

## **E-MAILED**

United States Coast Guard

20 March 2024

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Serial Letter No.: 12220062-37

Reference: Houston Ship Channel (HSC)

Expansion Channel Improvement Project (ECIP)

Project 11: Redfish to Bayport

HSC Sta 78+844 to HSC Sta 16+000 & Bayport Ship Channel (BSC) - Alternate B

Subject: Notice to Mariners

Dear Sir or Madam:

Continuing until approximately 31 August 2024, dredging operations will be conducted in the vicinity of the Houston Ship Channel (HSC) between station 16+000 (Lat 29°38'27.13"N, Long 94°57'56.81"W) and station 57+000 (Lat 29°32'35.11"N, Long 94°54'12.37"W).

Cutterhead dredge "C.R. McCaskill" and attendant plants are currently operating between R-LT "82" (LLNR 24530) and R-LT "84" (LLNR 24540).

Dredged material will be transported through a combination of floating and submerged pipeline to Three Bird Island Marsh (TBIM) placement site.

Continuing until further notice, Weeks' Bucket Dredge J.C. Deville and Material Barge" will be operating in the vicinity of the TBIM placement site.

Work limits for TBIM placement site and PL corridor will be bound by the following approximate positions:

Lat 29°36'37.95"N, Long 94°56'52.29"W

Lat 29°35'1.38"N, Long 94°55'45.03"W

Lat 29°37'3.73"N, Long 94°52'4.92"W

Lat 29°38'22.76"N, Long 94°53'6.79"W

Work limits for the BSC/Bayport Flare, staging area(s) for pipeline and equipment will be bound by the following approximate positions:

Lat 29°36'55.32"N, Long 95° 1'17.04"W

Lat 29°36'41.49"N, Long 95° 1'16.47"W

Lat 29°36'21.86"N, Long 94°57'11.06"W

Lat 29°37'14.98"N, Long 94°57'30.53"W



Weeks' "187 Booster" is located near GPS position: Lat 29°37'5.24"N, Long 94°57'17.68"W. Weeks' "189 Booster" is located near GPS position: Lat 29°36'39.67"N, Long 94°55'52.58"W. Weeks' "268 Booster" is located near GPS position: Lat 29°36'37.59"N, Long 94°57'2.47"W.

Work limits for the HSC, equipment staging area(s) and subline crossing will be bound by the following approximate positions:

Lat 29°38'24.44"N, Long 94°58'52.78"W

Lat 29°38'44.69"N, Long 94°57'37.17"W

Lat 29°36'46.01"N, Long 94°56'45.45"W

Lat 29°32'35.38"N, Long 94°53'48.26"W

Lat 29°32'7.22"N, Long 94°54'31.74"W

Lat 29°35'29.92"N, Long 94°58'52.09"W

A dredge subline leak is located approximately 1,200-feet East of the Houston Ship Channel and approximately 50-feet North of 5-Mile Cut Channel near the following GPS position: Lat 29°36'36.77"N, Long 94°56'52.20"W.

Approximately 290 Cys of misplaced dredged material that built up to an elevation of 6-feet from natural bottom has reduced water depths in the area to approximately 4-feet. The artificial shoal has been marked with 4 danger buoys to alert the boaters. Small vessels traveling through 5-Mile Cut Channel are urged to take caution when transiting this area.

A second mound of material has been reported near the following GPS position: 29°36'56.65"N, 94°57'12.58"W. The mound is out of the channel and has been marked with danger buoys.

Additional mounds of material have been reported near the following GPS positions:

- Small mound: Lat 29°37'31.03"N, Long 94°57'25.32"W
- Mound of material: Lat 29°36'39.64"N, Long 94°55'39.30"W
- Mound and pipe joint connection sticking out of the water:

Lat 29°36'44.55"N, Long 94°57'6.46"W

Multiple mounds of material bound by the following GPS positions:

Lat 29°36'38.32"N, Long 94°57'4.43"W

Lat 29°36'35.75"N, Long 94°57'3.20"W

Lat 29°36'36.36"N, Long 94°56'50.82"W

Lat 29°36'37.50"N, Long 94°56'50.83"W

Lat 29°36'39.48"N, Long 94°57'1.59"W

Lat 29°36'42.64"N, Long 94°55'1.26"W and

Lat 29°36'43.05"N, Long 94°54'56.22"W

- Lat 29°36'52.69"N, Long 94°54'21.06"W (1 mile east of G-LT "7", in the vicinity of 5 Mile Cut) Lat 29°36'43.51"N, Long 94°54'55.00"W (2,000 feet east of G-LT "7", in the vicinity of 5 Mile Cut)
- Lat 29°37'55.20"N, Long 94°57'54.72"W (near G-LT "81", in the vicinity of the HSC)

All mounds are outside of the channel(s) and marked with danger buoys.

Weeks Marine is requesting a slow bell for all the vessels transiting the Houston Ship Channel (HSC) between Green Light "63" and Green Light "84". Mariners are urged to use extreme caution and transit this area at their slowest safe speed to create minimum wake after passing arrangements have been made.



A partially suspended section of pipe has been found underwater near G-LT "81" (LLNR 24525), outside of the HSC. A red buoy has been placed at approx. gps coordinates: Lat 29°38'5.00"N, Long 94°57'57.00"W, to mark the location of the pipe and alert the boaters of the potential hazard.

Dredging operations will continue on a twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week basis. Dredge, pipeline(s) and equipment will have all required Coast Guard lighting for night operations. On-Scene vessels will monitor marine VHF channels 13, 16 and 72. Mariners are urged to use extreme caution and transit the area at their slowest safe speed to create minimum wake after passing arrangements have been made.

Your office will be notified immediately if there are any changes to our schedule. If you have any questions or require additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me at (985) 875-2564, <a href="macruz@weeksmarine.com">macruz@weeksmarine.com</a> or please call project manager(s) on site:

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Best Regards, WEEKS MARINE, INC.

Miguel A. Cruz Office Engineer

Hopper, & Hydraulic Groups

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