

Friday, April 12, 2019

Key Issues:

- Upper Miss above St.Louis: Lock opening end of April
- Kentucky Lock intermittent closures beginning tomorrow, 4/13 through Thursday, 4/18
- Gulf: We continue to battle flood conditions, heavy delays
- Houston Delays: decontamination process making strides

RIVER CLOSURES & RESTRICTED MOVEMENTS

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

Ohio/Tennessee/Cumberland

Montgomery Lock (OR 32) closures - Main chamber will be closed from 3/11 - 4/30 with one lockage every 2 hours from 06:00 - 02:00, additional lockages will be performed between 02:00 - 06:00, primary chamber will be fully open on the weekends. Main chamber will be fully closed during weekdays from 5/1 - 6/14, tows will pass through the small chamber during this time. Small chambers can only fit one barge at a time. There will be three days when both chambers will be completely closed from 08:00 to 16:00 (4/4, 4/18, and 4/23). The 4/18 date may be moved up, TBA.

Ohio River closed for Thunder of Louisville (Fireworks/Air Show) from miles 597-607 - The river will be closed on Friday, April 12 from 11:00-18:00 and from noon until midnight on Saturday, April 13.

Kentucky Lock (TR 22) Closures - Lock will close on the following dates and times, Saturday, April 13 - 24 hour closure beginning at 08:00, Monday April 15 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Tuesday, April 16 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Wednesday, April 17 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Thursday, April 18 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00

Chicago/Illinois/Upper Miss

Upper Miss above St.Louis is closed to navigation: Significant ice/snow melt coming off the Upper Miss and Missouri Rivers - Record snow falls on the Upper Miss are melting and making their way down river. Below is an update on the affected locks:

Lock 12 (UM 557) closed on 4/1, expected to reopen beyond 4/19	Lock 17 (UM 437) closed on 3/16, expected to reopen beyond 4/19
Lock 13 (UM 522) closed on 4/2, expected to reopen beyond 4/19	Lock 18 (UM 410) closed on 3/18, expected to reopen beyond 4/19
Lock 14 (UM 493) closed on 4/4, expected to reopen beyond 4/19	Lock 20 (UM 343) closed on 3/18, expected to reopen beyond 4/26
Lock 15 (UM 483) closed on 4/5, lock reopened on 4/12	Lock 21 (UM 325) closed on 3/21, expected to reopen 4/16
Lock 16 (UM 457) closed on 3/16, expected to reopen beyond 4/19	Lock 22 (UM 301) closed on 3/20, expected to reopen 4/24

Louisiana RR Bridge (UM 282) closed on 3/20, [expected to open beyond 4/24](#)

Note: Additional precipitation is expected middle of next week, possibly significant.

Reduced tow sizes coming off the Illinois River - Due to the flooding conditions in St. Louis tows have been reduced to 12 barges.

Reduced tow sizes from St. Louis to Cairo - Tows are reduced by one string (5 barges) due to high water.

Daylight only transit through St. Louis harbor (UM 174) and Thebes bridge (UM 50) - Expect this to last until the end of April.

Lower Miss/Gulf/Canals

Bonnet Carre Spillway opening - All of the bays finished closing yesterday, April 11, afternoon. Historical perspective: The bays were open for 44 days, this is the 4th longest time in history they have been open.

Reduced tow sizes Cairo to Gulf - Flood conditions have reduced tow sizes between Cairo and the Gulf by one-two strings, 10-15 barges, expect increased await pickup and transit times. The max tow size has been reduced from 40 barges to 30 or less per tow.

Daylight only through Vicksburg bridge (LM 435) and Baton Rouge (LM 237) - Flood conditions have limited transit through these areas to only daylight hours. Memphis has returned to 24 hour running.

Fog/Wind delays - Expect favorable conditions into this weekend for the Gulf and Canals, expect wind delays in the Gulf and on the Canals beginning today and into next week.

Shuttle boats in the Gulf are reduced to 6-9 barges on Southbound moves due to the flooding conditions.

