

# Louisiana Maritime Association COVID-19 Daily Report Supplement



## US Coast Guard

[MSIB 01-20 \(Commandant\) – Novel Coronavirus Precautions](#)

[MSIB 02-20, Update 3 \(Commandant\) – Novel Coronavirus](#)

[MSIB 06-20 \(Commandant\) – Vessel Reporting Requirements for Illness or Death](#)

[MSIB 07-20 \(Commandant\) – Port & Facility Operations](#)

[LAMA Report on USCG Coronavirus Update, MTS Recovery Plan, and Quarantine Questions](#)

[Sector New Orleans MTS Recovery Plan](#)

[AMSP Section 5300](#)

[CDC Houston Quarantine Station](#)

[MSIB XX-035: COVID-19 Vessel Precautions](#)

The USCG (Sector Nola) is requiring a notification of infectious disease aboard Inland Towing vessels verbally in accordance with 33 CFR 160 as a *Hazardous Condition*.

- Most domestic inland towing vessels are exempt from Notice of Arrival reporting requirements but not Hazardous Conditions
- No CG2692 is required in this case

## US Customs and Border Protection – Fully operational

[Southern Currents 20-020: Vessel Entrance and Clearance Reminders](#) in light of COVID-19 concerns.

[Southern Currents 19-021: Uploading Vessel Documents into the CBP Document Image System \(DIS\)](#)

[LAMA Guidance for Using the CBP Document Image System \(DIS\)](#)

[Southern Currents 20-022: CBP Regional Carrier Liaison Group Notices – Pres. Proc. – COVID-19](#)

[Southern Currents 20-023: CBP New Orleans Temporary Restrictions on Crew Shore Leave](#)

**US Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency** has developed guidance for state and local jurisdictions and the private sector in considering how to manage and continue access and re-entry for essential workers. THERE ARE NO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA AT THIS TIME.

[CISA Guidance Letter on Essential Workforce 03/19/20](#)

[CISA Talking Points](#)

**State of Louisiana** – Governor John Bel Edwards has issued a Stay At Home order. Essential Worker Functions are exempt according to CISA guidance.

[Proclamation Number 33 JBE 2020](#)

[Stay At Home Guidance](#)

Governor Edwards held a roundtable discussion about Louisiana's response to COVID-19 on Monday, March 23. He was joined by health experts and members of his administration. You can watch that streaming [here](#), and charts and slides used in the address can be found [here](#).

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**City of New Orleans** – The City of New Orleans and the New Orleans Health Department have issued guidance on the city-wide mandate that all residents stay home unless there is a critical need to leave. This mandate does not apply to essential service providers, a category which includes but is not limited to ports and maritime, energy production, refineries and chemical plants, and pipeline employees and personnel. If you are unsure whether your operations are considered essential, there is a fairly thorough list of essential service providers beginning on page 3 of the guidance.

[City of New Orleans Proclamation Guidance 03/20/20](#)

**Procedures for Ordering a Pilot** – These procedures are in place to protect everyone involved in the maritime industry including the pilots, federal boarding officers and inspectors, stevedores, dock workers, etc.

It is imperative that the ship's crew receive, read, and comply with the USCG COTP New Orleans MSIB Vol XX Issue 035 COVID-19 Vessel Precautions.

In the simplest terms, the procedures require the agent to confirm with the Master that the vessel is in compliance with the MSIB **BEFORE** a pilot is ordered.

The agent will then order a pilot and provide verbal and written confirmation as to the Master's statement of compliance. Note: The Bar Pilots have instructed their dispatchers at SWP to make the following part of their pre-pilot boarding communication with all inbound vessels.

Please ask all incoming vessels the following one hour prior to pilot boarding:

1. Does any crew member have symptoms of Coronavirus including a fever of 100.4 degrees or greater, cough, trouble breathing or body aches.
2. Additionally, have you complied with Captain of The Port, New Orleans, MSIB Volume XX issue:035, COVID-19 Vessel Precautions, Dated March 17, 2020?

If the ship is found NOT to be in compliance with the MSIB, the Pilots may refuse their service.

**Please be sure to provide a working/valid phone number when ordering a pilot.**

### **Bar Pilots – Fully operational**

[Bar Pilots Letter RE: COVID-19 Precautions](#)

[Bar Pilots COVID-19 Risk Management Plan 03/20/20](#)

### **Crescent Pilots – Fully operational**

[CRPPA Precautionary Measures 03/20/20](#)

[CRPPA COVID-19 Risk Management Plan 03/23/20](#)

**NOBRA Pilots – Fully operational**, have advised that when ordering their services, the following will be asked if the agent when the order is placed:

- Does any crew member have symptoms of Coronavirus including a fever of 100.4 degrees or greater, cough, trouble breathing or body aches?
- Additionally, has the vessel complied with Captain of The Port, New Orleans, MSIB Volume XX issue:035, COVID-19 Vessel Precautions, Dated March 17, 2020?

LAMA Recommendation: It's suggested that agents establish contact with each vessel daily to ascertain the condition of the crew. Also check immediately before ordering a Pilot. Be proactive. Reach out. Have the Master report affirmative there are no illnesses on board. If there is an illness reported contact the USCG COTP immediately. Finally, keep records of the calls.

