



**AUTORIDAD DEL CANAL DE PANAMÁ**  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENCY FOR OPERATIONS

3654 (OPXI)  
V. 4-2-2015

**ADVISORY TO SHIPPING No. A-09-2018**

April 6, 2018

**TO :** All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Canal Operations Summary – MARCH 2018

1. Panama Canal Statistical Summary:

a. Transit Pilot Force .....	280
b. Pilots in Training .....	0
c. Tugs .....	46
d. Locomotives .....	100

2. Traffic Statistics:

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Arrivals	34.52	45	22
Oceangoing Transits	35.10	39	30
Canal Waters Time (hours)	27.66	47.73	19.03
In-Transit Time (hours)	10.91	13.20	9.31
Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' beam	272	8.77	25.00
Vessels 91' beam to under 107' beam	605	19.52	55.61
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and over)	211	6.81	19.39
Total:	1088	35.10	100
Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and Over)	217	160	73.73
Large Vessels (91' beam to under 107' beam)	465*	375* <sup>1</sup>	80.65
Regular Vessels (less than 91' beam)	248*	197* <sup>1</sup>	79.44
Regular Vessels (up to 300' in length)	8	7	87.50
Auctioned booking slots	11	4	36.36

\* Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

<sup>1</sup> Includes booked transits only

3. The following pages provide the scheduled locks maintenance work, projected draft allowances for neopanamax vessels, and other items of interest to the shipping community.

4. This advisory will be canceled for record purposes on April 30, 2018.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Esteban G. Sáenz  
Executive Vice President  
for Operations

<b>SCHEDULE OF LOCKS MAINTENANCE OUTAGES</b>							
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Miraflores</b>	<b>Pedro Miguel</b>	<b>Gatun</b>	<b>Estimated Capacity<sup>^</sup></b>	<b>Expected Booking Condition<sup>^</sup></b>	<b>Status</b>
9 March 2018	5 hours		West Lane*		31-33	1	Completed
15 March 2018	4 hours		West Lane*		32-34	1	Completed
16 March 2018	5 hours		West Lane*		31-33	1	Completed
21 May 2018	12 hours		West Lane*		26-28	1.a - 2	Tentative
29 May to 1 June	4 days		West Lane**		22-24	2	Tentative
30 May	24 hours	East Lane*			22-24	2	Tentative
9, 10 June 2018	8 hours per day		East/West Lane*		30-32	1.a	Tentative
11-18 June 2018	8 days		Center Wall ***		28-30	1.a	Tentative
19, 20 June 2018	8 hours per day		East/West Lane*		30-32	1.a	Tentative
17 July 2018	12 hours	East Lane*			26-28	1.a	Tentative
20 July 2018	12 hours	West Lane*		West Lane*	26-28	1.a	Tentative
26, 27 July	5 hours per day		West Lane*		32-34	1	Tentative
14-23 August 2018	10 days			West Lane**	22-24	2	Tentative
13-14 September 2018	2 days			East Lane**	22-24	2	Tentative

The normal transit capacity of the Panamax locks is 34-36 vessels per day, depending on vessel mix, neopanamax transits, and other factors. This capacity is reduced during locks maintenance work, as indicated in the above table. Consequently, vessels may experience delays in transiting. When the Panama Canal's capacity is expected to be reduced, a corresponding reduction in the number of available reserved transit slots may be ordered by the Canal Authority. Whenever a set of locks requires a major outage of one of its two lanes for dry chamber inspection, miter gate repairs, tow track work or other major maintenance/improvement projects, advantage may be taken to perform simultaneous single lane outages at other locks.

- \* In order to perform scheduled maintenance works
- \*\* In order to perform scheduled dry chamber works
- \*\*\* Culvert outage
- ^ Panamax locks

<b>Projected Maximum Draft Allowance for Vessels transiting the Neopanamax Locks*</b>		
<b>Projected Gatun Lake level</b>	<b>Maximum draft allowance (TFW)</b>	<b>Projected effective date</b>
Under 25.60m (84 feet)	14.63m (48 feet)	April 22, 2018
Under 25.30m (83 feet)	14.33m (47 feet)	May 9, 2018
Under 24.99m (82 feet)	14.02m (46 feet)	TBD**

\* Draft allowances shown will be implemented as noted unless an update is issued.  
 \*\* To Be Determined