



The Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Seaway System
Le réseau Grands Lacs - Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent

2019 – Notice to Shipping N° 17

MAISONNEUVE REGION

MONTREAL / LAKE ONTARIO SECTION

Increased Flows – Montreal Lake Ontario Section

Mariners are advised that the International Lake Ontario St. Lawrence River Board (Board) has ordered that outflows from Lake Ontario through the St. Lawrence River be increased in stages in order to help alleviate flooding conditions around Lake Ontario. Outflows through the Moses-Saunders dam will be increased from 9,100 to 9,400 cubic meters per second (cms) today; however, the Board may release flows as high as 10,200 cms in the coming week. At this time, the Seaways plan to continue operations at these outflows. These flows will create velocities higher than normal in the navigation channels and variations in the normal current patterns may occur. Mariners are advised to take these conditions into account when transiting the Montreal-Lake Ontario Section.

As a result of the high flows and effective immediately, no meeting or passing will be allowed in the following critical areas:

- American Narrows, between Sunken Rock Shoal (U.S. LT 189) and Point Vivian
- Brockville Narrows, between Skelton Island and Needles Eye Island
- Wiley Dondero Canal, between CIP 9 (buoy 56) to mooring cells below Copeland Cut

Mariners are to adjust their speeds accordingly to accomplish this.

Mariners should exercise caution especially when navigating in areas of high cross currents including but not limited to: Galop Island; Toussaint Island; Ogden Island; Copeland Cut; and the South Cornwall Channel (Polly's Gut).

Mariners are reminded that there is a zero tolerance for ship's draft in excess of the maximum permissible draft, as per Seaway Notice No. 9.

Mariners are requested to operate at the lowest safe speeds when transiting close to shore to minimize their wake to the greatest extent possible. Speed limits outlined in Montreal-Lake Ontario Notices to Shipping Nos.13, 14 and 15 remain in effect.

Every attempt will be made to provide information on outflows in special radio messages once flows reach 9,900cms or greater and these messages will be posted on our Great Lakes-Seaway website.

Mariners are invited to provide feedback to the Traffic Control Centers on navigation conditions encountered due to the higher than normal outflows.

June 3, 2019

The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation
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