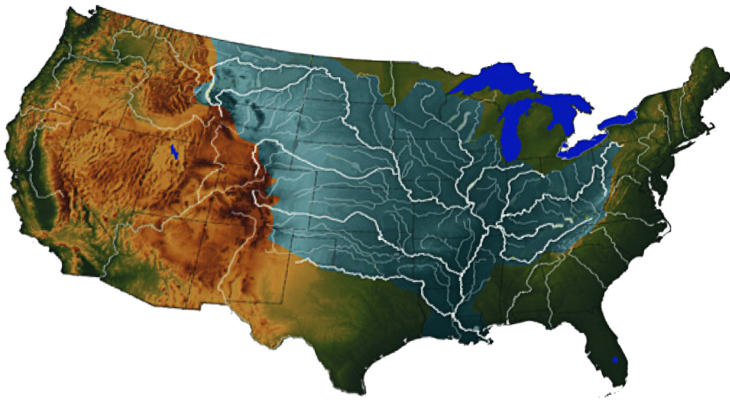


BIG RIVER COALITION



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September 19, 2024

RE: USACE 2024 REVETMENT SCHEDULE AND TRANSIT RESTRICTIONS 91924

Members,

The updated schedule for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mississippi Valley New Orleans (MVN) 2024 Mississippi Riverbank stabilization program schedule (revetment and rock work), with applicable navigation restrictions, is detailed below. The USACE intends to start work on the Mississippi River Ship Channel at the Vacherie location on September 26, 2024, about one month earlier than originally planned. The new schedule of work as released by the USACE on September 16, 2024, is attached. The USACE also added a new revetment site on the Ship Channel at English Turn (Mile 76.7) There are four revetment locations on the Ship Channel that require revetment mat placement and one location that only requires rock placement (Fort Jackson) details forthcoming. The work at Vacherie and Poydras will also require adjustments to deep-draft anchorages in the immediate area, note section in bold on top of the second page.

The Corps recently 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 800 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.

2024 USACE Revetment Schedule and Restrictions Mississippi River Ship Channel Locations

Location	Mile (Right or Left)	Scheduled Date(s) 2024	Restriction
Vacherie*	148.8 RDB	September 26 to October 8 October 7 and October 8	No southbound ship traffic during working hours, northbound ship traffic limited to a maximum draft of 38 feet or less during working hours. One-way traffic 24/7. MSU to fold in at night.
Cut Off	87.4 RDB	October 10 to October 23	All ship traffic limited to one-way transits during working hours. MSU to fold in at night.
Poydras*	80.5 LDB	October 24 to October 31	No southbound ship traffic during working hours. MSU to fold in at night.
English Turn	76.7 RDB	November 1- November 9	One-way transits on slow bell. MSU is not required to fold in at night.

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***During the revetment operations at the Vacherie location no vessels will be allowed to anchor in the Upper Grandview Anchorage above Crescent Fleet. Similarly, during revetment operations at the Poydras revetment location no vessels will be allowed to anchor in Lower 12 Mile Point Anchorage upriver of Mile 80 Above Head of Passes.**

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.**

The USCG may issue a Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIB) detailing transit restrictions for each location prior to the start of work at each location and may supplement the MSIB via the Captain of the Port (COTP) New Orleans Navigational Outlook updates. The updated schedules from the Corps will be distributed upon receipt. The BRC will notify our members of any changes; however, please keep in mind that some changes occur without notice to Industry. The scheduled dates may change but those shown above are based on the latest schedule from the USACE.

Throughout the bank stabilization efforts 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 distributed throughout the revetment operations. The BRC will issue the next update in early October approximately one month prior to the start of work at the Vacherie location.

Sincerely,

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

Sean M. Duffy, Sr.
Executive Director