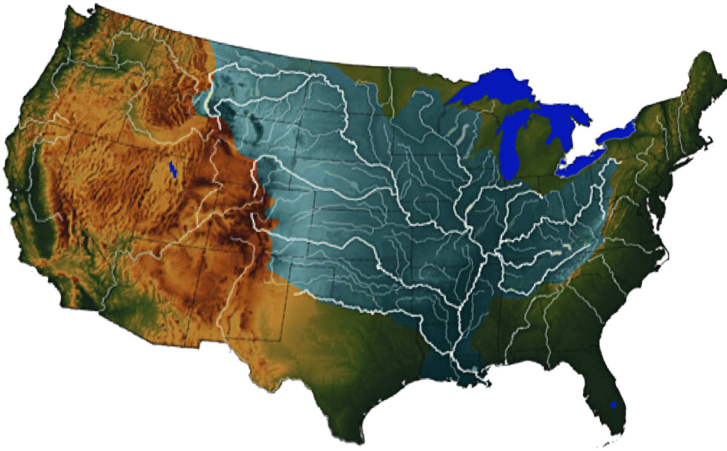


# BIG RIVER COALITION



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August 5, 2019

## Lower Mississippi River (LMR) Dredging Update 8519

Members,

The Corps of Engineers Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) continues dredging operations in response to active shoaling deposited by historic long-term high river stages (record flood event created by record precipitation levels). There are three hopper dredges and two cutterhead dredges working in the area of Southwest Pass and three dustpan dredges working on the Crossings Above New Orleans. The MVN did not receive any bids from the dredge contractors to the advertisement of Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #12-2019 and no viable options to secure an additional hopper dredge have been identified.

### UPDATED: TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS AT SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP):

- 1) **The Bar Pilots maximum draft recommendation was increased to 44 feet (freshwater) at 1000 hours on Sunday, August 4, 2019. The official Notice is attached.**
- 2) The Crescent River Port Pilots maximum draft recommendation of 44 feet (freshwater) for their route remains in effect.
- 3) **The Federal Pilots maximum draft recommendation was also increased to 44 feet (freshwater) the official notice is forthcoming.**

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

**NEWPORT:** The industry hopper dredge NEWPORT (Manson Construction) is dredging at Cubits Gap (Mile 4.0 Above Head of Passes [AHP] to Mile 2.0 AHP). The NEWPORT is dredging under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #8-2019, this contract could be completed by the end of August but the MVN has options to extend this contract.

**STUYVESANT:** The industry hopper dredge STUYVESANT (Dutra Group) continues dredging on assignment at the Head of Passes (Mile 1.5 AHP to Mile 0.5 Below Head of Passes [BHP]). The STUYVESANT began dredging under Southwest Pass Hopper Dredge Rental Contract #10-2019 on June 14, 2019 and is expected to continue dredging on this contract until October 1, 2019.

# BIG RIVER COALITION

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

**WHEELER:** MVN's hopper dredge WHEELER continues dredging from Mile 0.5 BHP to Mile 1.5 BHP under Red Flag Emergency Call Out #6-2019 (45-days).

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

**C.R. McCASKILL:** Weeks Marine's cutterhead dredge C.R. McCASKILL is dredging at Mile 5.70 BHP. The cutterhead began dredging on July 24, 2019 on assignment from Mile 5.0 BHP to Mile 6.0 BHP on the western side of the channel under Southwest Pass Cutterhead Dredge Rental Contract #2-2019.

**CAPTAIN FRANK:** Weeks Marine's cutterhead dredge CAPTAIN FRANK is dredging at Mile 14.82 BHP on the assignment from Mile 14.3 BHP to 18.0 BHP. The dredge began working on Southwest Pass Cutterhead Dredge Rental Contract #2-2019 on July 28, 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 at the HDDA, all material is being beneficially used in the Pass A'Loutre Wildlife Management Area (PALWMA). The contract is to remove 12 million cubic yards (mcy) of material, approximately 5.7 mcy of material have now been beneficially placed in the PALWMA from the HDDA.

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

**WALLCE McGEORGE:** The industry dustpan dredge WALLCE McGEORGE continues dredging the central 250 feet of channel at Baton Rouge Front (Mile 231.5 AHP). **The dustpan dredge WALLACE McGEORGE is expected to relocate and commence dredging operations at Alhambra Crossing (Mile 191 Above Head of Passes [AHP]) on Thursday, August 8, 2019. The White Castle Anchorage (Mile 191.1 AHP to Mile 190.4 AHP) will be off limits for vessel usage while the WALLACE Mc GEORGE is working at this location. The NOBRA and Federal Pilots intend to have the White Castle Anchorage clear of vessels by 0800 hours on Thursday, August 8, 2019 and to keep it clear until dredging operations are completed.** The industry dustpan dredge commenced dredging on the Crossings on May 9, 2019.

**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.

**JADWIN:** The Corps dustpan dredge JADWIN continues dredging on the central 250 feet at Belmont Crossing (Mile 154 AHP). The government dustpan dredge commenced dredging on the Crossings on June 27, 2019.

Sincerely,  
*Sean M. Duffy, Sr.*

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Executive Director