



State Emergency Operations Center

Joint Information Center

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2:30 p.m. May 15, 2011

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UPDATE:

MDOT Roadway Information Due to Flooding

JACKSON, MISS., Sunday, May 15, 2011--- The Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) would like to inform motorists of the following roadway information regarding the Mississippi River high flood waters.

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.

"As we approach the height of this catastrophic event, we need to remember that the flood waters are not going to subside rapidly," said Central District Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall. "We must plan our travel accordingly for safety measures."

Below is a list of present road closures, probable and possible future closures, for MDOT maintained routes due to the Mississippi River flooding. This list will be updated continually and is subject to change if predicted water levels change. MDOT intends to keep all roads open until they become affected by high flood waters.

CURRENT ROAD CLOSURES

- **SR 16 / SR 149 (Old Hwy 49W) – Yazoo County –Erickson Road to Yazoo River – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**
- SR3 Warren County – from SR3/US 61 intersection to International Paper entrance. CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- US 61 – Warren County – North of Vicksburg at the US 61/SR 3 intersection near Redwood to Backwater Levee – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- SR 16 / SR 149 (Old Hwy 49W) – Yazoo County – Whittington Auxiliary Channel to Erickson Road – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE • US 61 – Warren & Claiborne Counties- South of Vicksburg, North of Port Gibson, at the Big Black River crossing – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- SR 24 – Wilkinson County near Fort Adams – The water is over the road 3 miles east of Fort Adams, it is approximately 6 inches deep across roadway and will continue to rise as the river reaches its crest – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- SR 465 – Warren & Issaquena County between US 61 & Eagle Lake – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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PROBABLE FUTURE ROAD CLOSURES:

- 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, northward for 2 miles – near Satartia – estimated closure date – 19-May-11
- US 49W – Humphreys & Yazoo Counties – Whittington Auxiliary Channel South of Silver City to Yazoo River – estimated closure date – 16-May-11

GRAND GULF 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.

ROADS PREDICTED TO REMAIN OPEN:

- SR 1 – Sharkey/Issaquena County – West of US 61 at the SR 1/SR 465 intersection
- SR 16/County Road 16 – Sharkey County – in the vicinity of Delta National Forrest
- 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 and Highway 27 has a width restriction of 12 feet between Utica and Vicksburg. This information is vital due to possible critical relief efforts in case of an emergency due to flooding.

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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