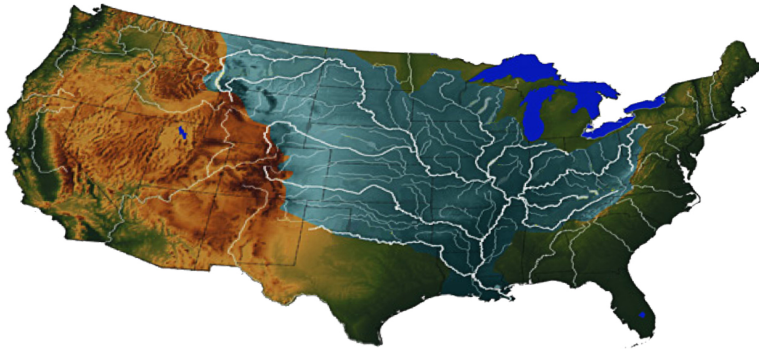


# BIG RIVER COALITION



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## RE: USACE 2023 REVETMENT SCHEDULE AND TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS 122123

Members,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) 2023 Mississippi Riverbank stabilization program schedule for revetment operations is attached. The applicable navigation restrictions are detailed in the table below. The USACE will begin revetment operations with the Mat Sinking Unit in January 2024 after having completed extensive repairs. There are four revetment locations between Baton Rouge and New Orleans and two locations below New Orleans. The dates listed below will be adjusted based upon revetment operations and river stage impacts.

The Corps hosted a meeting, with representatives from the Corps' Bank Stabilization Division, 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 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 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 transiting through the revetment locations.**

### 2023/2024 Corps' Revetment Schedule and Restrictions Locations Below Baton Rouge

Locations	Mile (Right or Left)	2024 Scheduled Work Dates	Transit Restrictions
Manchac	Mile 214.2 LDB	January 12 - January 20	<b>*No vessel transits during working hours.</b> MSU will fold in at night.
St. Gabriel	Mile 199 LDB	January 21- January 31	<b>*No deep-draft vessel transits during working hours.</b> MSU will fold in at night.
Avondale	Mile 108 RDB	February 1- February 16	<b>All vessel transits limited to one-way traffic and a slow bell during working hours.</b> The MSU will not fold in and will extend 600 feet from the bank channel during non-working hours.
Poydras	Mile 84.3 LDB	February 17 - February 27	Transits with slow bell during working hours. MSU not required to fold in at night.
Neptune Pass	Mile 23.1 LDB	February 28 - March 5	Deep-draft transits on a slow bell during working hours. MSU not required to fold in.
Vacherie	Mile 149.4 RDB Mile 148.7 RDB	March 6 - March 16	One-way transit restriction during working hours. MSU will fold in at night.

\*The nighttime transits at the two most upriver locations may require additional transit restrictions related to the NOBRA daylight only restriction for vessels drafting 41 feet or greater above Mile 220 Above Head of Passes. NOBRA will respond prior to the start of work for nighttime transits.

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The USACE will work revetment locations based on the prioritized list detailed in the table above. The scheduled working times for the MSU are from 0600 hours to 1900 hours daily, although working hours may be adjusted slightly with work to be completed slightly before or after 1900 hours.

The Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) as released by the U.S. Coast Guard is also attached. The USCG will also include the revetment operations and transit restrictions in the Vessel Traffic Service Lower Mississippi River 5-Day Outlook broadcasts. All vessels shall transit at the slowest safe speed when transiting past the MSU during working hours. Please see the attached MSIB for complete details.

The BRC will notify our members of any changes; however, please keep in mind that changes may occur with short notice to industry. During the bank stabilization operations changes based upon river stages and experience with vessel transits should be expected. The Corps, Coast Guard, Pilots and BRC will work closely with industry to ensure that changes are noted and broadcast when warranted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean M. Duffy, Sr." in a cursive script.

Sean M. Duffy, Sr.  
Executive Director

Attachments