



State Emergency Operations Center

Joint Information Center

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www.goMDOT.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6 p.m. May 12, 2011

UPDATE:

MDOT Roadway Information Due to Flooding

JACKSON, MISS., Thursday, May 12, 2011--- The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) would like to inform motorists of the following roadway information regarding the Mississippi River high flood waters.

CURRENT ROAD CLOSURES

- SR 24 – Wilkinson County near Fort Adams – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- SR 465 – Warren & Issaquena County between US 61 & Eagle Lake – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- **US 61 -Warren & Claiborne Counties- South of Vicksburg, North of Port Gibson, at the Big Black River crossing – (URGENT: Highway to close 12-May-11 at 7:30 p.m.)**

EVACUATION ROUTE CHANGES:

- US 61 - Claiborne County – Due to possible flooding on US 61, Sectors 1, 2A and 2B will use SR 462 to SR 27.

PROBABLE FUTURE ROAD CLOSURES

****URGENT ****

- US 61 -Warren County – North of Vicksburg at the US 61/SR 3 intersection near Redwood – remains open but is being affected by flood waters. 12-May-11
 - Ramp off of SR3 southbound onto US 61 South
Water at edge of pavement; proceed with caution.
 - Ramp off of SR3 southbound onto US61 North
Open.
 - Ramp off of US61 southbound onto SR3 North
Water at edge of pavement; proceed with caution.
 - Ramp off of US 61 northbound onto SR3 North
Open.
- US 61 -Warren County – North of Vicksburg at the US 61/SR 465 intersection north of Yazoo River Bridge near Redwood – estimated closure date – 12-May-11

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MDOT Update May 9, 2011

- SR 3 -Warren County – approximately 2.3 miles north of the US 61/SR 3 intersection – estimated closure date – 15-May-11
- SR 3 – Yazoo County – Starting approximately 0.65 miles north of the SR 3/SR 433 intersection and continuing northward for 2 miles – near Satartia – estimated closure date – 19-May-11
- SR 16 / SR 149 (Old Hwy 49W) – Yazoo County – Whittington Auxiliary Channel near Wolf Lake to Yazoo River
 - Between Whittington Levee & Erickson Rd. estimated closure date – 12-May-11
 - Between Erickson Rd. and Yazoo River estimated closure date – 14-May-11
- US 49W – Humphreys & Yazoo Counties – Whittington Auxiliary Channel South of Silver City to Yazoo River – estimated closure date – 16-May-11
- SR 1 – Sharkey/Issaquena County – West of US 61 at the SR 1/SR 465 intersection – no estimated date available at this time
- SR 16/County Road 16 – Sharkey County – in the vicinity of Delta National Forrest – no estimated date available at this time

ROADS PREDICTED TO REMAIN OPEN

- SR 3 – Yazoo County – at Yazoo City
- US 49E – Yazoo and Holmes County – North of Eden
- US 49E – Yazoo County – near Mississippi Chemical

MDOT would also like to remind the public that a portion of I-20 near Edwards is closed to wide load traffic. This information is vital due to possible critical relief efforts in case of an emergency due to flooding.

The Mississippi Department of Transportation is working in conjunction with the Corps of Engineers to provide accurate information regarding the high flood water at the Mississippi River. MDOT is continuously working to update survey data along with the Corps of Engineers who are updating their inundation maps to identify the affected roadways.

“Sections of routes like US 61 north and SR 3 in Warren County have been put on our probable closure list,” said Central District Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall. “These are major thoroughfares for travelers in this region. I can’t emphasize enough for people to secure their belongings and evacuate while they can. Your Mississippi Department of Transportation is charged in maintaining the safety of all the traveling public. As such we will be closing these and other routes as the flooding continues. Log on to www.gomdot.com for the latest updates from the Mississippi Department of Transportation and MEMA.”

MDOT would like to remind motorists to visit the website at www.goMDOT.com for a list of road closures and probable future closures due to flooding.

For the most up-to-date information in your area, please visit www.MSTraffic.com and sign up for your traffic alerts. Also, visit <http://www.mstraffic.com/mobile> to get the latest traffic information from MSTraffic.com on your mobile device. MDOT advises the public to pull off the road to a safe location if you need to check the MSTraffic.com website while driving. MDOT’s number one concern is the safety of the traveling public. For more information, contact the MDOT Public Affairs Division at 601-359-7074.

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