



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

January 17, 2013

TECHNICAL SUPPORT BRANCH

NAVIGATION BULLETIN NO. 13-03

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS:

BLACK WARRIOR RIVER, ALABAMA

Notice is given to mariners that due to rising water on the BWT Waterway, waterway users are advised to use extreme caution while approaching the locks, due to the out-draft potential, and also while entering and exiting the locks. As water levels continue to rise the operation of the locks can be impacted.

ADVISORY:

Demopolis and Coffeeville Locks: Due to current water levels and spillway gates at full flow at Coffeeville Lock, a significant out-draft toward the spillway is present. Traffic is advised to use extreme caution when transiting the area.

EMERGENCY/ACTION:

Demopolis Lock: Effective immediately lock operation is limited to daylight hours only since water has reached the miter gate machinery level. At an upper pool level of 81.20, water begins to enter the miter gate machinery access.

When water levels reach the miter gate machinery recesses (sector gears), there is high potential for damage to gate operating equipment. If equipment is damaged, a lock outage would be required to make repairs.

Current forecast from the National Weather Service River Forecast Center calls for the water level to peak at Demopolis on Sunday morning, January 20, and remain above flood stage for an additional two to three days. Demopolis Lock will return to normal operations as soon as the water level falls out of the machinery recess area.

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