



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

SEAWAY NOTICE NO. 8 - 2020

Maximum Permissible Drafts

Montreal-Lake Ontario Section

Mariners are advised that the maximum permissible draft for downbound ships in the Montreal-Lake Ontario section will be 80.8dm (26'-6") effective April 1, 2020 instead of 80.0 dm (26'-3") as stated in Seaway Notice No. 1 - 2020.

However, because of the high flows conditions, the maximum permissible draft for upbound ships in the Montreal-Lake Ontario section will remain at 80.0dm (26'-3") until further notice.

Welland Canal

In the Welland Canal, a maximum permissible draft of 80.8dm (26'-6") will be in effect from the start of the navigation season for all vessels.

Ships with a Draft Information System

Ships equipped with an approved and operational Draft Information System (DIS) will be permitted to transit at a draft of up to 7cm above the maximum allowable draft pursuant to Section 29 of the Seaway Practices and Procedures.

Due to currents in the Montreal-Lake Ontario section similar to those experienced in 2019, and limitations of squat estimates related to the use of the DIS, mariners are reminded of their responsibility to take into account the ship's individual characteristics and its tendency to list or squat so as to avoid striking bottom.

Conditions will continue to be monitored closely and mariners will be promptly advised of any changes.

March 17, 2020