

# UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SECTOR NEW ORLEANS

## MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Volume XXIII Issue: 066

Time: 1215

Date: December 21, 2023

### VTS Safety Measure – Revetment Operations: January–March 2024

The Captain of the Port of New Orleans is issuing a Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) Safety Measure for the waters of the Lower Mississippi River (LMR) listed in the table below to protect persons and vessels from the potential safety hazards associated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) revetment operations. The table outlines the transit restrictions that apply at each respective location.

**The following conditions apply at all locations:**

- The working hours for the Mat Sinking Unit (MSU) are from 0600-1900 daily.
- The contact pilot for the operations is the M/V William James and can be reached on VHF CH. 67 or 82.
- All vessels shall transit at slowest safe speed when transiting past the MSU during working hours.

Location	Mile Marker (MM) Right or Left Descending Bank	2024 Scheduled Work Dates	Additional Transit Restrictions and Comments
Manchac	MM 214.2 LDB	January 12 – January 20	<p><u>Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All vessels are restricted from transiting during working hours.</li> <li>• Additional restrictions may be necessary and will be published as needed via the VTS 5-day outlook or other industry wide communication.</li> </ul> <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MSU will fold in at night.</li> </ul>
St. Gabriel	MM 199 LDB	January 21 – January 31	<p><u>Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No deep-draft vessel transits during working hours.</li> <li>• Additional restrictions may be necessary and will be published as needed via the VTS 5-day outlook or other industry wide communication.</li> </ul> <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MSU will fold in at night</li> </ul>
Avondale	MM 108 RDB	February 1 – February 16	<p><u>Restrictions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All vessels shall be restricted to one way traffic during working hours.</li> </ul> <p><u>Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MSU will extend 600 feet into the channel during non-working hours.</li> </ul>

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Poydras	MM 84.3 LDB	February 17 – February 27	<u>Restrictions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional restrictions.</li> </ul> <u>Comments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU will not fold in at night.</li> </ul>
Neptune Pass	MM 23.1 LDB	February 28 – March 5	<u>Restrictions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional restrictions.</li> </ul> <u>Comments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU will not fold in at night.</li> </ul>
Vacherie	MM 149.4 RDB MM 148.7 RDB	March 6 – March 16	<u>Restrictions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All vessels are limited to one-way traffic during working hours.</li> </ul> <u>Comments</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MSU will not fold in at night.</li> </ul>

The dates of the work and restrictions listed above are subject to change. Daily updates to the schedule and restrictions will be messaged in the Vessel Traffic Service 5-day outlook email.

All interested navigation stakeholders are highly encouraged to subscribe to the VTS 5-day outlook email here: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDHSCG/subscriber/new>. Subscribers should enter their preferred email, then ensure "VTS LMR" and is selected under 'Mariners Tab' and submit.

Updates will be disseminated via additional Marine Safety Information Bulletins, VTS email distributions, and/or Safety Broadcast Notice to Mariners. For further information, contact:

Sector New Orleans Command Center (24 hour): (504) 365-2545

Vessel Traffic Service (24 hour): (504) 365-2514, VHF FM Ch. 05A, 12, 67

Sector New Orleans Waterways Management: (504) 365-2280 or [secnola-wpm@uscg.mil](mailto:secnola-wpm@uscg.mil)

CAPTAIN K. K. Denning  
Captain of the Port New Orleans

For a current list of MSIBs within the COTP New Orleans Zone visit <https://homeport.uscg.mil/my-homeport/safety-Notifications/MSIB?cotpid=39>