

Thursday, March 14, 2019

Key Issues

- Shoaling on the Tennessee Tombigbee River could have it closed until the second half of April
- Tennessee River is closed around miles 440-450 until the week of 3/25
- Bonnet Carre Spillway open to prevent flooding in New Orleans
- Significant ice/snow melt coming off the Upper Mississippi and Missouri Rivers

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

Flood Conditions on the Ohio River - Daylight only operations Southbound at the IC RR bridge in Cairo (OR 976).

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 chamber will be completely closed, 4/4, 4/18, and 4/23.

Cumberland River closed at Cheatham Lock (CR 149) for high water - After careful evaluation the Corps has decided to reopen Cheatham Lock to daylight hours only from 07:00-19:00.

Tennessee River closed for flood conditions - The gorge around miles 440-450 is expected to reopen the week of March 25.

Chicago/Illinois/Upper Miss

Significant ice/snow melt expected coming off the Upper Miss and Missouri Rivers - Record snow falls on the Upper Miss are beginning to melt and make their way down river. The following locks are expected to close: Lock 16 (UM 457) on 3/17, Lock 17 (UM 437) on 3/17, Lock 18 (UM 410) on 3/17, Lock 20 (UM 343) on 3/17, Lock 21 (UM 325) on 3/18, Lock 22 (UM 301) on 3/19. The anticipated downtime is still TBD for all of the locks.

Upcoming Lock 25 (UM 241) Lock Closure - Closure will begin at 06:00 on March 8 and end at 06:00 on March 15, this will be a complete closure, there is not an auxiliary chamber to utilize. Also noteworthy, the lock is expected to be closed from December 15, 2019 until March 31, 2020.

The Upper Miss closed for dredging - Work suspended until river stage falls below 15'. The river will be closed nightly from 17:00 until 07:00 the following day. The closures will be 24/7.

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 middle of April.

Lower Miss/Gulf/Canals

Lower Mississippi closed from miles 224-226.5 due to a sunk tow boat - No current estimate on when it will reopen.

Bonnet Carre Spillway opening - In an effort to prevent flooding in the city of New Orleans, the Corps has opened 206 bays, 75% open. No further bays are expected to be opened, as the river has stabilized. At this time there is no plan to open Morganza.

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 25 or less per tow.

Old River Lock (LM 304) has closed due to high water - This closure shuts off access to the Red River and Atchafalaya River from the Lower Miss

Daylight only through Memphis (LM 725), Vicksburg bridge (LM 435), and Baton Rouge (LM 237) - Flood conditions have limited transit through these areas to only daylight hours.

Fog/Wind delays - A front is moving in today that is expected to reduce the chances of fog until Monday-Tuesday of next week. Increased possibility of wind delays over the next few days.

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 beginning this weekend, March 8-10, and last until April 15.

Max draft coming into or out of the Gulf through the SouthWest Pass (LM 3) - Blue water vessels are restricted to 41' in this area, dredging is ongoing, 86 vessels in queue to come in/out of the Gulf.

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

Significant delay at Industrial Lock (LM 93) and Algiers Lock (LM 88) - Current queue at Industrial is 33 boats. Current queue at Algiers is 15 boats.

Brazos Lock (WC 401) is closed daily for repairs - Lock will be closed during weekdays from 07:00-17:00 until the end of February. Repairs will not take place during periods of high flows.

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. Current queue is 9 boats.**

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. Latest predictions in the Aberdeen area have the river closed for a best case scenario of 6 weeks and a worst case scenario of 7-8 weeks from today, March 4.

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.

