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ADVOCATING FOR A MIGHTIER & SAFER MISSISSIPPI RIVER

VESSEL ESCORTED INTO SOUTHWEST PASS WITH DOLPHINS ON BOW WAVE.

The Big River Coalition (BRC) Advocates for a Mightier & Safer Mississippi River

Mississippi River Ship Channel Dredge Update 52726

BIG RIVER COALITION MEMBERS,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) started Fiscal Year 2026 channel maintenance dredging on the Mississippi River Ship Channel (MRSC) with the hopper dredge NEWPORT on February 27, 2026. The river stages are forecast to rise to a crest of 7.7 feet on the Carrollton Gage (New Orleans) on June 6, 2026 and to then slowly recede. The USACE last measured the toe of the saltwater wedge at Mile 23.7 Above Head of Passes (AHP) on March 2, 2026 due to the elevated river stages. The USACE will continue to monitor the saltwater wedge as river stages fall, higher river stages repel the wedge downriver.

INDUSTRY DUSTPAN DREDGE(S) WORKING THE CROSSINGS ABOVE NEW ORLEANS:

WALLACE McGEORGE: The industry dustpan dredge WALLACE McGEORGE began dredging full channel width (500-feet wide) at Bayou Goula Crossing (Mile 198 AHP) last night. This is the first dredging cycle of FY 26 on the Crossings.

GOVERNMENT HOPPER DREDGE(S) WORKING IN and AROUND SOUTHWEST PASS:

WHEELER: The USACE hopper dredge WHEELER began dredging on May 16 and is expected to complete work under Readiness Exercise #1-2026 on May 30, 2026. The WHEELER is working on assignment from approximately Mile 7.0 AHP to Mile 4.5 AHP. The USACE will utilize the WHEELER with normal Readiness Exercises.

INDUSTRY HOPPER DREDGE(S) WORKING IN SOUTHWEST PASS (SWP):

GLENN EDWARDS: The GLENN EDWARDS (Manson Construction) is presently working on assignment from approximately Mile 2.0 AHP to Mile 0 (Head of Passes). The large hopper dredge is working on the 2026 Early Award #2 and began dredging on April 9, 2026. The GLENN EDWARDS will depart SWP this weekend.

N**EWPORT:** The hopper dredge NEWPORT (Manson Construction) continues dredging in SWP from approximately Mile 1.5 Below Head of Passes (BHP) to Mile 3.5 BHP. The hopper dredge is working under the 2026 Early Award #1 regional hopper dredge contract for a small hopper dredge and has also dredged on the Calcasieu River (Lake Charles) under this contract.

HOPPER DREDGE DISPOSAL AREA (HDDA) MAINTENANCE DREDGING:

TEXAS: The industry cutterhead dredge TEXAS (Great Lakes Dredge & Dock — GLDD) is expected to complete dredging under the HDDA maintenance contract tomorrow. The submerged dredge pipeline is scheduled to be removed on Tuesday, June 9 with a backup scheduled on Thursday, June 11 (2026).

The 12-hour closure will be scheduled from 0600 hours to 1800 hours and will later be confirmed via a Marine Safety Information Bulletin by the U.S. Coast Guard. GLDD installed the submerged cross channel dredge pipeline on November 22, 2025. GLDD has utilized the cutterhead dredges ALASKA and TEXAS on the HDDA project and will have removed a total of approximately 5.6 million cubic yards (mcy) of material. The beneficial use of dredged material is expected to restore roughly 450 acres of marsh.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER STAGES AND FORECAST UPDATES:

MISSISSIPPI RIVER STAGES AND FORECAST UPDATES:

The Carrollton Gage (New Orleans) remains low with a reading at 1000 hours today was 5.26 feet, with a 24-hour change of + 0.16 feet. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service Extended Streamflow Prediction (28-Day) for the Carrollton Gage issued today forecast stages will rise to a crest of 7.7 feet on June 6 and then begin a slow fall to 4.3 feet on June 24 (2026).

The Baton Rouge Gage reading at 1000 hours today was 15.69 feet, with a 24-hour change of + 0.24 feet. The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service Extended Streamflow Predictions (28-Day Forecast) for the Baton Rouge Gage issued today forecasts that stages will continue a rise to 23.6 feet on June 5 to be followed by a slow fall to 13.3 feet on June 24 (2026).

Please remember the NWS 28-Day long-range forecasts only include precipitation expected to fall in the next 48-hours.

The 168-hour (7 Days) Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) precipitation map below is reproduced from the National Weather Service.

