Upper Ohio Navigation Study

>>> STUDY DESCRIPTION
The Upper Ohio Navigation Study will determine the best plan for improving the upper Ohio River navigation system, specifically the Emsworth, Dashields and Montgomery Locks and Dams. Emsworth, Dashields and Montgomery, the first three locks and dams on the Ohio River just below the Point in Pittsburgh, were built prior to World War II and are the oldest structures with the smallest lock chambers in the Ohio River system.

This feasibility study will address their structural condition, capacity, environmental issues and the corresponding economic benefits and costs to determine the best plan for maintaining safe and reliable navigation on the Upper Ohio River. Findings and recommendations from the Ohio River Mainstem Systems Study will provide substantial background information from a system-wide perspective to this site-specific navigation feasibility study. The draft study is complete and undergoing final reviews.

House Transportation & Public Works Committee Resolution 11 MAR 1982
The study is fully funded.

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>>> STUDY HIGHLIGHTS
- Navigation interests in the Pittsburgh area recognize the possibility of structural and/or operational failures at the Emsworth, Dashields and Montgomery Locks may soon reach unacceptable levels of risk.
- They also support the efficient continuation of a feasibility level study to determine the most cost effective and safe means to continue navigation.

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