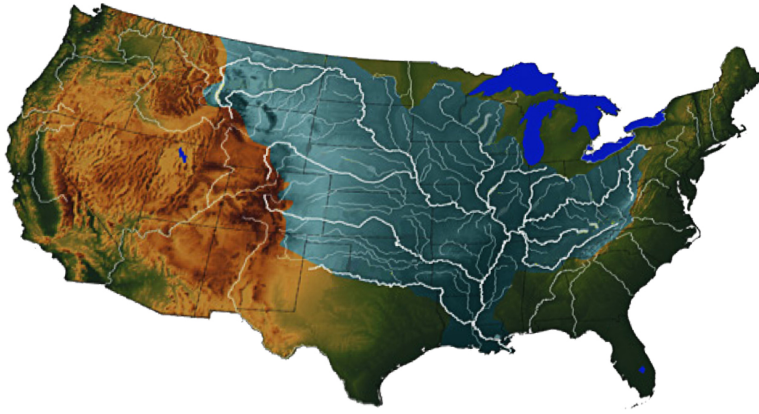


BIG RIVER COALITION



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January 6, 2023

RE: USACE 2022 REVETMENT SCHEDULE AND TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS 1623

Members,

The present schedule for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mississippi River bank stabilization program schedule (revetment operations), with applicable navigation restrictions, is detailed below. The revised schedule of work as provided by the USACE on January 5, 2023, is attached. The USACE has three remaining revetment locations between Baton Rouge and New Orleans that are now scheduled to be completed in mid-February. **The USACE has completed work at the Reserve location (Mile 138.7 Above Head of Passes [AHP]) and began revetment operations at the Greenville Bend location (Mile 99.8 AHP) on the right descending bank this morning.**

The USACE continues to discuss the revetment operations with representatives from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), applicable Pilot Associations and navigation representatives, to detail the scope of bank stabilization efforts and develop potential 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 MSU 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 Industry's request to fold in the Mat Sinking Unit (MSU) at night on revetment locations that warranted concern. **The Pilots and 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 these operations.**

2022/2023 USACE Revetment Schedule and Restrictions Locations Below Baton Rouge

Locations	Mile AHP (Right or Left)	2023 Scheduled Dates	Transit Restrictions
White Castle #2	193.4 RDB	January 25 to January 27 January 30 to February 4	No deep-draft transits during working hours. MSU will fold in at night.
White Castle #3	192.7 RDB	February 5 to February 13	No deep-draft transits during working hours. MSU will fold in at night.
Greenville Bend	99.8 RDB	Ongoing January 6 to January 13 January 16 to January 23	One-way transits with slow bell during working hours for vessels with drafts of 40 feet or greater. MSU will not fold in.

The revetment operations at the White Castle locations will be the trickiest with no ship transits allowed through the area during working hours (0600 hours to 1900 hours).

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The New Orleans Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association (NOBRA) enforce a daylight only transit restriction for vessels with a draft of 41 feet or greater when transiting above Mile 220 AHP. The NOBRA Pilots are reviewing potential measures to allow restricted vessels (drafts 41 or greater) to transit through the White Castle revetment locations at approximately Mile 193 AHP, guidance expected.

The USACE has already completed revetment operations at the four locations listed below that were not included in the list for the active or remaining sites in the previous table:

- 1) White Castle #1 Mile 193.6 AHP (RDB)
- 2) Kenner Bend Mile 111.3 AHP (LDB)
- 3) Linwood Mile 99.8 AHP (RDB)
- 4) Reserve Mile 138.7 AHP (RDB)

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 may change again, but those listed above are based on the updated schedule from the USACE. Updates will be provided in an attempt to provide accurate information as time permits. The Corps, Coast Guard, Pilots and BRC will work closely with industry to ensure that changes are noted and broadcast when warranted. The Marine Safety Information Bulletins as previously issued by the USCG is attached, please note the work dates have not been updated but the listed transit restrictions remain accurate.

Sincerely,



Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director

Attachments