



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Pittsburgh District

Notice to Navigation Interests

In reply refer to
Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186
(412) 395-7656
www.lrp.usace.army.mil/or/or-f/navrpt.htm

Notice No. 12-26

Date: July 16, 2012

Lock and Dam 4, Allegheny River, Mile 24.2 Special Draft Limitations During Low Water

1. **TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** Navigators are cautioned that during the current low river flow, the clearance elevation over the upper sill in the single 56-ft x 360-ft chamber at Lock 4, Allegheny River may be less than 9.0 feet; the depth of water over the upper sill is 0.6 feet less than the upper gage reading at any given time. Tows should be keenly aware of their draft when locking through to ensure safe passage. Mariners are cautioned to load barges accordingly to assure a minimum of 0.5 feet of clearance over the upper sill at Lock 4. Example: If the upper gage reading at Lock 4 is 10.1, the maximum allowable barge draft at Lock 4 is 9 feet (10.1 minus 0.6 minus 0.5 = 9.0). In this example, tows with barges exceeding 9 feet draft will not be granted lockage.

2. The Pittsburgh District's reservoirs/lakes at our flood control projects are below summer pool levels. We anticipate that these reservoirs will be able to continue to augment the flows and maintain normal pool levels during these low water conditions and into the foreseeable future. All mariners are urged to be vigilant and to navigate with caution in the marked channel. Additionally, it is strongly recommended the tow drafts not exceed nine feet, which is consistent with local project channel depth maintained by the Corps of Engineers.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

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James R. Fisher
Chief, Operations Division