



United States Coast Guard  
Sector Houston-Galveston  
Vessel Traffic Service

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3500  
17 MAR 2023  
Update 01



[https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/22\\_1130\\_S1\\_NTAS-Bulletin-508.pdf](https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/ntas/alerts/22_1130_S1_NTAS-Bulletin-508.pdf)

This is a list of navigation discrepancies and notices for the Houston Ship Channel (HSC), from the Houston Turning Basin to the Galveston Bay Entrance Channel Lighted Buoy “1B”, as of 0800R today. In accordance with 33 CFR 161.2, participation in the Vessel Traffic Service is mandatory for every power-driven vessel of 40 meters or more in length, every tow vessel of 8 meters or more in length while engaged in towing, and every vessel certificated to carry 50 or more passengers while engaged in trade. Those not required to participate may receive current information by contacting the VTS.

**A. AIDS TO NAVIGATION:**

Aids to Navigation	Discrepancy	Broadcast Notice To Mariners	Report Date
Galveston Bay South Jetty Light 5A	Missing Day Board	0328-21	19 JUL 21
Galveston Bay Entrance Channel Lighted Buoy 7	Off Station	0139-23	03 MAR 23
Galveston Bay Entrance Channel Range B Rear Light	Destroyed	0050-23	24 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Lighted Buoy 18	Dim	0115-23	18 FEB 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 35	Extinguished	0174-23	15 MAR 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 35A	Temporarily Lighted Buoy Relocated	0364-22	13 JUL 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 45	Destroyed	0173-23	15 MAR 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 49	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0635-22	23 NOV 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 50	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0355-22	06 JUL 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 51	Temporary Lighted Buoy Relocated	0362-22	11 JUL 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 52	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0508-22	24 SEP 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 53	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0642-22	19 MAY 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 54	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0284-22	31 OCT 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 55	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0587-22	31 OCT 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 56	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0662-22	06 DEC 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 57	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0033-23	18 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 59	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0523-22	31 OCT 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 61	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0004-23	04 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 63	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0044-23	23 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 65	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0593-22	02 NOV 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 66	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0705-22	31 DEC 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 67	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0576-22	28 OCT 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 68	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0643-22	26 OCT 22

Houston Ship Channel Light 69	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0704-22	30 DEC 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 71	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0113-23	20 FEB 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 73	Damaged Day Board	0163-23	11 MAR 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 74	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0654-22	01 NOV 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 74A	Temporary Disestablished	0654-22	30 NOV 22
Bayport Light 1	Temporary Disestablished	0124-23	24 FEB 23
Bayport Junction Light B	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0696-22	16 DEC 22
Bayport Light 3	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0118-23	21 FEB 23
Bayport Light 4	DEST WOS	0574-22	27 OCT 22
Bayport Light 5	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0116-23	18 FEB 23
Bayport Light 6	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0106-23	12 FEB 22
Bayport Light 7	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0117-23	18 FEB 23
Bayport Light 9	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0099-23	14 FEB 22
Upper Morgan's Point Inbound Range Front Light	Extinguished	0125-23	31 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 103	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0051-23	25 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 112B	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0138-23	10 MAR 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 113	Temporarily Lighted Buoy	0694-22	15 DEC 22
Houston Ship Channel Light 114A	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0031-23	23 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 115	Missing	0122-23	23 FEB 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 116	Temporary Lighted Buoy	0039-23	24 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Light 126	Temporarily Lighted Buoy	0018-23	12 JAN 23
Houston Ship Channel Security Zone Marker 2	Destroyed	0156-21	02 APR 21
Galveston Freeport Cutoff Channel Buoy 3	Off Station	0170-23	13 MAR 23

## B. CHANNEL OBSTRUCTION REQUESTS

DATE/TIME	CAT	TYPE	LOCATION	STATUS
11 MAR – 21 MAR	II	GANTRY CRANES	CITY DOCK 26	ACKNOWLEDGED
CANCELED – WX	II	DREDGE PIPE INSTALL	T AND T SALVAGE TO TEXAS A&M	CANCELED – WX
18 MAR / 0900-1200	II	HEAVY LIFT	BAYPORT CONTAINER TERMINAL 4	APPROVED
19 MAR / 0800-1200	II	HEAVY LIFT	SPITZER (GREN)	APPROVED
20 MAR 0700-1500	I	ROLL ON	POWELL INDUSTRIES / CARPENTERS BAYOU	APPROVED
20 MAR 0900-1300	II	DREDGE PIPE INSTALL	T AND T SALVAGE TO TEXAS A&M	PENDING
20-21 MARCH 2023	II	TRAFFIC MEASURES FOR TOW VESSELS	TX CITY CHANNEL / ICW INTERSECTION MM 350.5	TENTATIVE
22 MAR 0800-1200	I	DREDGE PIPE INSTALL	TX CITY CHANNEL / ICW INTERSECTION MM 350.5	TENTATIVE

