Press Release 14 Sep 2012

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District
Changes to the LEVEL OF SERVICE (LoS) of Corps Navigation Lock Operations

Effective October 7, 2012, all of the locks on the Alabama River (Claiborne, Millers Ferry and Robert F. Henry) and all of the locks on the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee and Flint River System (Jim Woodruff, George W. Andrews and Walter F. George) will no longer have a set schedule of operating hours. Under current budget reduction guidance, these locks will reduce services to appointment only for commercial traffic lockages. Recreational traffic will only be able to lock through in conjunction with commercial traffic, maintenance, and environmental lockages. Local recreational traffic is encouraged to use the most convenient boat ramp for access to their river destination.

Commercial vessels can make an appointment by contacting the lock, the Project office or the Mobile District Office a minimum of 72 hours prior to the needed lockage. Telephone numbers for the locks and offices are available on the following Mobile District website: www.sam.usace.army.mil/

There will be no change to the Level of Service provided at other Mobile District Locks on the Black Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers and the Tenn-Tom Waterway.

These changes in the Levels of Service are being implemented as a result of the Corps’ nationwide effort to reduce costs by standardizing lock service levels based on actual usage to provide efficient support to the commercial navigation industry. Lock usage will be reviewed annually and adjustments in the Level of Service will be made if needed.