



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

09-07

April 4, 2007

West Port Arthur Bridge, Highway 87, ICWW mile 288.8 Fender Works Repair

A contractor, Midwest Foundation Corporation, will begin work on the protective fender works of the West Port Arthur bridge on April 11, 2007. The work is expected to last five months. Shallow draft inland tow traffic, but not deep draft ship traffic, will be affected.

During the time of the repair, the width of the navigable channel within the bridge spans will be reduced from the original 240' to 160' because of the presence of contractor equipment on site. At times, the channel width will be further reduced to 126' to allow for the unloading of material barges.

Mariners should contact VTS Port Arthur prior to transiting through the bridge. VTS Port Arthur will monitor contractor activities and advise mariners of the available clearance. Mariners should use extreme caution and create as little wake as possible when navigating through the bridge span.

When the presence of material barges restricts the horizontal channel width to less than 160', VTS Port Arthur will recommend restricted tow sizes to a maximum 750' overall length.

Mariners may contact VTS Port Arthur on VHF channels 01A, 65A, 13, and 16 or they can call the VTS Supervisor at 409-719-5070.

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


T. SPARKS
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port