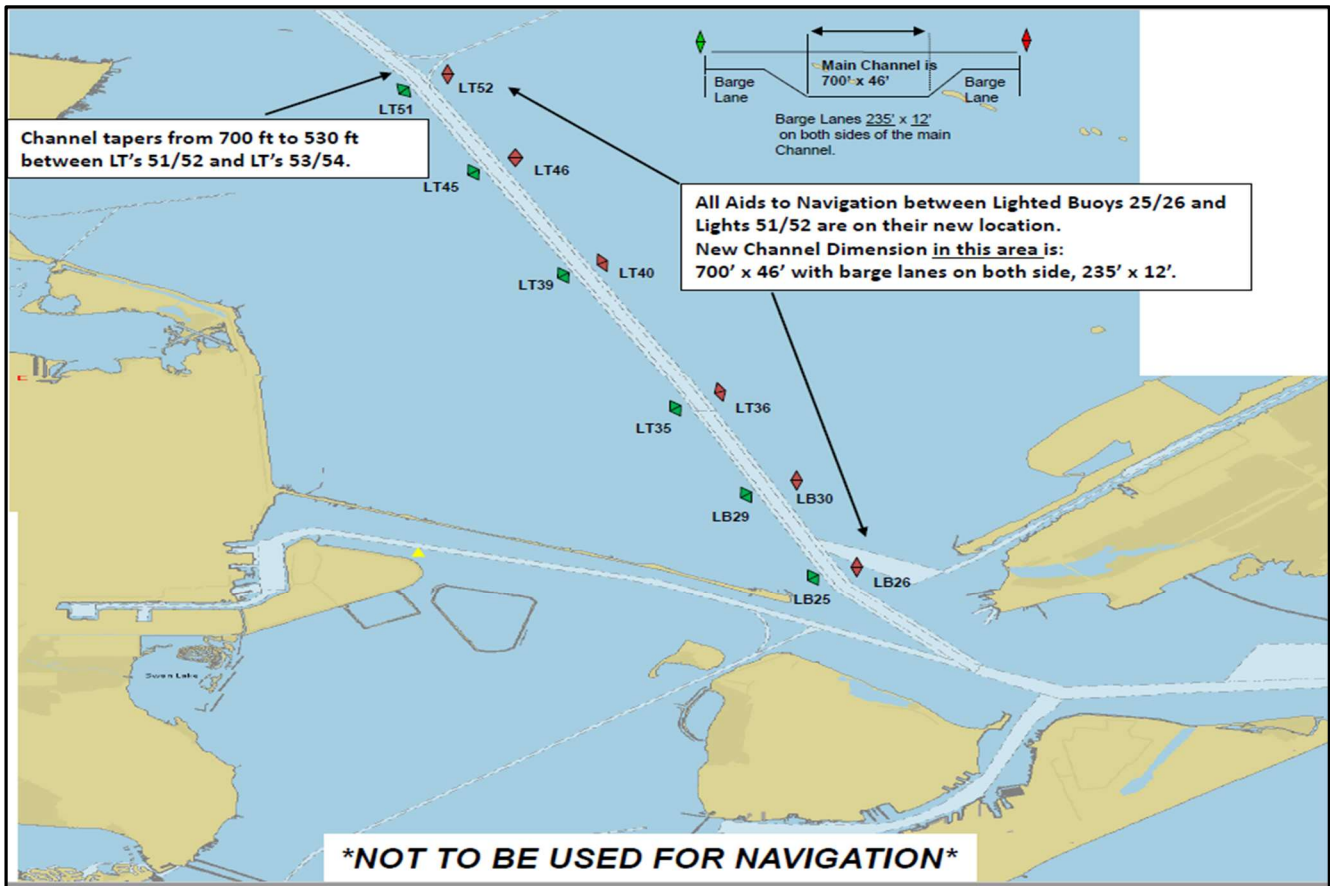
1. **DREDGE MCCASKILL** is conducting repairs at Bayport Automobile Terminal 1. STBY 13/11/71 Dredge McCaskill 985-991-9051.
2. **DREDGE AVALON** is, not working in the outbound barge lane near Houston Ship Channel Lights 73-75. Request no meeting/overtaking & wake and surge considerations from ships. The outbound barge lane is closed near the dredge. STBY VHF 13/81. Avalon (562)786-0434. When working, **Scow Barges** depositing spoils in the flats near Houston Ship Channel Light 45. Request wake and surge considerations for vessels with drafts 30 feet or greater and/or beams 120 feet or greater between Houston Ship Channel Lights 43 to 51.
3. **DREDGE KINGFISHER** is working in the Texas City Channel above the ICW. Floating and submerged pipeline extends to Texas City Light 19. Request 45 minutes from ships along with wake and surge considerations, and 15-minute notice from tows. STBY 13. **The Texas City Connection Channel is closed due to floating pipeline.** Cell: 361-487-6470.
4. **BOLIVAR DIRECTIVE: VESSEL TRAFFIC SERVICE HOUSTON/GALVESTON DIRECTS:** No meeting or overtaking between Bolivar Light 20 and Bolivar Light 15A.
5. **COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS:** Mariners should anticipate multiple commercial fishing vessels (CFV) working in the Houston Ship Channel during daylight hours. If erratic movements are noted, or if unable to contact fishing vessels, notify VTS Houston immediately with the name of the CFV. Above Red Fish Bar: working channels VHF 13/71. Below Red Fish Bar: VHF 13/88.

