

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

MSIB 031-21

Date: September 7th, 2021

SET PORT CONDITION NORMAL: PORT OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS

Port Condition: As of 2000 local time, September 7, 2021, the Captain of the Port (COTP) Houma has set Port Condition NORMAL with the following restrictions:

1. The Houma Navigation Canal is closed.
- ***2. Bayou LaFourche is closed north of Leeville.***
3. Port Fourchon is open for daylight operations only.
- ***4. Belle Pass is open for daylight operations only.***
- ***5. GIWW is open from MM 20-191. One way traffic in the vicinity of MM 21-24 due to significant tree debris and lowered high lines at MM 21. One way traffic and draft of 7' between MM 25-33 due to reported shoaling.***

If necessary to transit a closed waterway for salvage operations or active spill response, provide current location, proposed route and draft, and reason for transit call 985-509-775. Phone will be available between 0800-1700 with a break for lunch. Please give as much notice as practicable.

Mariners are advised that post-storm debris has been reported throughout all parts of the COTP Zone, such as trees and other vegetation. This debris is expected to remain present while the storm surge from Hurricane Ida finishes flushing back into the Gulf of Mexico. Mariners should remain particularly vigilant and exercise caution while transiting, as aids to navigation may be missing or not watching in their current positions. The COTP requests mariners report hazards to navigation to VTS Berwick Bay or MSU Houma Officer of the Day.


Mariners remain advised of the extensive shoaling and narrow channel width in the vicinity of Stouts Pass, from Atchafalaya River mile marker (MM) 113 to 116, and restrictions listed in MSIB 013-21. All mariners must continue to check in with VTS Berwick Bay at MM 110 on the Atchafalaya River.

Mariners remain advised of the critical construction work taking place on the Bayou Chene, in the vicinity of 29° 37.336'N -91° 05.381'W, and the restrictions listed in MSIB 014.21.

Berwick Bay is experiencing areas of shoaling near the channel edge shoaling the Atchafalaya River near Morgan City Tri-Bridge Complex. Please take extra caution when navigating this area.

For a current list of MSIBs within the COTP Houma Zone visit: <https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/Houma> under "Safety notifications."

Marine Safety Unit Houma Officer of the Day: (985) 665-2437
Marine Safety Unit Morgan City Officer of the Day: (985) 397-3300
Vessel Traffic Service Berwick Bay: (985) 380-5374 / (985) 380-5320


J.W. Russell
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Houma, Louisiana