

Thursday, October 12th, 2017

# American Currents



## Hot Topics:

- Drafts St. Louis to the Gulf increased to 12'6"
- Ohio River: River is closed at Lock 52 – River closed through at least Monday
- Illinois River: Lockport Lock (mi. 291) flows reduced, no delay
- Final loading dates to Upper Miss quickly expiring

## NOTEWORTHY NEWS & INDUSTRY ISSUES

For additional details on the information noted below, please contact your ACBL Salesperson or Logistics Representative at (800) 899-7195

### Ohio River: River is closed at Lock 52

Maximum locking stage has been exceeded, therefore Lock 52 is closed. This situation is due to the fact that because of the poor condition of the dam, the Corps will not lower the dam at 52, as they normally would, just to have to attempt to raise it a couple of days later.

The best estimate at this time is that the stage may drop enough for Lock 52 to resume locking next Monday (estimate pushed from Thursday/Friday). There are presently ~20 boats waiting in this area, so once locking of vessels resumes, expect an additional 3 days of delay time.

### At Lock 53

Wicket dam is lowered; transit is still slow through the area, 32 boats waiting to transit.

The Olmsted Lock area will be shut down to commercial river traffic on Monday, October 16th, Tuesday October 17th, and Wednesday October 18th dayshift only from the hours of 7am through 5pm. It will be necessary to occupy the land lock chamber in order to set concrete blocks for culvert flushing.

High flows near St. Paul – tow size reduced to 9 barges x-St. Paul, then to 12 or 15 Redwing-South (captain's discretion)

Rock Pinnacle removal at Thebes, restrictions added (UMR 38-46) - Work hours will be between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. During work hours, tows may pass, but are restricted to 28 barges northbound and 15 barges southbound respectively. During non-work hours tows may pass unrestricted.

UPDATE: The contractor will not be conducting any more work until further notice. While they have not yet been officially demobilized, it is projected that Cape G will be above 15' by Thursday with sustained stages for at least 10 days. The USACE hopes to see low water again in early November so work can resume.

### Illinois River: Lockport Lock (mi. 291) experiencing high flows

The current flow at Lockport Lock is 7,000 CFS, no additional delay

Peoria Lock, Illinois River mi. 158, announces series of October/November closures – Here are the times and dates (repairs to gates, bubbler pipes):

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 36-hrs starting at 0600 hrs on Monday, 16-October-2017 to 1800 hrs on Tuesday, 17-October-2017

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 12-hrs on Wednesday, 18-October-2017. Starting at 0600 hrs to 1800 hrs.

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 36-hrs starting at 0600 hrs on Thursday, 19-October-2017 to 1800 hrs on Friday, 20-October-2017.

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 36-hrs starting at 0600 hrs on Monday, 23-October-2017 to 1800 hrs on Tuesday, 24-October-2017.

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 12-hrs starting at 0600 hrs to 1800 hrs on Wednesday, 25-October-2017.

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be closed to traffic for 36-hrs starting at 0600 hrs on Thursday, 26-October-2017 to 1800 hrs on Friday, 27-October-2017

Peoria Lock & Dam, RM 158.0 will be close to traffic on Monday, 30-October-2017, Tuesday, 31-October-2017, Wednesday, 1-November-2017 and Thursday, 2-November-2017 for 12-hrs starting from 0600 hrs to 1800 hrs each day. The closure is required to install new bubbler pipe with the use of divers.

The Lower Miss closure at Spanish Moss mi. 535, has reopened

### Lower Miss Delays for mat laying and dredging:

- At mile 618 (above Rosedale), expect intermittent delays for bank grading (in preparation for mat laying)
- At mile 643 (below Helena), expect the river to be closed daily through 10/13, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. for mat laying
- At mile 484 (near Lake Providence), expect intermittent delays for dredging

Houston/West Canal update, conditions x-Harvey – navigation is open on the GIWW with the following exceptions:

Docks in the Houston area are open to navigation with the exception of docks in the Green's Bayou area (There are still 11 submerged or partially submerged barges blocking navigation). Further, there are barges stacked on top of each other. No timeline is given on when this area will open.

GIWW is open with restrictions at the Colorado Locks and crossing. Tows are restricted to a 10' draft and 55' width. Traffic is limited to one barge only, loaded or empty. Multi-barge tows will be allowed only if an assist boat (or boats) is in the river intersection. Dredging continues in the east forebay of the West Lock.

### Current Flooding Conditions

No major flooding to report.

