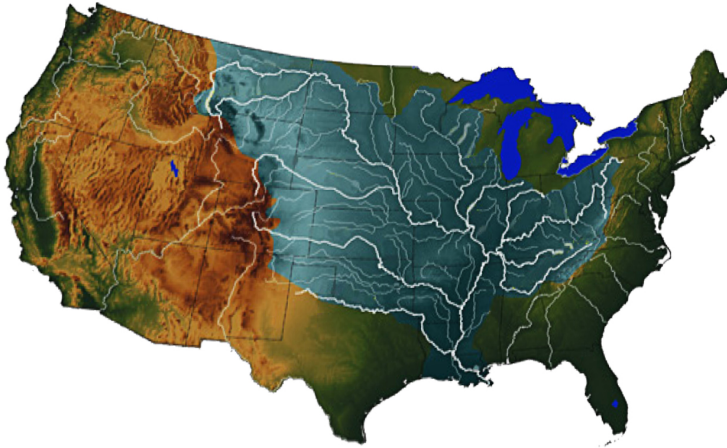


# BIG RIVER COALITION



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December 30, 2020

## RE: USACE 2020 REVETMENT SCHEDULE AND TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS 123020

Members,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 2020 Mississippi River bank stabilization program schedule (revetment operations) has been adjusted to match the new schedule from the USACE. The schedule provided by the USACE yesterday is attached. The USACE previously completed work on the four priority locations below Baton Rouge. **Revetment operations continue at the Avondale Bend location with completion now expected on January 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> (2021).** The schedule noted in the table below could move up one day, the start at Saint Gabriel could be as early as January 4, 2020. The revetment operations will move upriver to begin work on the final two secondary locations (Saint Gabriel and Plaquemine Bend) below Baton Rouge in early January 2021.

The Corps previously reviewed the upcoming work in a webinar with representatives from the USACE Bank Stabilization Division, the U.S. Coast Guard, applicable Pilot Associations and navigation representatives to detail the scope of bank stabilization efforts and develop the listed transit restrictions. During times of actual revetment work, the Mat Sinking Unit (MSU) extends from approximately 300 to 900 feet channelward from the bank. When the Unit is not folded in, it extends about 480 feet from the bank channelward. When it is folded in, the MSU extends 250 feet from the bank. The scheduled working times for the MSU are from 0600 hours to 1900 hours. In different locations, the operations may be completed slightly before or after 1900 hours. The Corps agreed to the request to fold in the Mat Sinking Unit (MSU) at night on revetment locations that warranted concern. **The Pilots and the Coast Guard's Lower Mississippi River Vessel Traffic Service will utilize the Contact Pilot on the MSU to coordinate vessel movements in the vicinity of revetment operations.**

The BRC will notify our members of any changes; however, please keep in mind that changes may occur with short notice to industry. The scheduled dates have changed and may change again, but those shown below are based on the latest schedule provided by the USACE. During the bank stabilization operations, changes based upon river stages and experience with vessel transits should be expected. The USACE, Coast Guard, Pilots and BRC will work closely with industry to ensure that changes are noted and distributed when warranted.

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## 2020 USACE Revetment Schedule Primary Locations Below Baton Rouge

Priority Locations	Mile (Right or Left)	2020 Scheduled Dates	Restrictions
Algiers Point	93.7 RDB	COMPLETED	COMPLETED
Point Michel	43.7 RDB	COMPLETED	COMPLETED
Angelina	143.2 LDB	COMPLETED	COMPLETED
Poydras	84.8 LDB	COMPLETED	COMPLETED

A change to the previously distributed schedule for revetment operations was just announced and is reflected in the table below and in the attached schedule provided by the USACE. The work at Plaquemine Bend from January 19 to January 22 was omitted in yesterday's update. The details about a possible completion at Avondale Bend as early as January 2, 2021 was discussed on an operations call this morning. The U.S. Coast Guard will soon issue a Marine Safety Information Bulletin to cover the expected impact to vessel transits at the Saint Gabriel and Plaquemine Bend locations.

## 2020/21 USACE Revetment Schedule and Restrictions Secondary Locations Below Baton Rouge

Secondary Locations	Mile (Right or Left)	2020/2021 Scheduled Dates	Restrictions
Avondale Bend	108.6 RDB	December 21 to December 23 December 29 to January 3 (2021)	One-way transits with slow bell during working hours. MSU to fold in at night.
Saint Gabriel	200.0 LDB	January 5 to January 8 [2021]	No southbound traffic and northbound traffic is limited to vessels having drafts of 25 feet or less during working hours. MSU will fold in at night.
Plaquemine Bend	208.5 RDB	January 9 to January 14 January 19 to January 22 [2021]	No southbound traffic and northbound traffic is limited to vessels having drafts of 25 feet or less during working hours. MSU will fold in at night.

Sincerely,



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Executive Director