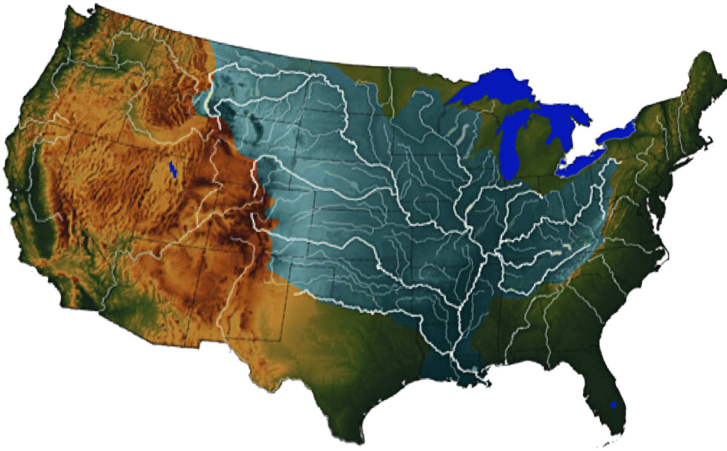


BIG RIVER COALITION



Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director
4741 Utica Street, Suite 200
Metairie, LA 70006

Office (504) 833-4190 x 805
Cellular (504) 338-3165
sean.duffy@bigrivercoalition.org

June 26, 2019

Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Dredging Update 62619

Members,

The Corps of Engineers Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) continues responding to active shoaling in Southwest Pass (SWP) deposited by long-term high river stages (historic flood event and precipitation levels). There are only three hopper dredges presently working in the area of SWP (2 industry hoppers and 1 government hopper) and two dustpan dredges working on the Crossings. The MVN received one bid to the advertisement of Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #11-2019 but the bid could not be awarded. **The MVN will advertise Southwest Pass Cutterhead Dredge Rental Contract #2-2019 tomorrow (Thursday, June 27th) in an effort to secure a cutterhead dredge to respond to the severe shoaling in SWP.**

UPDATED: TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS AT SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP):

- 1) **The Bar Pilots maximum draft recommendation was reduced an additional two feet to 42 feet (freshwater) today at 1000 hours on Wednesday, June 26, 2019. Official notice is attached.**
- 2) **The Crescent River Port Pilots maximum draft recommendation of 44 feet (freshwater) remains as established on Wednesday, April 17, 2019.**
- 3) **The Federal Pilots also reduced their maximum draft recommendation to 42 feet (freshwater) today.**

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

STUYVESANT: The industry hopper dredge STUYVESANT (Dutra Group) resumed dredging operations at the Venice Jump (Mile 10.5 Above Head of Passes [AHP] to Mile 10 AHP) this morning. The STUYVESANT began dredging under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #10-2019 on June 14, 2019.

NEWPORT: The hopper dredge NEWPORT (Manson Construction) is dredging from Mile 5.0 AHP to Mile 2.5 AHP. The NEWPORT is now dredging under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #8-2019. The NEWPORT began dredging in SWP on November 28, 2018.

BIG RIVER COALITION

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

WHEELER: MVN's hopper dredge WHEELER continues dredging from Mile 1.0 AHP to Mile 1.5 Below Head of Passes under Red Flag Emergency Callout #5-2019. The Red Flag was approved for 45-days and dredging commenced June 3, 2019

CUTTERHEAD DREDGE(S) IN THE HOPPER DREDGE DISPOSAL AREA (HDDA):

R.S. WEEKS: The industry cutterhead dredge R.S. WEEKS (Weeks Marine) continues dredging in the Hopper Dredge Disposal Area and is beneficially using all material in the Pass A'Loutre Wildlife Management Area (PALWMA). The cutterhead dredged the Ship Channel (SWP) from December 15, 2018 to April 24, 2019 and began dredging in the HDDA on April 26, 2019. Approximately 4.5 million cubic yards of material have now been beneficially placed in the PALWMA from the HDDA and has restored approximately 400 acres of sensitive wildlife habitat.

DUSTPAN DREDGE(S) ON THE CROSSINGS ABOVE NEW ORLEANS:

HURLEY: The Corps dustpan dredge HURLEY continues dredging operations on the central 250 feet of channel at Red Eye Crossing (Mile 224 AHP). The government dustpan dredge commenced dredging on the Crossings on May 4, 2019

WALLCE McGEORGE: The industry dustpan dredge WALLCE McGEORGE continues dredging the central 250 feet of channel at Medora Crossing (Mile 212 AHP). The industry hopper dredge commenced dredging on the Crossings on May 9, 2019.

JADWIN: The Corps dustpan dredge JADWIN is expected to begin dredging at Belmont Crossing (Mile 154 AHP) by this Friday (June 28, 2019).

Sincerely,
Sean M. Duffy, Sr.

Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director