## Current Loading Drafts

Upper/Lower Mississippi		Illinois	
St. Paul to Gulf / Davenport to Gulf	9'0" / 9'6" Max	LIQUID above Full Illinois River	9'0" Max
St. Louis to Gulf	<b>12'6" Max</b>	Lemont to Starved Rock	9'0" Max
Missouri		Starved Rock - South	
Brunswick, MO South	9'3" Max		9'3" Max
		Gulf	
Ohio		Gulf N/B to Cairo/St. Louis	<b>10'6" Max</b>
NBD Cairo to Pittsburgh	9'0" Max	Gulf N/B to Pittsburgh	9'0" Max
Pittsburgh SBD to Gulf	9'0" Max	Gulf N/B to Illinois/Lemont	9'0" Max

## LOCK CLOSURES AND INFORMATION

Lock Name	Phone	Mile Pt	Closure Dates	Notes
<b>GULF and INTRACOASTAL</b>				
Harvey	504-366-4683	98.3	9/6-11/6	Dewatering for repairs, closure expected to last 60 days.
Bayou Boeuf	985-384-7626	93.3	August/2019	Tentative dewatering closure expected to last 60 days – (changed from 2017)
<b>ILLINOIS WATERWAY</b>				
Starved Rock 2018	815-667-4114	231	2018, Q3/Q4	Repairs to the upper guide wall. 10 hour per day closure, from 07:00-17:00, 7 days/week. Lock will be open from 17:00 through 07:00 the next day each day during the closure. Lockages will be restricted to 80' during this time, as there will be a coffer box in place on the lock wall. Industry can get on queue with a 15 barge tow; assist tug required to take the additional width through the lock during the open times.
Starved Rock 2019 Marseilles Lock 2019	815-667-4114 815-795-2593	231 245	2019, Q4 2019, Q4	Work is for installation of new miter gates, both upper and lower gates will be replaced with vertical framed miter gates. Work to be performed during the day, which will close the lock for 8-10 hours per day. Locking will take place during the remaining hours with an 80' restriction. (Can lock 15 barges tows, just need a tug to assist during lockage). <b>Note: there will be a 15 day total closure during the work.</b>
Illinois River Complete Lock Closures 2020	Multiple Locks		2020 Q3/Q4	<b>Starved Rock and Marseilles: Total Closure</b> , work is dewatering the lock chamber for major maintenance, along with Peoria, should in fact the closure be moved from 2019. <b>Dresden Island and Brandon Road:</b> Closures are for installation of new vertical framed miter gates and will be coordinated the same as the Marseilles and Starved Rock closures in FY2019. <b>LaGrange:</b> This closure would be for Major Rehab and is dependent upon funding. Total funding is \$89 Million and we would need half in 2018 and half in 2019 split 50/50 with IWTF. <b>Peoria:</b> While this 60 day closure is still scheduled for maintenance, the Corps stated they have an 80% confidence that this closure will move to FY2020, to confirm with industry by the end of March this year.
Illinois River Complete Lock Closures 2023	Multiple Locks		2023, Q3/Q4	<b>Brandon Road and Dresden Island: Total closure.</b> Work is dewatering the lock chamber for major maintenance.
Peoria Lock	309-699-6111	158	10/16-11/2, multi 12-36 hour closures	<b>10 individual 12-36 hour closures, period is between 10/16-11/2, details above</b>
<b>UPPER MISSISSIPPI</b>				
Lock 14	309-794-4357	493	10/25 – 11/3 4 36 hour closures	Closed from 0700 10/25-1900 10/26, 0700 10/27 – 1900 10/28 Closed from 0700 10/31-1900 11/1, 0700 11/2 – 1900 11/3
<b>OHIO</b>				
Dashields	724-457-8430	13	7/10-10/31	Starting the second week of July through the end of August the primary lock chamber will be closed Monday through Thursday 6:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Belleville	740-378-6110	203	10/24-12/18	Main chamber closed for repairs, replacing upper miter gate
Meldahl	513-876-2921	436	5/7-10/11	1200' chamber has re-opened
Cannelton	812-547-2962	720	6/26-10/6 or 11/1	Main chamber to close for repairs, miter gate work, aux lock available, expect 12-24 hours delay
<b>TENNESSEE RIVER</b>				
Wilson Lock	256-764-5223	259	10/16-12/22	Daytime closures to navigation traffic during working hours from 0600 to 1800 daily. These closures are necessary for the installation of the lower land valve
<b>MISSOURI RIVER</b>				
Navigation Season Closing				Mouth of river closes ~12/1, all destination loads from all origins to be loaded by 9/15

## Inland Waterway Weather Report

Rain and severe thunderstorms up north on Saturday highlights the weather today.

A cold front will move through the watershed tomorrow-Monday bringing moderate to locally heavy rain to the region north of Cairo and light to moderate rain over the region south of Cairo. Severe thunderstorms are also expected over portions of KS/MO/IA on Saturday.

7day QPF totals (through Thursday morning):

½-3” of rain is forecasted for the region north of Cairo.