"Forecasters at the WPC and its predecessor organizations have been making Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts since 1960. Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts, or QPFs, depict the amount of liquid precipitation expected to fall in a defined period of time. In the case of snow or ice, QPF represents the amount of liquid that will be measured when the precipitation is melted. Precipitation amounts can vary significantly over short distances, especially when thunderstorms occur, and for this reason QPFs issued by the WPC are defined as the expected "areal average" (on a 20 x 20 km grid) in inches."

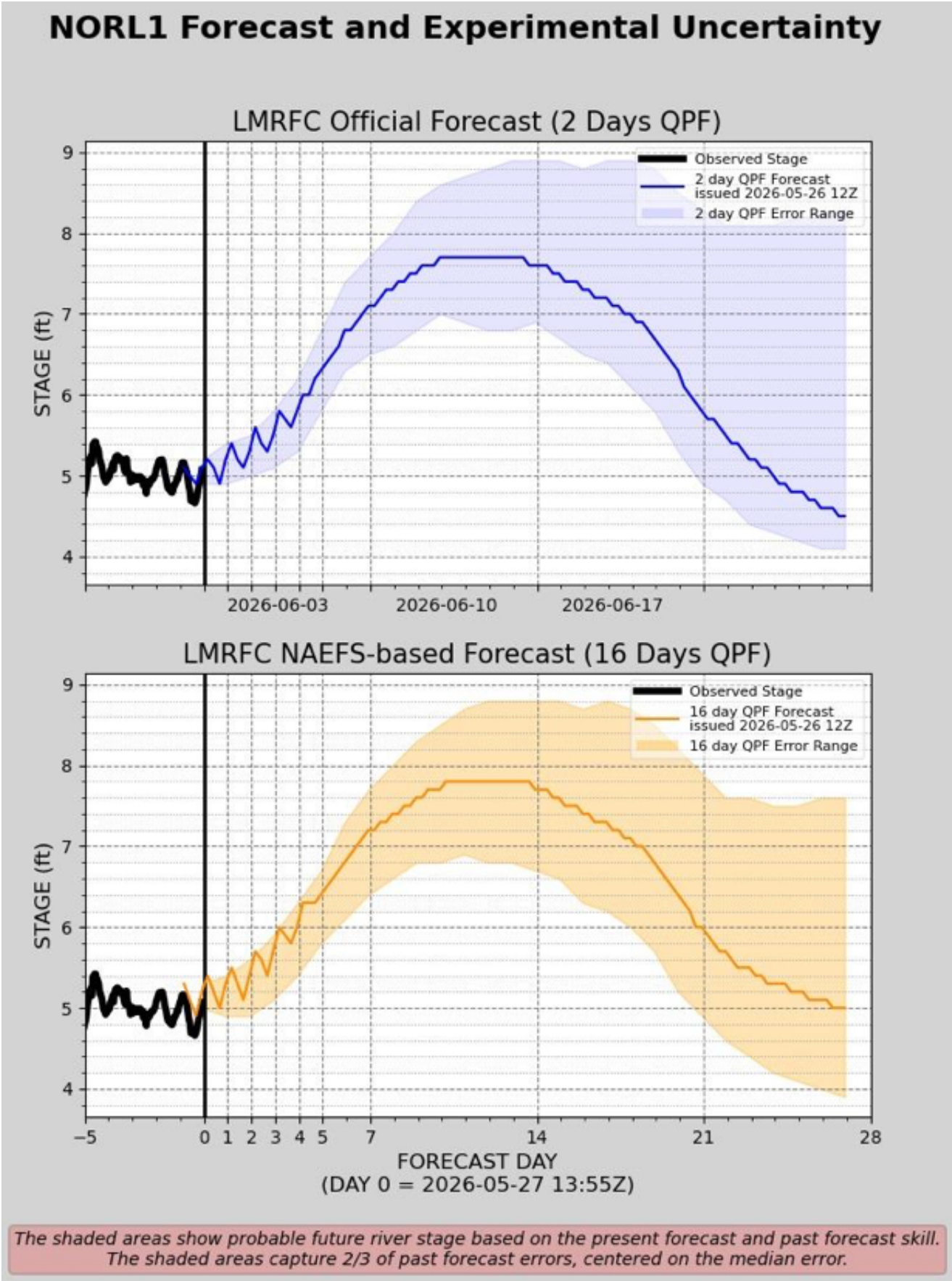
The 168-hour QPF predicts moderate to heavy precipitation across a large portion of the Lower Mississippi and Upper Ohio River Basins. This level of precipitation could lead to increase stage level forecasts in future updates.

NOAA 168-Hour QPF Forecast

"The graph below is reproduced from NOAA's National Weather Service website and represents an experimental product to account for the complexity of accurately predicting long-range precipitation. These forecast projects stage levels based on expected precipitation for 2 days (top) and 16 days (bottom) and was developed within the North American Ensemble Forecast System (NAEFS) computer model and highlights Quantitative Precipitation Forecasts (QPF). Along with the forecasts, a shaded area is also provided to indicate uncertainty for the forecast each day in the future. These plots are experimental and not an official forecast product."

