



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Detroit District
P.O. Box 1027
Detroit, MI 48231-1027
(313) 226-6797
FAX - (313) 226-3519

Notice to Navigation Interests

Notice No. L03-30

Date: 5 JUNE 2003

Waterway: ST. MARYS RIVER

Location: MICHIGAN

CELRE-OT-T

DREDGING ACTIVITIES IN WEST APPROACH AND VIDAL SHOALS
ST. MARYS FALLS CANAL

1. MCM Marine is currently dredging the upper St. Marys River under a contract issued by the Detroit District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A cranebarge is breaking rock and dredging in the West Approach to the MacArthur and Poe Locks and on the south side of the Vidal Shoals Channel. The "south side" of the Vidal Shoals Channel is defined as a 500-foot wide area running the entire length of the channel with the channel centerline at its north edge.

a. Ongoing work in the lock West Approach Channel requires two (2) hours advance notice from vessels approaching the Soo Locks. The Chief Lockmaster may route vessels through the MacArthur, Poe, or Davis Locks. If it is necessary to use the MacArthur Lock, the dredging equipment will make way. The advance notice is necessary to allow the dredger time to sweep the work area and remove strikes before departing.

b. Work is expected to begin within the south side of the Vidal Shoals Channel by early to mid-July and extend thru mid-August. When the dredging work begins within this area, it is recommended that this portion of Vidal Shoals Channel not be used for commercial traffic until dredging is completed.

c. Dredging will commence within the north side of the Vidal Shoals channel about mid August and be completed by 30 September 2003. During this time commercial traffic should not use that portion of Vidal Shoals Channel north of the centerline until dredging is completed.

2. If changes occur to these estimated work dates, a revised notice will be issued as early as possible.

3. Information for vessels dispatched through the Davis Lock:

a. The Davis Lock has 23.1 feet of water over the lower breast wall referenced to the lower pool datum and 24.3 feet of water over the upper breast wall referenced to the upper pool datum.

b. A minimum clearance of 1'-6" is required between the ship's reported draft and the breast wall as indicated by water level gages located at the U.S. Slip and Southwest Pier.

4. All inquiries should be addressed to CELRE-ET-T and should refer to Notice to Navigation Interest No. L03-30. Internet address: <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil> Go to: Detroit Home Page, Who We Are, Operations Home Page.

Thomas H. Magness
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army
District Engineer

Notice To the Postmaster:

It is requested that the above notice be conspicuously and continuously posted until 1 January, 2004