West Larose, LA Bridge (WC 36) Closure for repairs - The bridge will be closed each weekend from 07:00 on Friday until 07:00 on Monday, March 8-10 through the weekend of April 13-14.

Max draft coming into or out of the Gulf through the SouthWest Pass (LM 3) - Bluewater vessels are restricted to 43' in this area, dredging is ongoing, 66 vessels in queue to come in/out of the Gulf. There are 7 dredges working to maintain this level.

High water in the Morgan City area (WC 99) - Daylight only through Morgan City bridges. Expect slow traffic through this area until water levels fall.

Significant delay at Industrial Lock (LM 93) and Algiers Lock (LM 88) - The current queue at Industrial is 32 boats. The current queue at Algiers is 10 boats.

Brazos Lock (WC 401) is closed daily for repairs - Repairs are completed, now there are closures for dredging, lock will be closed 7 days a week from 07:00-19:00.

Calcasieu Lock (WC 238) Closure—No work on Monday, will use the day to catch up on the backlog of boats. Beginning on July 30, the lock will only be closed Monday-Thursday from 07:00-17:00. This change is an effort to help control the major delays occurring at this lock. Contractors will demolish the south chamber guide wall and start construction of a new guide wall. **The lock will be closed Monday-Thursday from 07:00—17:00 each day.** The current queue is 8 boats.

Houston Ship Channel closed at 18:00 on Friday, March 22 due to a chemical fire - San Jacinto River is open to 24-hour vessel traffic. Transits through Carpenters Bayou and Old River areas remain limited to daylight only. Transits will remain limited, controlled by the USCG, until decontamination in Old River and Carpenters Bayou are complete. Progress is very slow, and expected to take weeks to complete. Three decontamination areas have been setup, 2 in Old River and 1 in Carpenters Bayou. **Carpenters Bayou has reopened to two-way traffic, outbound must be decontaminated prior to leaving.** Inbound traffic is 24 hours a day, outbound is only daylight hours. Storms are expected in Houston over the weekend that could slow the decontamination process.

Flood Conditions on the Warrior Tombigbee River - Shoaling has the river closed in the Aberdeen area (TT 357) on the Tennessee Tombigbee, this area is impassable to traffic. The dredge is on site and working, latest predictions have the river closed until the first week of May.

Special Note - Please be aware, ACBL's standard contract, under the "River Closures and Restricted Movements" section, gives ACBL the right to bill for lock delays.

Current Loading Drafts

Upper/Lower Mississippi		Illinois (Dry and Liquid)	
St. Paul to PDC (UM 635) SBD	9'0" Max	Lemont to Starved Rock (IR 231) SBD	9'3" Max
PDC to Linwood (UM 475) SBD	9'3" Max	Starved Rock to St. Louis SBD	10'0" Max
Linwood to St. Louis SBD	9'6" Max		
St. Louis to Cairo SBD	12'6" Max	Gulf (Dry)	
Cairo to Gulf SBD	12'6" Max	Gulf NBD to St. Louis (UM 174)	1'6" FB Max
Ohio		Gulf NBD to Point Pleasant (OR 266)	11'6" Max
Pittsburgh to Bellaire (93) SBD	10'0" Max	Gulf NBD to Starved Rock (IR 231)	9'6" Max
Bellaire to Cairo SBD	11'6" Max	Gulf NBD Starved Rock to Lemont	9'3" Max

Lock Closures and Information

Gulf, Intercoastal, and Lower Miss				
Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Bayou Boeuf	985-384-7626	WC 93.3	2/21/19 - Jan 2020	**Postponed due to high water** Closed Mon-Thurs from 07:00 - 19:00, tows will use Bayou Chene as an alternate route, minor delays
Brazos	979-233-1251	WC 401	TBD	Closed during weekdays from 07:00 - 17:00
Algiers	504-394-5714	LM 88	5/1/20 - 6/30/20	Intermittent Closures
Calcasieu	337-477-1482	WC 238	5/21/18 - June/July 2019	Demolition of south chamber guide wall and construction of new guide wall. Closed M-F from 07:00 - 17:00, as of 7/30 contractor will only work Monday-Thursday

