



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

16-20

August 28, 2020

Hurricane Laura

PORT CONDITION ZULU – Calcasieu Waterway PORT CONDITION RECOVERY – Sabine-Neches Waterway

As of 8:00 AM, August 28, 2020, Port Condition Zulu remains in effect for the Calcasieu Waterway.

Effective at 8:00 August 28, 2020, the Captain of the Port, Port Arthur has set Port Condition - Recovery for the Sabine-Neches Waterway.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), U.S. Coast Guard and select private assets are responding to assess and survey these waterways and make recommendations for the safe reopening of the waterway. A dry dock remains sunk in the Sabine-Neches Canal 2-miles south of Beans Fleet.

Permission for vessel movements on these waterways will be managed by the Marine Safety Unit (MSU), Port Arthur Captain of the Port and MSU Lake Charles as follows:

Calcasieu Waterway

1. No vessel movements allowed at this time.

Sabine Neches Waterway

The Sabine-Neches Waterway is open to limited traffic. The following restrictions are in effect:

1. Vessels greater than 500-gross tons (GT) are restricted until an assessment of deep draft channels are completed.
2. The Intracoastal Waterway from Port Arthur, TX west to Bolivar Roads and from Orange, TX East to the Calcasieu Locks is closed to inland traffic.
3. No vessels may operate within ½ mile of the sunk dry dock 2-miles south of Beans Fleet.
4. Shallow draft vessels and tows may operate on the Neches River and Sabine River to Orange Cut. Normal VTS protocols are in place.

5. Requests for vessel movements outside of the above listed restrictions must be approved by VTS Port Arthur or the Captain of the Port (if VTS is not available). For movement requests contact “Port Arthur Traffic” on VHF-FM 01A or 65A or by phone to (409) 460-0435.
6. Vessels given permission to transit should continue to exercise extreme caution due to unknown hazards. They are required to report wrecks, hazards, aids to navigation discrepancies, oil pollution or other concerns to the contacts listed above.

FACILITIES – All facilities, especially those located in the most affected areas on the Calcasieu Waterway are requested to submit a “Marine Transportation System Recovery Essential Elements of Information” Form (CG-11410). The form may be submitted to MSUPA-MTSRU@uscg.mil. Only the appropriate persons at MSU Port Arthur and Lake Charles will receive the forms.

The Coast Guard will issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners and Marine Safety Information Bulletins updating Port Conditions and waterway status as it changes.

This notice will be posted on the Coast Guard’s HOMEPORT website at <http://homeport.uscg.mil> and the VTS website at <https://www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/vtSPORTARTHUR/>. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call MSU Port Arthur at (409) 723-6500 or MSU Lake Charles at (409) 460-0435.

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M. A. WIKE
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port