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
Old River	225-492-2690	LM 304	11/15/18 - 3/29/19	Intermittent delays during daylight hours for repairs to a tainter valve
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	3/8-15	Chamber closed from 06:00 on 3/8 until 06:00 on 3/15, no auxiliary available, complete closure
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.
New Cumberland	740-537-2571	54	3/20	Primary chamber closed from 06:00-18:00, auxiliary will be available
Willow Island	740-374-8710	162	7/8 - 9/30	Primary chamber closed during this time period, auxiliary will be available
R.C. Byrd	304-576-2272	279	7/8 - 9/30	Primary chamber closed during this time period, auxiliary will be available
Winfield (Kanawha River)	304-586-2501	KR 31	7/8 - 8/12	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
Newt Graham	918-543-2216	422	3/20-21	Closed from 07:00 on 3/20 until 19:00 on 3/21, full river closure

Tennessee

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Pickwick	731-925-2334	207	3/18 - 7/25	Main chamber closed 7 days a week from 06:00-16:00, auxiliary will be available
Kentucky	270-362-4226	22	8/6 - 9/15	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

Lock Name	Phone	Milepoint	Closure Dates	Notes
Jamie Whitten	662-454-7977	412	9/5 - 10/5	This will be a complete closure

River Stages

River Stages	Milepoint	24 hr Change	Curr	24hr	48hr	72hr	Fld Stg
St. Paul	UM 837	0.50	3.90	4.1	4.3	4.7	14
Dubuque	UM 579	2.90	14.24	16.3	17.4	17.5	17
Morris	IR 265	2.10	9.16	10.0	9.8	9.0	13
Beardstown	IR 88	0.40	19.07	19.5	19.8	20.1	14
St. Louis	UM 174	2.40	27.63	28.8	30.2	31.8	30
Chester	UM 107	3.00	29.65	30.9	32.5	34.1	27
Cape Girardeau	UM 50	2.00	34.32	35.6	37.0	38.0	32
Pittsburgh	OR 0	-0.30	16.40	16.6	16.6	16.6	25
Cincinnati	OR 480	-1.40	37.78	36.9	35.0	34.1	52
McAlpine Upr	OR 605	-0.50	16.77	16.4	16.3	14.9	23
McAlpine Lwr	OR 606	-1.20	36.99	35.9	36.0	33.7	55
Evansville	OR 795	1.30	34.86	34.6	34.7	34.5	42
Paducah	OR 930	-0.10	47.08	47.1	47.4	47.9	39
Cairo	OR 976	0.40	52.74	52.8	53.0	53.2	40
Memphis	LM 725	0.20	38.80	38.5	38.1	37.8	34
Little Rock	AK 118	0.20	8.34	8.6	8.4	8.2	23
Greenville	LM 536	0.00	56.77	56.8	56.8	56.8	48
Vicksburg	LM 435	0.00	51.27	51.3	51.3	51.3	43
Natchez	LM 364	0.00	57.78	57.8	57.8	57.8	48
Baton Rouge	LM 237	0.1	43.83	43.8	43.8	43.8	35
New Orleans	LM 107	-0.20	16.63	16.7	16.7	16.7	17
New Orleans Water Velocity			5.80				
Brazos Lock Water Velocity			1.12				
Colorado Lock Water Velocity			1.28				
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	0
Kentucky	TR 22	12
Smithland	OR 918	1
Olmsted	OR 964	1
Calcasieu	WC 238	16
Bayou Sorrel	PA 36	7
Port Allen	LM 228	3
Algiers	LM 88	17
Industrial	LM 92	36
Estimate 1 hour delay for each boat in queue		

Water Temperatures

Illinois
Dresden (IR 271) - 43
Marseilles (IR 245) - 42
Peoria (IR 158) - 40

Inland Waterway Weather Report

One more day of rain highlights the weather today.