Illinois

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Starved Rock 2019	815-667-4114	231	6/1 - 8/31	Work is for installation of new miter gates, both upper and lower will be replaced with vertical framed miter gates. Lock will be closed during daylight hours. Lockings will take place during nighttime hours with an 70' width restriction, no more than 10 barges at a time. There will be a 14-15 day total closure at each lock from 01:00 on 8/16 until 00:00 on 8/29. Lock will be fully open beginning at 05:30 on 7/3 until 06:00 on 7/8.
Marseilles 2019	815-795-2593	245		
Lagrange 2020	217-225-3317	80	7/1/20 - 10/30/20	90+ day full closure beginning on 7/1/20, dewatering lock chamber to repair crumbling concrete and steel structures, full closure, no transit
Peoria 2020	309-699-6111	158	Mid July 2020 - Early Aug 2020	60+ day full closure beginning in mid July and ending early August, dewatering lock chamber for maintenance and inspection
Starved Rock 2020	815-667-4114	231	7/1/20 - 10/30/20	120 day full closure beginning on 7/1/20 and ending 10/30/20, dewater lock chamber to replace/modify the miter gate sills to accommodate new miter gates
Marseilles 2020	815-795-2593	245	7/1/20 - 9/30/20	90+ day full closure beginning on 7/1/20 and ending on 9/30/20, dewatering lock chamber to replace/modify miter gate sills to accommodate new miter gates
Dresden Island 2020	815-942-0840	271	7/1/20 - 10/30/20	90+ day restriction period with a 14 day full closure, lock closed during daylight hours, lockings will occur during nighttime hours with a 70' width restriction
Brandon Road 2020	815-744-1714	286		
Dresden Island 2023	815-942-0840	271	June through August	90+ day full closures, dewatering lock chamber for major maintenance
Brandon Road 2023	815-744-1714	286		

Upper Mississippi

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Lock 25	636-566-8120	241	7/1/20 - 8/31/20	Intermittent, river will be closed during nighttime hours

Ohio

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Montgomery	724-643-8400	32	3/11 - 6/14	Primary chamber closed from 3/11-4/30 with periodic lockages throughout the day, 5/1 - 6/14 primary chamber fully closed during weekdays, open during weekends, 3 days when both locks will be closed 4/4, 4/18, and 4/23.
Smithland	618-564-2315	918	7/8 - 8/9	River chamber closed to dewater for inspection, land chamber will remain open
Markland	859-567-7661	531	4/15-20	Main chamber closed, auxiliary available
Willow Island	740-374-8710	162	7/8 - 11/1	Primary chamber closed during this time period, auxiliary will be available
R.C. Byrd	304-576-2272	279	8/19 - 9/27	Primary chamber closed during this time period, auxiliary will be available
Winfield (Kanawha River)	304-586-2501	KR 31	8/27 - 9/19	Main chamber will close for repairs, the old chamber is to be used (1 barge per lockage), expect severe delays - Lock is expected to repair for 34 days

Arkansas

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Dardanelle	479-890-4987	205	3/18-5/31, 6/15-9/30	Intermittent delays up to 12 hours from 07:00-19:00 Monday-Saturday from 3/18-5/31. Lock will be closed daily from 07:00-19:00, open during the off hours with a 70' width restriction from 6/15-9/30

Tennessee/Cumberland

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Barkley	270-362-4222	CR 31	6/3 - 7/28	Closed from 07:00 - 17:00 daily
Pickwick	731-925-2334	TR 207	4/9 - 7/25	Main chamber closed 7 days a week from 06:00-16:00, auxiliary will be available
Chickamauga	423-875-6230	TR 471	July 2019	Closed for 6 days in July
Kentucky	270-362-4226	TR 22	4/13-18	Lock will close on the following dates and times, Saturday, April 13 - 24 hour closure beginning at 08:00, Monday April 15 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Tuesday, April 16 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Wednesday, April 17 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00, Thursday, April 18 - 12 hour closure beginning at 06:00
Kentucky	270-362-4226	TR 22	8/6 - 9/21	Closure is to repair and paint the miter gates and is expected to last 6 weeks, Industry will use Barkley Lock as the alternate route

