

Lock Closure Notification Process

For Inland Waterways Users Board #74

Jeffrey McKee
Chief, Navigation & Operations
Branch
HQUSACE

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US Army Corps of Engineers
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Strategic Communications

- Conference Calls with Stakeholders
- Website information
- Periodic meetings/conferences
- Regular scheduled conference calls with industry (River Industry Executive Task Force, River Industry Action Committee Lower Mississippi River Committee, RIETF, Pacific Northwest Waterways Assoc, Gulf Intracoastal Canal Assoc, etc)



Lock Closure Information

- Scheduled Lock Closures:
 - ▶ Provide schedules at meetings/conferences
 - ▶ Discuss with stakeholders on teleconference
 - ▶ Broadcast Notice to Mariners
 - ▶ Personal calls to major shippers/key stakeholders
 - ▶ Coordination Groups include operators, USCG, Corps, and key stakeholders - All scheduled closures are scheduled in concert with these coordination groups



Lock Closure Information

- Emergency/Un-scheduled Lock Closures:
 - ▶ Broadcast Notice to Mariners
 - ▶ Personal calls to key stakeholders/waterway commissions, major shippers/associations
 - ▶ Schedule Industry conference call ASAP



Lock Closure Information

- Levels of Service:
 - ▶ Coordinate through Townhall-type meetings as far in advance is possible
 - ▶ Public Notice
 - ▶ Industry Meetings
 - ▶ State/Local Government Notification



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Future Improvements to Lock Closure Information

- Proactive involvement with industry stakeholders well in advance of scheduling closure dates and durations.
- Ensure communication plans identify all interested stakeholders.
- Coordination across the IMTS to minimize impacts to navigation, e.g. concurrent closures on same waterway – staggered closures on alternative waterways.
- Work with industry groups (RIETF, LOMRC, PNWA, RIAC, etc. to focus on future closures.
- New Corps Notice to Navigation Interests web site.