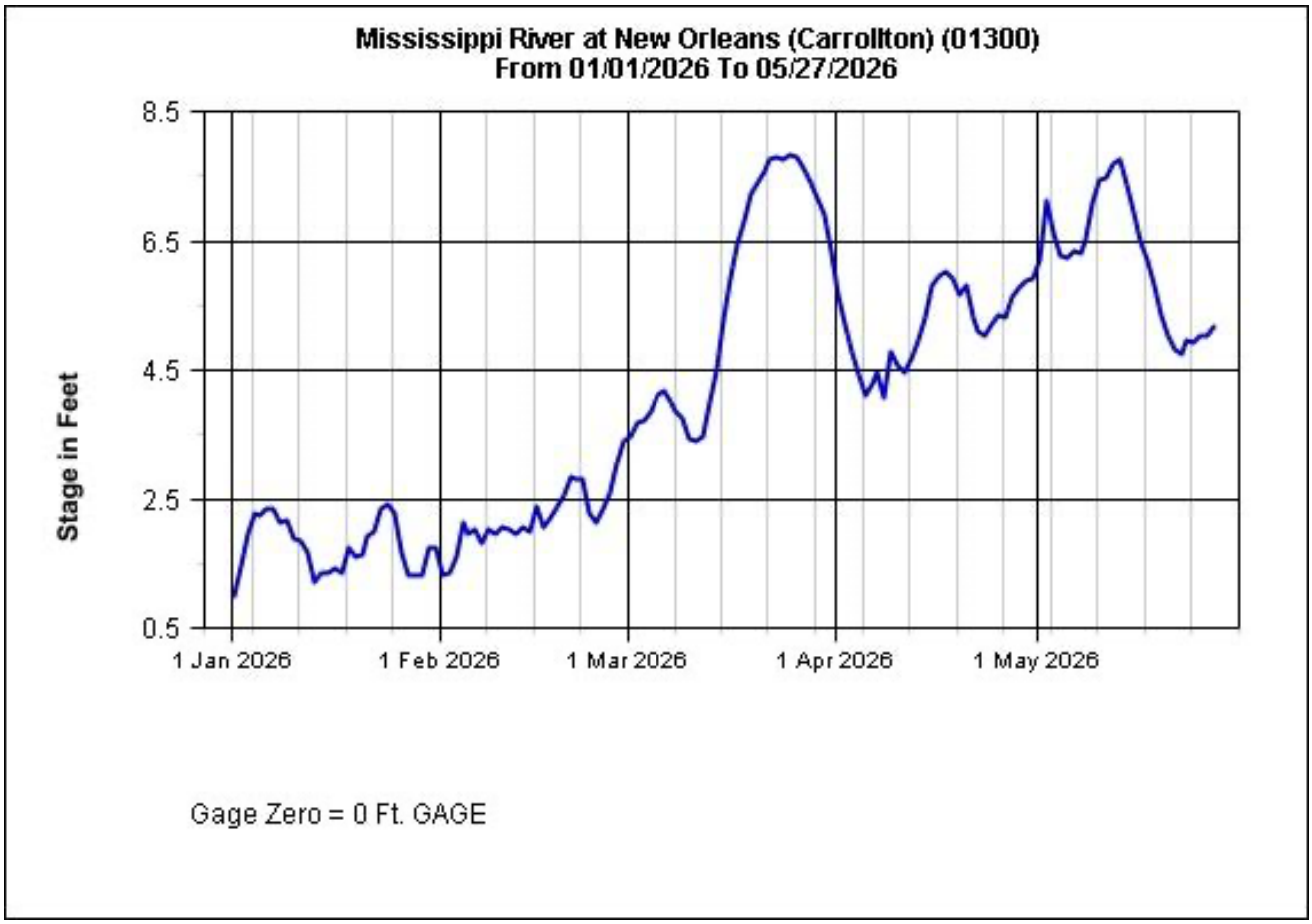
The dramatic spikes in the 2- and 16-Day QPF occur on the Carrolton Gage during extremely low river stages and is the result of the impacts of tides and winds on the river stage at New Orleans. Notice as the river stage increases the spikes are less apparent.

NEW ORLEANS 2- and 16-DAY QPF:



The USACE confirmed the lowest stage of 2025 occurred on the evening of December 31, 2025, with a reading of 0.97 feet. The highest stage in 2025 was 16.67 feet on the evening of May 1, 2025.

The graph below represents the Year-to-Date (2026) plotted river stages for the Carrollton Gage from January 1 to May 27 (2026):



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