½” or less of rain is forecasted for the region south of Cairo.

Tropical Outlook:

Hurricane Ophelia remains over the open waters of the Eastern Atlantic. It will only be a concern for shipping and potentially Ireland and Scotland early next week.

- Bill Frederick, USACE

Lock	Vessel Queue	Lock Delay
Lock 15	UM482	0
Marseilles	IR244	0
Melvin Price	UM201	1
Lock 27	UM185	0
Meldahl	OR436	7
Cannelton	OR720	6
Lock 52 / Lock 53		20 / 32
Bayou Sorrel	PA36	3
Port Allen	LM228	4
Industrial (IHNC)	LM92	24
Algiers	LM88	0

Industry standard is to estimate 1 hour per boat for delays while waiting in lock queue.

### Quote of the Day

“...Love your neighbor as yourself...”

- Apostle Mark

River Gauges	Curr/24 hr Change	24 hr>	48 hr>	72 hr>	flood stage
St. Paul	10.3/+0.2	10.7	10.9	10.9	14
Dubuque	12.0/+0.6	12.5	12.8	13.0	17
Hannibal	11.6/+0.3	11.7	11.9	12.1	16
Morris	5.0/-0.8	5.4	5.0	4.8	13
Beardstown	9.9/+0.1	10.2	10.1	10.0	14
St. Louis	12.7/+4.4	16.7	16.6	16.8	30
Chester	12.1/+3.1	16.1	18.1	18.3	27
Cape Girardeau	15.5/+1.7	17.9	19.8	20.0	32
Pittsburgh	17.0/+0.5	16.6	16.6	16.6	25
Cincinnati	27.5/+0.4	27.5	27.0	26.6	52
McAlpine Upr	13.1/+0.5	12.8	12.5	12.5	23
McAlpine Lwr	16.1/+1.7	14.9	13.5	12.2	55
Evansville	17.7/+1.4	16.8	15.9	15.2	42
Paducah	18.9/+0.3	19.5	18.8	18.2	39
Cairo	18.0/+0.6	20.9	22.3	21.4	40
Memphis	-2.8/+1.5	0.9	3.1	4.6	34
Little Rock	7.6/nc	7.5	7.5	7.5	23
Greenville	12.6/+0.8	13.2	14.8	17.5	48
Vicksburg	5.9/+0.5	6.3	7.0	8.5	43
Natchez	14.0/+0.1	13.9	14.3	15.2	48
Baton Rouge	6.7/-0.3	6.8	6.8	7.0	35
New Orleans	3.6/nc	4.2	4.2	4.2	17
<b>RED</b>	<b>at flood stage</b>				
<b>Orange</b>	<b>2' + increase</b>				



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September 29, 2017

Please see the changes noted below: we have moved up some of our final loading dates from points of origin by 3-5 days due to more "low water" navigation delays being added to the inland waterways systems.

(September 14th Amendment) This letter has been amended since our August 18th communication. Due to lock closures (for winter rehabilitation) now scheduled for Locks #14 (mi. 493, 12/12/17), #16 (mi. 457, 12/12/17), and Lock 18 (mi. 410, 12/16/17) we have adjusted our final planned loading and departure dates for the Clinton-South area. We will now plan to depart 7 days earlier from origin and destination than originally communicated.

In preparation for the closing of the 2017 navigation season for the Upper Mississippi River during the winter months, the following tentative dates should be used for planning purposes.

As operating conditions and weather dictate, these dates may be extended or shortened as the navigation season closes.

**The following dates are our Upper Mississippi planned final departure dates:**

St. Paul, MN – South (UMR 857-640) <i>(Includes barge traffic for the Minnesota and St Croix Rivers)</i>	Sunday, November 19th
MacGregor/Dubuque – South (UMR 639-521)	Sunday, November 26th
Clinton, IA – South (UMR 520-240)	Sunday, December 3rd

**The following dates should be used as final loading dates from points of origin.**

Barges loading to destinations between Dubuque, IA and St. Paul, MN:

<u>PORT</u>	<u>BARGES TO BE LOADED AND RELEASED BY</u>
<b>Mobile</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Houston</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>New Orleans</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Huntington</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Chicago</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Memphis</b>	<b>expired</b>
<b>Owensboro</b>	<b>expired</b>
Cairo	October 15th
St. Louis	October 17th

Barges loading to destinations between Louisiana, MO and Clinton, IA:

<u>PORT</u>	<u>BARGES TO BE LOADED AND RELEASED BY</u>
<b>Mobile</b>	<b>expired</b>
Houston	October 15th
New Orleans	October 22th
Pittsburgh	October 18th
Huntington	October 20th
Chicago	October 17th
Memphis	October 27th
Owensboro	October 25th
Cairo	November 1th
St. Louis	November 3th

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank You,

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