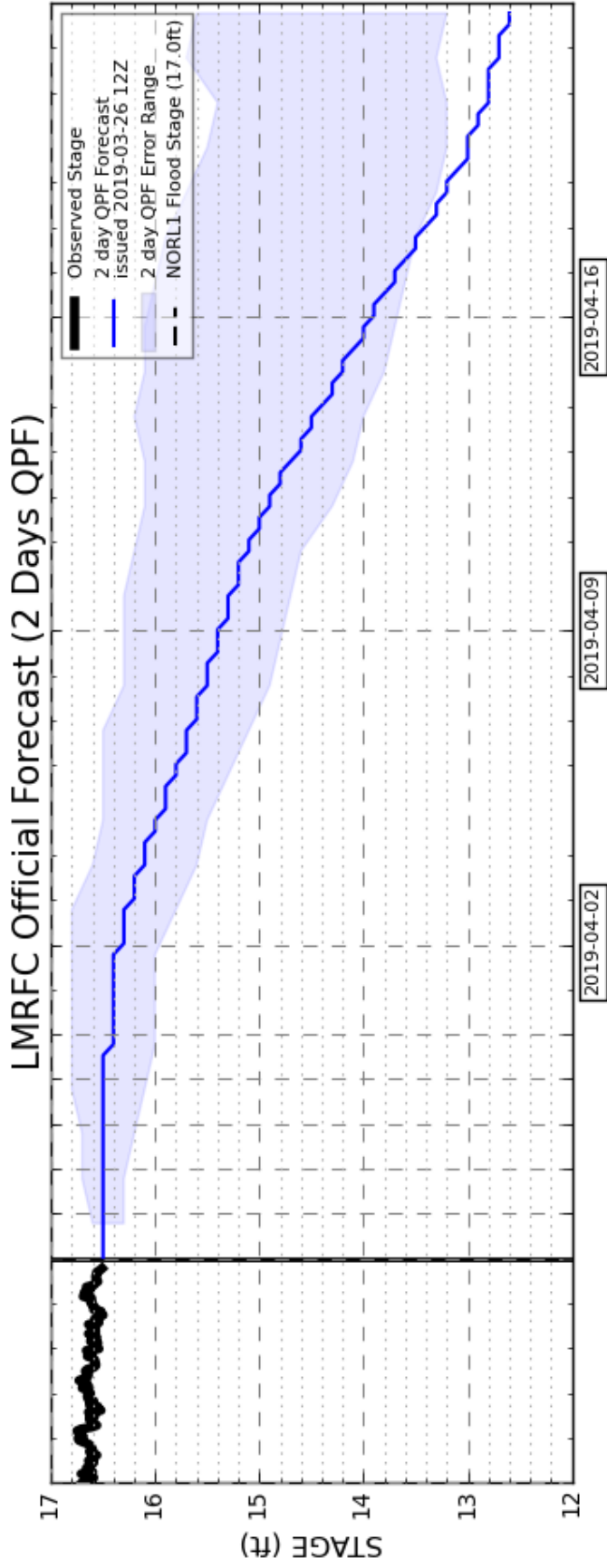
CAPTAIN FRANK: The industry cutterhead dredge CAPTAIN FRANK is presently dredging at Mile 16.21 BHP. The cutterhead resumed working on assignment from Mile 10.5 BHP to Mile 17.8 BHP (R.S. WEEKS initial assignment) on February 23, 2019.

Sincerely,

Sean M. Duffy, Sr.

Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director

NORL1 Forecast and Experimental Uncertainty



The shaded areas show probable future river stage based on the present forecast and past forecast skill. The shaded areas capture 2/3 of past forecast errors, centered on the median error.