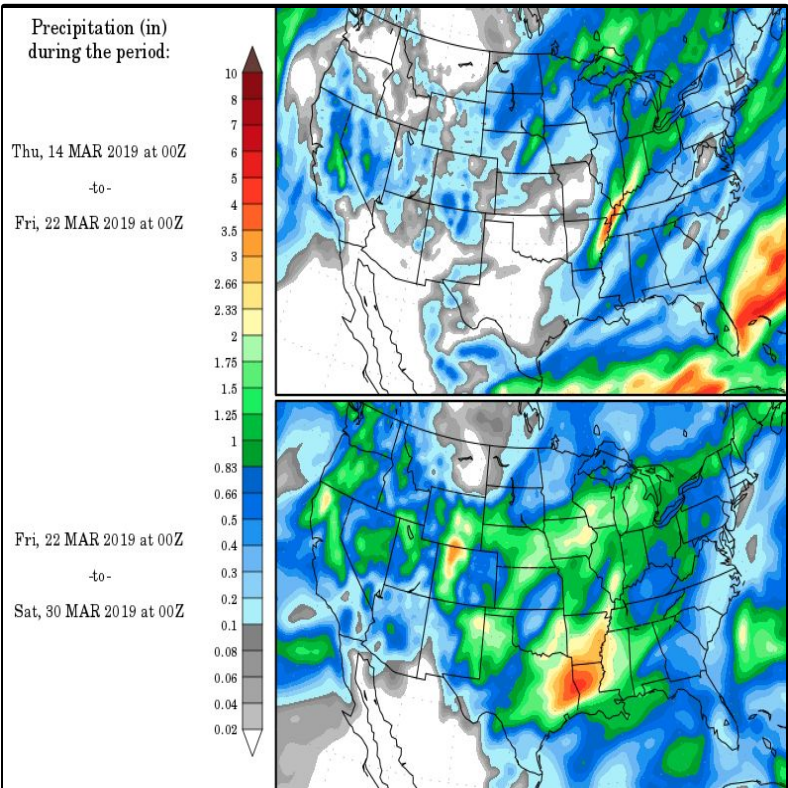
- A strong low is located over IA with a cold front stretching southward into eastern TX. The low will move northeastward today dragging the cold front eastward. Moderate to locally heavy rains and some severe weather are predicted.
- Dry and cold conditions are expected for about a week after the passage of this front.

7day QPF totals (through Thursday morning):

- ½" or less of rain/snow is forecasted for the region north of Rock Island.
- ¼-1 ¼" of rain is forecasted for the region south of Rock Island.

Bill Frederick, USACE

Precipitation Forecast



REVISED: 2019 Upper Mississippi River Navigation

March 4th, 2019

Contingent on river conditions, this is our revised opening plan for the Upper Mississippi River (UMR) above St. Louis. Departure dates have pushed back due to the unplanned closure of Lock 25 (mi. 241, just 70 miles above St. Louis, complete closure planned from 0600 3/8 until 0600 3/15) and severe ice gorging conditions (mi. 343, Lock 20 north for 7 miles). ACBL is accepting barge releases to destinations above St. Louis for the following dates *with stipulations**:

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Release Dates for points below and including Clinton, IA (mi. 518)</u>
Houston	February 8
New Orleans	February 15
Pittsburgh	February 16
Louisville	February 23
Chicago	February 24
Cairo	Mar. 12- <i>*Barges will be held on demurrage until navigation conditions are clear</i>
St. Louis	Mar. 14- <i>*Barges will be held on demurrage until navigation conditions are clear</i>

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Release Dates for points above Clinton, IA (mi. 518)*</u>
Houston	February 15
New Orleans	February 22
Pittsburgh	February 23
Louisville	March 2
Chicago	March 3
Cairo	Mar. 19- <i>*Barges will be held on demurrage until navigation conditions are clear</i>
St. Louis	Mar. 21- <i>*Barges will be held on demurrage until navigation conditions are clear</i>

**Please be aware that Lake Pepin (UMR mi. 752-796) can have a dramatic affect on our ability to navigate to locations above UMR mi. 752 (Redwing, Twin Cities). Often times at this time of year, Lake Pepin has heavy ice conditions. Wintery conditions can push our departure dates from St. Louis out by weeks.*

Transit times on the initial voyages may be longer than normal due to waiting required for locks and bridges to open, so please plan accordingly. Any barge that completes loading to the UMR before the dates stated above may be subject to demurrage while barges interchange in St. Louis prior to our projected departure dates to the UMR (contingent on river conditions).

<u>Destinations on the UMR</u>	<u>Projected Departure Date from St. Louis</u>
Points including and below Clinton, IA	March 14th
Points above Clinton, IA	March 21st

Please contact me at if you need any clarifications or have any questions regarding departure dates for specific origins and destinations not listed above.