



## MEMORANDUM

FEB 27 2019

From: *Paul Francis*  
CGD EIGHT

To: CG-DCO  
Thru: CG-5P  
CG-LANTAREA

Subj: COMPLETION OF WESTERN RIVER FIXED AND FLOATING ATON  
ASSESSMENTS

1. Working collaboratively with the American Waterways Operators (AWO), local Coast Guard Sectors, and Western River Inland Buoy Tender Officers in Charge, District Eight recently completed a multi-year, holistic assessment of all fixed and floating Aids to Navigation on the high tonnage waterways throughout the Western Rivers. This initiative encompassed over 4,400 river miles and included the assessment of over 8,000 buoys and over 2,500 fixed shore aids. The White Paper noted in Enclosure 1 provides an executive overview of the process used to complete the assessments and the subsequent key findings and recommendations. Enclosures 2 and 3 are copies of the assessment data.

2. A tremendous amount of good will, trust, and confidence was developed with the inland towing industry throughout this multi-year assessment process. It is imperative we deliver by expediting, as much as possible, the disestablishment of the low priority fixed aids identified during the assessments while honoring the industry's request to ensure the colloquial names associated with these aids remain charted to facilitate effective communication. My staff is working closely with CG-NAV to initiate the disestablishment process as quickly and efficiently as possible.

3. My point of contact is [REDACTED] Director of Western Rivers and he may be reached at [REDACTED]

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Enclosure: (1) D8 Western Rivers Fixed and Floating AtoN Assessment White Paper  
(2) Floating Aids to Navigation Assessment Data  
(3) Fixed Aids to Navigation Assessment Data

Copy: CG-NAV