Tennessee-Tombigbee

River Stages

River Stages	Milepoint	24 hr Change	Curr	24hr	48hr	72hr	Fld Stg
St. Paul	UM 837	0.00	15.41	15.2	14.9	14.5	14
Dubuque	UM 579	-0.20	20.73	20.7	20.8	20.9	17
Morris	IR 265	0.40	6.56	6.7	6.5	6.4	13
Beardstown	IR 88	-0.30	19.41	19.2	18.9	18.6	14
St. Louis	UM 174	-0.30	33.85	33.5	33.1	32.8	30
Chester	UM 107	-0.20	36.20	35.9	35.5	35.1	27
Cape Girardeau	UM 50	-0.20	38.99	38.6	38.2	38.4	32
Pittsburgh	OR 0	0.10	16.54	16.6	16.6	16.6	25
Cincinnati	OR 480	0.10	28.53	28.3	28.1	28.5	52
McAlpine Upr	OR 605	0.30	13.62	13.5	13.5	13.5	23
McAlpine Lwr	OR 606	1.20	18.73	17.7	16.2	17.7	55
Evansville	OR 795	-0.90	17.56	17.8	16.9	18.5	42
Paducah	OR 930	0.00	30.86	30.0	29.3	29.0	39
Cairo	OR 976	-0.20	43.63	43.4	43.0	43.0	40
Memphis	LM 725	-0.10	29.39	29.3	29.0	28.8	34
Little Rock	AK 118	-0.10	7.86	7.5	7.6	7.6	23
Greenville	LM 536	-0.10	48.99	48.9	48.8	48.8	48
Vicksburg	LM 435	-0.10	45.77	45.6	45.5	45.5	43
Natchez	LM 364	-0.10	53.47	53.4	53.3	53.2	48
Baton Rouge	LM 237	-0.69	40.44	40	39.9	39.8	35
New Orleans	LM 107	-0.20	15.92	15.9	15.9	15.9	17
New Orleans Water Velocity			5.31				
Brazos Lock Water Velocity			-0.16				
Colorado Lock Water Velocity			-0.48				
Red	Flood Stage						
Orange	2' + increase						

Current Lock Delays

Lock	Milepoint	Queue
Lock 25	UM 241	0
Peoria/Lagrange	IR157/IR80	0/0
Melvin Price	UM 201	1
Kentucky	TR 22	6
Montgomery	OR 32	8
Smithland	OR 918	1
Calcasieu	WC 238	8
Bayou Sorrel	PA 36	9
Port Allen	LM 228	1
Algiers	LM 88	10
Industrial	LM 92	32

Estimate 1 hour delay for each boat in queue

Inland Waterway Weather Report

A couple of heavy rain events and a significant severe weather event highlight the weather today.

- A strong low is located over MN with a cold front stretching across the Ohio/Lower Mississippi Valleys. The low will move east-northeastward today with the cold front progressing eastward. Wrap around snow is expected today up north and light to moderate rain is expected over the region south of Cairo.
- Another low/cold front will move out of southern TX tonight and across the Lower Mississippi/Ohio Valleys tomorrow/Sunday bringing moderate to locally heavy rains to the region south of Keokuk. A significant severe weather event is expected tomorrow over the region south of Caruthersville with strong tornadoes, damaging winds, and large hail predicted.
- A third wet system will move slowly across the watershed Tuesday-Thursday with another round of moderate to locally heavy rains slated.

7day QPF totals (through Friday morning):

- ½-3" of rain/snow is forecasted for the region north of Keokuk.
- 2-7" of rain is forecasted for the region south of Keokuk.

Bill Frederick/USACE

Precipitation Forecast

