

Interior Least Tern Conditions for Instream Sand and/or Gravel Mining

1. A dredging plan shall be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Louisiana Ecological Services Office), which includes proposed mapped boundary locations (latitude and longitude coordinates of polygon corners), dredging dates, type of material to be dredged, duration, and the amount of material to be dredged in cubic yards. The plan shall be submitted two weeks prior to beginning the dredging operation.
2. No dredging operations shall take place within 1,500 feet of the shoreline of a sandbar during interior least tern nesting season (May 15th and August 1st of each year) unless the permittee/contractor submits a biological survey conducted by a qualified biologist stating there is no evidence of interior least tern nesting on the sandbar. No dredging shall take place within 200 feet of sandbars at any time.
3. The permittee shall instruct dredge crews that under no circumstances (other than emergencies) are persons, vessels, or equipment permitted on an active interior least tern nesting island between May 15 and August 1 or until the young have fledged (whichever is later).