



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PITTSBURGH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WILLIAM S. MOORHEAD FEDERAL BUILDING
1000 LIBERTY AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA 15222-4186

12 August 2020

USACE REPORT TO THE WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION OF PITTSBURGH

1. LOCK CLOSURES AND DELAYS

Montgomery

- USACE is performing work on the auxiliary chamber from 06 Jul – 22 Aug 2020 to install a dewatering system. As a reminder, this week on August 13-14 there is a full river closure in order to pump concrete to the auxiliary chamber. The job is currently on schedule.

New Cumberland

- The landward auxiliary chamber remains closed due to structural deficiencies with the miter gates. New auxiliary chamber gates are not expected to be fabricated prior to 2021/2022. Installation will require several additional years

Pike Island

- The medium capacity fleet completed repairs to the dam gates from 04 -10 August.

2. OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST: Contract and Repair Fleet work upcoming:

Montgomery:

- CONTRACT: Dam Gate Installation: continuing through 2021.

New Cumberland:

- CONTRACT: Upgrade Hydraulic Operating System: The contract work is substantially complete however there are still some punch list items that need repaired. The repairs will need a closure of 1 or 2 eight-hour shifts and we expect the contractor to be ready to make the repair at the end of August or early September. As soon as we know the exactly date(s), we will coordinate the closure.

Braddock:

- CONTRACT: Interlock Control System Replacement: Contractor has not mobilized to site and is delayed due to COVID. Contract permits three 8-hour closures per week with 30 day advance notice. Anticipate minor chamber closures for construction work (similar to New Cumberland).

Tentative schedule of future work:

FY20

- Emsworth Primary Chamber Dewatering – USACE is dewatering the primary chamber from 31 Aug – 13 Nov to perform maintenance activities on the downstream lock gate

anchorage and test the new bulkhead closure system. NTNI 12191 was posted on 22 July 2020.

FY21 (tentative)

- Hannibal Aux Chamber Gate Machinery, 16 Nov – 18 Dec (tentative)
- New Cumberland Aux Chamber bulkhead system, 1 Mar – 3 Jun (tentative)
- Montgomery Primary Chamber dewatering, 26 Jul – 27 **August** (tentative)
- Braddock Primary Chamber Sector Gears, 13 Sept – 15 Oct (tentative)
- Hannibal Primary Chamber Culvert Valves, 25 Oct – 10 Dec (tentative)

Pittsburgh District will make notice via social media, directed at the recreational boating community regarding closure at Emsworth to alert them to delays and higher than normal traffic. All mariners should be alert to expect some congestion around the lock, mostly on weekends.

PITTSBURGH DISTRICT LOCKS & DAMS CONTACT INFORMATION

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Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information August 2020



Allegheny River

Ninth Street Bridge (0.8): Due to planned work, the vertical clearance may be reduced more than one foot below low steel. Mariners are urged to transit with caution. Estimated completion is August of 2020.

Ohio River

Wellsburg Bridge (75.5): Trestle and cofferdam installation underway. The new bridge will provide a minimum of 800 feet of horizontal clearance. Environmental review underway. Tentatively scheduled construction or November 2020.

Ninth Street Bridge (90.8): Rehabilitation and painting. Vertical clearance reduced by 4 inches until Oct. 2022.

Bellaire Bridge (94.3): Demolition date to be determined.

Tygart River

1-79 Twin Bridges Replacement (2.6): Pre-application stage.

Areas of Interest

- 1. On-Water Mass Gatherings – Recreational, Sporting, or Cause-Related Events:** The Coast Guard Waterways Policies and Activities Division has released [MSIB 17-20](#) to highlight the impacts of on-water mass gatherings to the public and Maritime Transportation System (MTS).

On-water mass gatherings pose concerns due to the safety issues they create for the boating public and the Maritime Transportation System (MTS). Regardless of the nature of these gatherings, whether recreational, sporting or cause-related, they are primarily a boating safety issue. As these types of marine events continue to grow in popularity throughout the country, the Coast Guard will work together with its port partners to ensure the safety on the marine transportation system. These actions will take into account health and safety factors including but not limited to local COVID-19 and social distance guidelines as well as current unrest.

The Coast Guard issues permits for, and monitors marine events, to ensure safety of life at sea and on our waterways. Permits are required for powerboat races, sailing regattas, and other marine events that have the potential to draw an accumulation of spectator craft, may obstruct a waterway, or introduce extra or unusual hazards to the safety of human life on the navigable waters of the United States. A large gathering of recreational boaters would not necessarily meet the requirement for an event permit. It is recommended you contact your local Captain of the Port to determine if your event will require a permit.

The Coast Guard and our port partners are committed to ensuring the safety and security of the waterway. The Coast Guard and other local agencies will provide on-water safety and law enforcement assets. The goal of these patrols is to ensure mariners using the waterway are not negatively impacted due to the anticipated increase in vessel traffic and to ensure that commercial traffic can safely continue operations.



Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh Waterways Information August 2020



Regardless of the nature of the event, the Coast Guard's role is to ensure the safety and security of the maritime transportation system. The presence of the Coast Guard and its partners on the waterway is not to support the event itself, but to ensure the waterway is safe for all mariners due to the anticipated increase in traffic.