



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

05-07

March 14, 2007

Channel Closure for Salvage and Survey Operations ICW MM 279 - Old River Entrance to Bean's East Fleet Port Arthur, TX

UPDATE, 10:00 A. M. March 14, 2007

The towing vessel KACIE LUHR lost a load of rock and is presently disabled with barges in position 29-57.53N 093-51.41W, between Sabine-Neches Canal buoys 62A and 64A, approximately ICW Mile 279. The Safety Zone remains in effect until further notice.

Salvage operations started on schedule at daylight this morning. The salvor expects to have the equipment cleared from the channel during the day today. When the equipment is cleared, shallow draft traffic transits will resume.

Rock removal operations started on schedule at 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 13, 2007. The rock removal contractor is making good progress this morning and is hoping to have the channel cleared by later today. As soon as the rock is removed, Corps of Engineers equipment is standing by to survey the channel in preparation for resumption of deep draft traffic.

A supplemental MSIB will be issued late this afternoon to all concerned stakeholders with a progress report on rock removal activities and projections for the resumption of deep draft traffic.

VTS Port Arthur and U. S. Coast Guard boats on scene will continue to coordinate and enforce the Safety Zone. Contact VTS Port Arthur at 409-719-5070.

This notice will be posted on the HOMEPORTR website <http://homeport.uscg.mil>. If you have any questions, please call MSU Port Arthur at (409) 723-6500.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Sparks".

T. Sparks
U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port