



State Emergency Operations Center

Joint Information Center

CONTACT: (866) 920-MEMA (6362)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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www.goMDOT.com

UPDATE: MDOT Roadway Information Due to Flooding

JACKSON, Miss. --- 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 U.S. Army 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.

“MDOT is continually monitoring the water level affecting highways in consultation with the Corps of Engineers. In doing so, we will be making estimations on when roadways can be re-opened as the flood waters recede,” Central District Transportation Commissioner Dick Hall said. “I want to stress that when it comes to re-opening roadways, safety will be our top priority. Roads and bridges will not be re-opened until MDOT crews have performed debris removal, inspections and any necessary repairs. We recognize these road closures may be inconvenient for the travelers in this region and we will work diligently to get the roads open as quickly as possible. I encourage everyone to continue to log onto our website, www.gomdot.com, for the latest information on roadway conditions.”

A BRIEF WORD ABOUT RE-OPENING HIGHWAYS – Based on the most current survey data, we feel that the water has crested in all locations where MDOT highways are closed due to flood water. We will continue to monitor water surface elevations near our flood affected roadways in order to track the water’s retreat. In consultation with the Corps of Engineers, we will be making estimates on when the roads may be re-opened and will report that information here. These dates are merely estimates based on the most current information and should be used for planning purposes only. The actual road openings will only be performed when the water completely recedes from the pavement and shoulders and MDOT crews have completed debris removal, roadway inspections, bridge inspections and necessary repairs. It is MDOT’s goal to return these highways to service as quickly as possible while at the same time keeping the safety of the travelling public at the forefront.

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CURRENT ROAD CLOSURES

- US 49W – Humphreys & Yazoo Counties – Whittington Auxiliary Channel South of Silver City to Yazoo River – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- SR3 – Warren County – approximately 2.3 miles north of the US 61/SR 3 intersection – CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
- 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

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.

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.

MDOT would like to remind motorists to visit the website at www.goMDOT.com for a list of road closures and possible highway reopening dates. Also, you can call MDOT Call Center at (866) 521-6368 for information.

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.