**B. NOTES:**

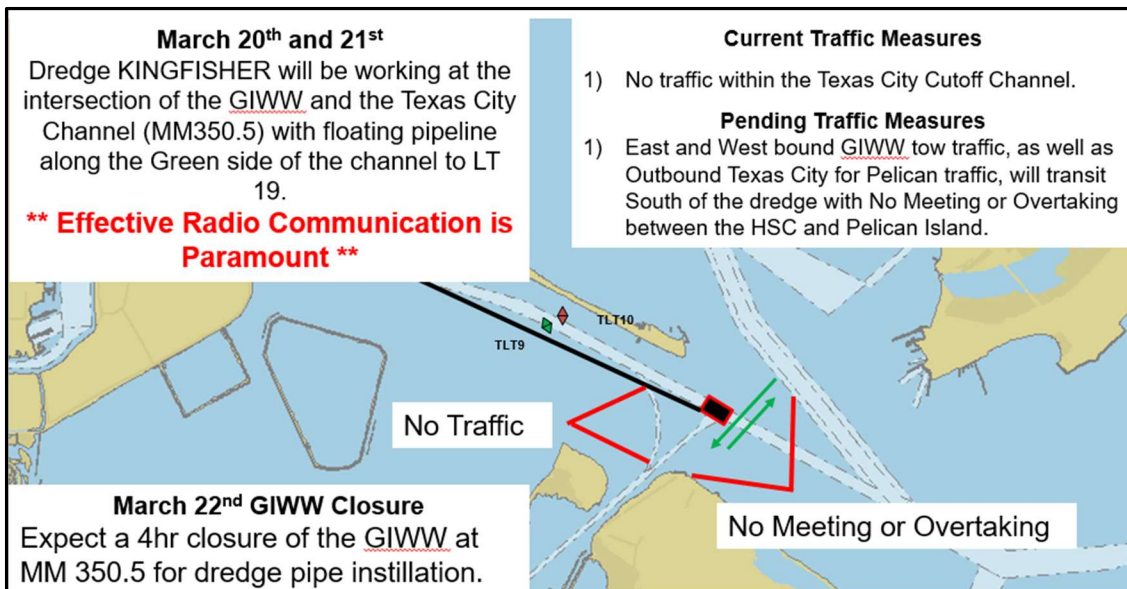
1. New Project 11 Channel dimensions are in effect for a section of the Houston Ship Channel from: Lighted Buoys 25/26 to Lights 51/52. The main channel is 700 feet wide by 46 feet deep with barge lanes on either side of 235 feet wide by 12 feet deep. Depth based on Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

The USCG Aids to Navigation Team has set all aids to navigation from Lighted Buoy 25 to Light 52 according to the new channel dimensions.

MARINERS ARE ADVISED TO PROCEED WITH VIGILANCE AS THEY ACCUSTOM THEMSELVES TO THE NEW DIMENSIONS AND NOTE WHERE THE OLD CHANNEL DIMENSIONS MEET THE NEW CHANNEL DIMENSIONS.



- The below 'Traffic Measures' are expected to be in effect approximately March 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> for the Texas City Channel / ICW intersection at MM 350.5 and the Texas City Cutoff Channel to facilitate dredging operations. Prior to this date, dredging operations are expected to affect the use of the Texas City Cutoff Channel as floating pipeline will prevent transits both Inbound and Outbound. VTS will manage this obstruction through coordination with the dredge KINGFISHER and Traffic Summaries to Users. A follow-on CAT I closure of the ICW is expected for March 22<sup>nd</sup> to install dredge pipe.



### C. ANCHORAGE MANAGEMENT



For more information, contact the VTS Watch Supervisor at (281) 464-4837