



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)395-7263

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Notice No. 12-25

Date: July 12, 2012

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## Locks and Dam 4, Monongahela River, Mile 41.5 Special Draft Limitations During Low Water

1. **TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** Notice is given that the downstream gate sill in the 56ft x 720ft lock chamber at Lock 4, Monongahela River has 10.7 feet of clearance at a lower gage reading of 9.0. Tows should be keenly aware of their draft when locking through to ensure safe passage and to avoid damage to the gate sill. Information concerning the controlling depth over the sill can be obtained from the Lockmaster. The following special draft restrictions will be strictly enforced by lock personnel at Lock 4, Monongahela River during low flow conditions to protect the gate sill from further damage from barge impact: (a) when the lower gage reading is 9.0 to 9.3, maximum draft allowed is 9.0 (b) when the lower gage reading is 9.3 to 9.5, maximum draft allowed is 9.5 feet; (c) when the lower gage reading is 9.6 and above, maximum draft allowed is 10.0 feet. When entering or departing Lock 4 on low pool, towboat operators shall push at the slowest speed possible with the propellers engaged (dead slow); and when the towboat is passing over the downstream gate sill, towboat operators should disengage engines so that the propellers are not moving in order to minimize wheel wash.

2. Due to the low water conditions on the District's rivers all Mariners are urged to be vigilant and to navigate with caution in the marked channel. It is strongly recommended that 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