



Panama Canal Authority
Vice Presidency for Operations

Advisory To Shipping No. A-27-2024

3654 (OP-I)
V. 29/03/2023

August 9, 2024

TO : All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT : Monthly Canal Operations Summary – July 2024

1. Panama Canal Statistical Summary:

a. Transit Pilot Force	290
b. Pilots in Training	6
c. Tugs	46
d. Locomotives	100

2. Traffic Statistics:

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>
Arrivals	29.9	50	18
Oceangoing Transits	29.6	34	20
Canal Waters Time (hours)	18.3	26.1	14.8
In-Transit Time (hours)	10.1	12.6	8.1

Oceangoing Transits:	<u>Total</u>	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Vessels of less than 91' beam	154	5.0	16.8
Vessels 91' beam to under 107' beam	507	16.4	55.2
Neopanamax Vessels (107' beam and over)	257	8.3	28.0
Total:	918	29.7	100.0

Booking Slots:	<u>Available</u>	<u>Used</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Neopanamax (vessels of 107' beam and over)	238*	215* ¹	90.34
Supers (vessels of 91' beam to under 107' beam)	527*	375* ¹	71.16
Regular Vessels (less than 91' beam)	155*	118* ¹	76.13
Auctioned booking slots	354	171	48.31

* Does not include additional auctioned booking slots

¹ Includes booked transits only

3. The following page provides the scheduled locks maintenance work and other information of interest to the shipping community.

4. This advisory will be canceled for record purposes on August 31, 2024.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Boris Moreno Vásquez
Vice President for Operations

OP, August 9, 2024

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SCHEDULE OF PANAMAX LOCKS MAINTENANCE OUTAGES							
Dates	Duration	Miraflores	Pedro Miguel	Gatun	Estimated Capacity [^]	Expected Booking Condition	Status
July 7, 2024	8 hours		East*		24	N/A	Completed
July 8, 2024	8 hours		West*		24	N/A	Completed
July 9 to 19, 2024	10 days		***		24	N/A	Completed
July 16 and 17, 2024	5 hours/day	East*			24	N/A	Completed
July 18 and 19, 2024	5 hours/day	West*			24	N/A	Completed
July 19, 2024	8 hours		East*		24	N/A	Completed
July 20, 2024	8 hours		West*		24	N/A	Completed
July 22, 2024	4 hours		West*		25	N/A	Completed
July 23, 2024	4 hours	East*			25	N/A	Completed
July 24, 2024	5 hours		West*		25	N/A	Completed
July 25, 2024	4 hours	East*			25	N/A	Completed
July 26, 2024	6 hours			East*	25	N/A	Completed
August 3, 2024	2 days	East*			16	N/A	Completed
August 20 and 21, 2024	7 hours/day	West*			25	N/A	Tentative
August 22, 2024	4 hours		East*		25	N/A	Tentative
August 23, 2024	4 hours	East*			25	N/A	Tentative
August 26, 2024	8 hours			West*	25		Tentative
August 27, 2024	4 hours		West*		25	N/A	Tentative
August 28, 2024	4 hours	East*			25	N/A	Tentative
August 29, 2024	8 hours			East*	25	N/A	Tentative
September 8, 2024	12 hours			West*	26	N/A	Tentative
September 9, 2024	12 hours			East*	26	N/A	Tentative
September 10 to 25, 2024	15 days			***	26	N/A	Tentative
September 16, 2024	6 hours		East*		26		Tentative
September 18 and 19, 2024	7 hours/day	West*			26		Tentative
September 25, 2024	12 hours			East*	25	N/A	Tentative
September 26, 2024	12 hours			West*	25	N/A	Tentative
September 30, 2024	8 hours			East*	26		Tentative
October 1, 2024	4 hours		West*		26		Tentative
October 3 and 4, 2024	7 hours/day	West*			26		Tentative
October 7, 2024	8 hours			West*	26		Tentative
October 8, 2024	4 hours		East*		26		Tentative
October 9, 2024	4 hours	East*			26		Tentative
October 16 and 17, 2024	7 hours/day	West*			26		Tentative
October 25, 2026	4 hours	East*			26		Tentative
October 26 to 28, 2024	2.5 days	West*			16		Tentative
November 18 to 21, 2024	5 hours/day	East*			26		Tentative
December 2 to 5, 2024	5 hours/day	West*			26		Tentative

[^]The normal transit capacity of the Panamax locks is 24-27 vessels per day, and in the Neopanamax locks is 9-11 vessels per day, depending on vessel mix, transit restrictions, and other factors. The maximum sustainable capacity of the Panama Canal (Panamax and Neopanamax locks) is approximately 36-38 vessels per day. Due to the current situation with the water levels in Gatun and Alahuela Lakes, the daily capacity has been adjusted to 35 vessels (10 neopanamax, 19 supers and 6 regulars).

* In order to perform scheduled maintenance works
 ** In order to perform scheduled dry chamber works
 *** Culvert outage

OP, August 9, 2024

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Panama Canal increases maximum allowable draft to 49 feet

A new booking slot for the Neopanamax Locks has been added beginning on August 5, 2024, thus increasing total transits to 35 vessels per day.



The Panama Canal announced through an [Advisory to Shipping](#), that effective immediately, the maximum authorized draft allowed for vessels transiting the Neopanamax Locks will be 49.0 feet (14.94 m), based on the present and projected level of Gatun Lake for the upcoming weeks.

The Panama Canal had to adapt its operations because of the prolonged drought resulting from the climatic variations that affected the levels of the Gatun and Alhajuela Lakes.

In spite of this situation, this last year has been of adaptation, seeking the well-being of the population, guaranteeing the supply of drinking water and, on the other hand, assuring the reliability of the transit service to our clients.

Additionally, as announced in [Advisory to Shipping No. A-20-2024](#), a new booking slot for the Neopanamax Locks has been added beginning on August 5, 2024, thus increasing total transits to 35 vessels per day.

The previous draft adjustment to 48 feet was effective July 11.

The rainy season is gradually bringing the reservoirs to its optimum levels: Gatun Lake today is at 85.02 feet (25.91 m), while Alhajuela Lake is at 217.24 feet (66.21 m).

The Panama Canal remains focused on improving reliability, efficiency and responsiveness to the changing needs of the maritime industry; while continuing to monitor the level of Gatun Lake to announce future draft adjustments in a timely manner.