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3/25/20: NOBRA is requesting that agents and facilities reduce the detention time to a bare minimum. This will cut the time a pilot is onboard and in contact with crew members. This reduction in onboard time will lessen the chance of exposure to themselves and others. It will also help NOBRA supply industry with a rested pilot in a timely manner.

NOBRA's resources are stretched thin because of high river levels. During this emergency, it makes no sense for pilots to be sitting at a dock for multiple hours. It is just a waste of manpower.

We are asking for everyone's cooperation.

If this cannot be done voluntarily, we will have to consider reducing the mandatory detention time.

### **Federal Pilots – Fully operational**

[Federal Pilots Letter RE: COVID-19](#)

### **USDA Federal Grain Inspection Service – Fully operational**

[USDA Letter RE: COVID-19 03/13/20](#)

[USDA Letter #2 RE: COVID-19 03/16/20](#)

FGIS has also implemented the following practices:

- Providing staff latex gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, as well as cleaning supplies (e.g., disinfectant wipes, Lysol,) and instructions to clean all work spaces/work surfaces at the end of every shift.
- Limiting staff time with others involved in mission critical activities (e.g., No unnecessarily traffic between labs).
- Modifying standard work practices (e.g., Adjusting number of staff on shifts or completing Stowage Exam paperwork on deck of ship, instead of the vessel office to reduce/eliminate face to face interaction with ship crew.)
- Restricting staff rotations to reduce site exposure.
- Increasing telework and alternate schedules to limit exposure and continue services.
- Limiting exposure of staff in higher risk categories for COVID-19 (e.g., Staff over 60 years of age; serious medical conditions; pregnant women)

**Port of New Orleans** – Cargo operations continue as normal, cruise ship operations suspended through at least April 14, Administration Building is closed.

[Port of New Orleans Letter RE: COVID-19](#)

**Port of South Louisiana** – Cargo operations continue as normal in facilities within the Port of South Louisiana, including those within Globalplex Intermodal Terminal. However, Port of South Louisiana offices are operating with only essential personnel (PSL Marine Operations, Gate Security, and LE).

### **National Cargo Bureau – Fully Operational.**

Message from Captain Geoff Bolton at NCB 03/20/20: *We wanted to reach out and let you know that National Cargo Bureau remains fully operational during these recent events concerning COVID-19. Container inspections are proceeding as normal at New Orleans Terminals as are Stowage and Segregation surveys on board vessels. Our work on behalf of the Coast Guard regarding vessels loading grain is business as usual. We are monitoring MSIB's and any terminal notifications to stay informed of the latest updates at the port. Certainly USCG is experiencing challenges in these unprecedented times. If there is anything NCB can do to assist, we stand ready.*

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### Facilities & Companies:

**John W Stone Oil** – Fully operational, no expected interruption to service  
[John W Stone Letter RE: COVID-19](#)

**Valero St. Charles & Meraux** – Fully operational, dock access is restricted  
[Valero Letter RE: COVID-19](#)  
[Valero St. Charles NEW pre-arrival checklist 03/18/20](#)  
[Valero Meraux NEW pre-arrival checklist 03/25/20](#)

**Chalmette Refinery/PBF** – Full operational, dock access is restricted  
[Chalmette Refinery Safety Protocols](#)

**Host Corporation** – All divisions fully operational  
[Host Letter RE: COVID-19](#)

**Zen-Noh Grain** – crew change and shore leave can be arranged via launch service. No crew members may access the dock.

**Nord-Sud Shipping** – Offices now minimally staffed, answering service 24/7, contact list below  
[NSS Operations Update 032120](#)  
[NSS Personnel Contact List](#)

\*If you'd like your facility or company included on this list, email Christine\*

**The Lonestar Harbor Safety Committee** has compiled a list of best practices for the Houston Ship Channel that are widely applicable to the entire maritime industry.  
[Lonestar HSC COVID-19 Best Practices](#)

**CDC** – the CDC has a great deal of information and many resources available online [here](#)

See also:

[CDC Cleaning & Disinfecting Guidance](#)  
[CDC Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)  
[CDC Guidance for the Maritime Community](#)

The CDC requires reporting of certain infectious diseases by towing vessels (by definition) under 42 CFR 70.

- There is no specification in regulation about the manner or method of providing the report.
- There is a form associated with 42 CFR 71 (Reporting by vessels entering the US from a foreign port) referenced on the CDC website and in USCG MSIB 02-20 “Maritime Conveyance Illness or Death Investigation Form” and “Maritime Conveyance Cumulative Influenza Like Illness Form”
  - o Neither form is referenced in either regulation 42 CFR 70 or 71.
- The list of Quarantinable Disease is established by executive order and available through the CDC website and includes any communicable disease identified by the WHO as a “Public Health Emergency”, “Flu that can cause a pandemic” and “Severe acute respiratory syndrome”.

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**The World Health Organization** has a great deal of guidance and information available [here](#).

See also:

[WHO Operational Considerations for Managing COVID-19 Cases/Outbreaks on Board Ships](#)

**Louisiana Department of Health** has a great deal of information available online [here](#). They have also provided interim guidance for businesses and employers [here](#).

