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WATERWAYS UPDATE

Marine Safety Information Bulletin 26-05 from U.S. Department of Homeland Security/United States Coast Guard



Commander
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Mobile

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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 26-05

Post-storm Hurricane Katrina for Captain of the Port Mobile Area of Operations

- Current port and waterway status:
 - a. Port of Panama City is open to all traffic with a draft of 34 feet or less.
 - Port of Pensacola is open to all traffic with a draft of 31 feet or less. NAVSTA Pensacola is open to all traffic with a draft of 37 feet or less.
 - c. <u>Port of Mobile:</u> The Mobile Bar and Mobile Bay are open to all traffic with a draft of 43 feet or less. The Mobile River is open to all traffic with a draft of 40 feet or less. Theodore Channel is open to all traffic with a draft of 37 feet or less. Arlington Channel, Garrows Bend, and Chickasaw Creek are open to normal channel usage. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.

d. Port of Pascagoula:

- Pascagoula River and Upper Sound is open to all traffic with a draft of 36 feet or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- (2) Bayou Casotte is open to all traffic with a draft of 42 feet or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- e. <u>Port of Gulfport</u> is open to all traffic with a draft of 30 feet or less with daylight transits only. There are no ranges in place; the Coast Guard will continue to work on replacing missing/damaged ranges. All vessels should proceed with caution.
- f. Gulf Intra-Coastal Waterway (GICW) is open to all traffic from the Inner Harbor Navigational Canal (New Orleans) to MM 350 (Aucilla River, FL). Baptiste Collete alternate route is open to vessels with a draft of 9 feet 6 inches.



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- g. <u>Pearl River</u> is open to all traffic from the mouth of the Pearl River to Port Bienville and including the Port Bienville Industrial Park. Port Bienville Industrial Park is open to all vessels with a draft of 12 feet or less.
- h. Bay St. Louis is open to normal bay usage. The Hwy 90 bridge is inoperable, therefore vessels are restricted under the bridge to 13 feet vertical clearance. The Wolf River is open to vessels with a draft of 3 feet or less due to shoaling in the channel. The Jordan River is open to vessels with a draft of 5 feet or less due to shoaling in the channel. Bayou Portage is open to normal channel usage; however two obstructions are in the channel. The obstructions are visible and can be maneuvered around.

i. <u>Biloxi</u>:

- (1) The East Approach and Back Bay in Biloxi are open to normal channel usage. The east end of the Industrial Seaway up to the Cowan/Lorraine Bridge is open to vessels with a draft of 12 ft or less. There are temporary aids to navigation in the channels and all vessels should proceed with caution.
- (2) The West Approach and the Lateral Channel into Biloxi remain closed due to no aids to navigation. Bernard Bayou remains closed due to sunken vessels in the channel.
- j. Bayou La Batre is closed at this time due to sunken vessels in the channel.
- k. All waterways from Dauphin Island Bridge to Aucilla River, Fl that are not covered above are open to all traffic. Vessel should proceed with caution as aids to navigation may be off station or missing.
- Current information may be obtained from the COTP Mobile Voice Mail Announcement system at phone number 251-441-5080.

Further questions may be addressed by contacting Sector Mobile at (251) 441-5976.

Contain U.S. Coost Guard

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile

Captain of the Port (COTP)