

Raise The Flag Procedures

For ICHDMG

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US Army Corps of Engineers
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Raise The Flag Procedure

- Last revision was Jan 2002
- Basis: Section 237 of WRDA 1996
- Purpose: The Raise the Flag (RTF) procedure provides a systematic method to identify and respond to the nation's urgent or emergency dredging needs.
- Product: USACE publish a weekly report of Corps and Industry hopper dredges



RTF Procedure: Pre-Flag

- District with time sensitive dredging requirement uses weekly report as basis to contact USACE navigation manager at other Districts to check status and availability.
- District sends an email 'alert' message to the ICHDMG distribution list.
- District calls each Contractor POC
- District may use a Corps hopper dredge if industry fails to reply or is unable to provide a hopper dredge to meet the District's requirement
- Otherwise District proceeds with RTF procedures



RTF Procedure Yellow Flag

- Establish 'Urgent' or 'Emergency' dredging requirement
- Rational for Urgent or Emergency Dredging document on USACE Navigation Gateway website,
- Districts evaluate ongoing contract work
 - Temporary release to bid the work
 - Contract extension at no additional cost to Govt



RTF Procedure Red Flag

- MSC Commander concurs in the Rational for Urgent or Emergency Dredging document
- MSC Nav Manager notifies ICHDMG mail list that a Red Flag request was raised
- HQ considers alternatives, including
 - Procurement of industry dredges
 - Use of USACE minimum fleet dredges
 - Release of industry dredges from existing contractual commitment to bid the work
 - Non-hopper dredge solutions
 - Implementation of the CERF dredge contracts
- HQ notifies USACE and Industry of decision 

Raise the Flag Process Use

- 16 instances since 2002
- 14 in New Orleans District at Southwest Pass, MS River Crossings or Port of New Orleans
- 1 in Morehead City, NC (2002)
- 1 in Mobile Harbor, AL (2005)



Next Steps

- **Is the procedure appropriate today?**
 - This procedure was pre-Blackberry/Smart Phone
 - Is rescheduling viable with today's dredging windows?
- Yellow Flag is raised ahead of bid opening
 - Would all Southwest Pass jobs be Yellow Flag?
- If process review is needed, a Product Delivery Team of Corps and Industry needs to be formed
- Volunteers?



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Thoughts?



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