



MAC Recommendations for 45' Project Channel Transition- Delaware River
7.26.2019

This document has been created with input from the USCG, the Pilots' Association, and MAC stakeholders. It is subject to review and change. Please check back frequently.

This document was created as a blueprint to guide the utilization of the deepened Delaware River Main Channel upon the completion of the 45' project. As that completion is happening in stages, this transition plan will remain as a reference, while the draft restrictions in place at any given time or the "ruling document" will be the MAC Transit Advisories.

Stage One Transit Advisories

- The maximum fresh water draft for river transit from sea to Beckett Street is 42 feet.** This 42' draft restriction shall be effective for a period of 6 months or long enough to allow a minimum of six round-trip vessel transits (six inbound/six outbound) in excess of 40' draft to be safely completed before consideration of scaling up draft restrictions.
- All vessels arriving with a fresh water draft in excess of 39' are to transit during flood current only.
- All vessels over Panamax size beam (106 feet) with a block coefficient of .70 and above (see appendix) having a fresh water draft in excess of 37'-06, shall only transit during flood current.
- All vessels up to and including Panamax size beam (106 feet) having a fresh water draft of 39 feet and under should arrange their river transit to afford a minimum of three feet clearance in the Marcus Hook area. The clearance should give due consideration to vessel squat, predicted tide, and the wind effect on actual tide.
- Vessels outbound from Paulsboro, NJ and above, having a fresh water draft of 39 feet (40 feet for vessels with a block coefficient < 0.7) and up to 42 feet should arrange to sail 2 hours after low water. Due to the extended time of transit for these particular deep draft vessels, two (2) river pilots will be arranged for transit to sea.
- Lower end of Marcus Hook Anchorage shall be reserved as a bail out/turnaround location for vessels whose draft exceeds 40' fresh water.

Stage Two Transit Advisories

- The maximum fresh water draft for river transit from sea to Beckett Street is 43 feet.** This 43' draft restriction shall be effective for a period of not less than 3 months. During this time period, a minimum of three round-trip vessel transits (three



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inbound/three outbound) in excess of 41' draft shall be safely completed before consideration of scaling up draft restrictions.

- All vessels arriving with a fresh water draft in excess of 40' are to transit during flood current only.
- All vessels over Panamax size beam (106 feet) with a block coefficient of .70 and above (see appendix) having a fresh water draft in excess of 38'-06", shall only transit during flood current.
- All vessels up to and including Panamax size beam (106 feet) having a fresh water draft of 40 feet and under should arrange their river transit to afford a minimum of three feet clearance in the Marcus Hook area. The clearance should give due consideration to vessel squat, predicted tide, and the wind effect on actual tide.
- Vessels outbound from Paulsboro, NJ and above, having a fresh water draft of 40 feet (41 feet for vessels with block coefficient < 0.7) and up to 43 feet should arrange to sail 2 hours after low water. Due to the extended time of transit for these particular deep draft vessels, two (2) river pilots will be arranged for transit to sea.
- Lower end of Marcus Hook Anchorage shall be reserved as a bail out/turnaround location for vessels whose draft exceeds 40' fresh water.

Stage Three Transit Advisories

-The maximum fresh water draft for river transit from sea to Beckett Street is 44 feet. This 44' draft restriction shall be effective for a period of not less than 3 months.

During this time period, a minimum of three round-trip vessel transits (three inbound/three outbound) in excess of 42' draft shall be safely completed before consideration of scaling up draft restrictions.

- All vessels arriving with a fresh water draft in excess of 41' are to transit during flood current only.
- All vessels over Panamax size beam (106 feet) with a block coefficient of .70 and above (see appendix) having a fresh water draft in excess of 39'-06", shall only transit during flood current.
- All vessels up to and including Panamax size beam (106 feet) having a fresh water draft of 41 feet and under should arrange their river transit to afford a minimum of three feet clearance in the Marcus Hook area. The clearance should give due consideration to vessel squat, predicted tide, and the wind effect on actual tide.
- Vessels outbound from Paulsboro, NJ and above, having a fresh water draft of 41 feet (42 feet for vessels with block coefficient < 0.7) and up to 44 feet should arrange to sail 2 hours after low water. Due to the extended time of transit for these particular deep draft vessels, two (2) river pilots will be arranged for transit to sea.
- Lower end of Marcus Hook Anchorage shall be reserved as a bail out/turnaround location for vessels whose draft exceeds 40' fresh water.



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Stage Four Transit Advisories

-The maximum fresh water draft for river transit from sea to Beckett Street is 45 feet.

-All vessels arriving with a fresh water draft in excess of 42' are to transit during flood current only.

-All vessels over Panamax size beam (106 feet) with a block coefficient of .70 and above (see appendix) having a fresh water draft in excess of 40'-06", shall only transit during flood current.

- All vessels up to and including Panamax size beam (106 feet) having a fresh water draft of 42 feet and under should arrange their river transit to afford a minimum of three feet clearance in the Marcus Hook area. The clearance should give due consideration to vessel squat, predicted tide, and the wind effect on actual tide.

- Vessels outbound from Paulsboro, NJ and above, having a fresh water draft of 42 feet (43 feet for vessels with block coefficient < 0.7) and up to 45 feet should arrange to sail 2 hours after low water. Due to the extended time of transit for these particular deep draft vessels, two (2) river pilots will be arranged for transit to sea.

-Lower end of Marcus Hook Anchorage shall be reserved as a bail out/turnaround location for vessels whose draft exceeds 40' fresh water.