



Administration
de pilotage
des Laurentides

Laurentian
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Authority

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Montréal, 4 janvier 2024

Montreal, January 4th, 2024

Objet :

**Début navigation hivernale entre
Québec et Montréal**

Subject:

**Beginning of winter navigation
between Quebec and Montreal**

Avis 2024-01-04

Selon l'observation de plusieurs critères, l'APL déclare le début de la période de navigation hivernale le 5 janvier 2024 à 00h01 entre Québec et Montréal.

Vous trouverez le document expliquant les règles applicables ci-dessous.

Sincères salutations,

Patricia Hébert
Directrice, sécurité maritime

Notice 2024-01-04

Further to the observation of several criteria, the LPA declare the beginning of the winter navigation on January 5th, 2024 at 00h01 between Quebec and Montreal.

You will find the document explaining the applicable rules below.

Best regards,

Patricia Hébert
Director, Marine Safety



Administration de pilotage des Laurentides
Laurentian Pilotage Authority

Safety requirements during the winter period 2023-2024

(Refer to policies on safety #3, #5, #6 and #9)

These rules apply to every vessel that transit during the winter period.

As part of the process set out in Section 23.38 (3) and (4) of the Regulations, the LPA consults Pilot Corporations, interested groups of shipowners, the Canadian Coast Guard and in addition, Transport Canada, before determining the start and end dates of the winter navigation period (section 3.1 – policy #6).

During the winter period, two pilots are always assigned on every vessel.

1. Compliant Vessels

1.1 Compliant vessels not included in the list in 1.2 below may leave, downbound & upbound, from a berth or anchorage between Montreal and Quebec, without restriction. However, if the Ile Blanche reservation procedure is in effect, please refer to point 3.1.

1.2 Furthermore, the following compliant vessels departing from a berth or anchorage and heading downbound, **must leave at the times shown in tables I) to IV)**. Once in transit, no further restrictions apply to these vessels, and they are free to continue to their destination :

- a) Tankers of more than 25,000 tonnes deadweight ;
- b) Vessels of more than 245 m in length, but less than 270 m ;
- c) Container ships with a draught greater than 10.5 m ;
- d) Vessels other than container ships with a draught greater than 10.0 m.

I – Departure from Montreal (downbound)

	<i>Upbound section 94</i>	<i>Downbound section 94</i>
Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	05h30 to 13h00 EST	06h00 to 13h00 EST
December	06h00 to 12h45 EST	06h30 to 12h45 EST
January	06h00 to 13h15 EST	06h30 to 13h15 EST
February	05h30 to 13h45 EST	06h00 to 13h45 EST
March	05h30 to 15h30 EDT	06h00 to 15h30 EDT
April	04h45 to 16h15 EDT	05h15 to 16h15 EDT
Until May 1 st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	03h45 to 17h00 EDT	04h15 to 17h00 EDT

II – Departure from Contrecœur (downbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	05h45 to 14h00 EST
December	06h15 to 13h45 EST
January	06h15 to 14h15 EST
February	05h45 to 14h45 EST
March	05h45 to 16h30 EDT
April	05h00 to 17h15 EDT
Until May 1 st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 18h00 EDT

III – Departure from Sorel/Tracy/Lanoraie (downbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	05h45 to 15h00 EST
December	06h15 to 14h45 EST
January	06h15 to 15h15 EST
February	05h45 to 15h45 EST
March	05h45 to 17h30 EDT
April	05h00 to 18h15 EDT
Until May 1 st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 19h00 EDT

IV – Departure from Trois-Rivières/Bécancour (downbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	05h30 to 15h00 EST
December	06h15 to 14h45 EST
January	06h15 to 15h15 EST
February	05h45 to 15h45 EST
March	05h45 to 17h30 EDT
April	04h45 to 18h15 EDT
Until May 1 st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 19h00 EDT

After boarding a vessel, should the pilot ascertain that the ship is non-compliant or is included in the ships listed in the section 1.2 c) or d), the pilot shall retain the vessel at berth or take it to anchorage, even within the limits of the Port of Montreal, after which the pilot's assignment ends.

For departures from Montreal, when the tide is unfavourable to time ranges for several days, certain ships may, as an exception, be authorized to depart before or afterwards if deemed safe by the LPA after consultation with the Pilot Corporation.

Ships are deemed “compliant” if equipped with ([section 3.5 – policy #9](#)) :

- a) A 3 cm stabilized radar in good operating order ;
- b) A 10 cm stabilized radar in good operating order ;
- c) A functioning pilot plug at the time of departure or passage at the station, with GPS and gyrocompass interface ;
- d) Adequate bridge heating and visibility.

Moreover, no vessel may be declared compliant if it is the subject of a valid warning and alert network report with the following subject ([section 3.6 – policy #9](#)) :

- a) Mechanical problem ;
- b) Detaining order ;
- c) Navigation equipment defect, or ;
- d) Any other warning and alert network report containing information that could threaten navigation safety.

A ship that has been identified by Transport Canada as having a non-functioning recirculation system will be considered non-compliant if the information has been duly transmitted.

When severe ice conditions are present, only ships adapted to the circumstances may proceed downbound at night. The criteria used to determine whether a ship can proceed downbound are established jointly by the LPA, the Pilot Corporation and in consultation with the CCG ([section 3.3 – policy #5](#)).

2. Non-compliant Vessels

2.1 **Non-compliant vessels are restricted to the time set out in tables I) to IV)** for downbound transit. For an upbound transit, **they are restricted to the time in tables V) to VIII)**. Note that in both cases, they may continue their route after dusk to their destination or to Trois-Rivières station, if the pilot deems it safe to do so.

V – Departure from Contrecœur (upbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	06h00 to 14h45 EST
December	06h15 to 14h30 EST
January	06h15 to 15h00 EST
February	05h45 to 15h45 EST
March	05h45 to 16h30 EDT
April	05h00 to 18h15 EDT
Until May 1st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 19h00 EDT

VI – Departure from Sorel/Tracy/Lanoraie/Trois-Rivières (upbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	06h00 to 13h45 EST
December	06h15 to 13h30 EST
January	06h15 to 14h00 EST
February	05h45 to 14h45 EST
March	05h45 to 15h30 EDT
April	05h00 to 17h15 EDT
Until May 1st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 18h00 EDT

VII – Departure from Bécancour (upbound)

Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	06h00 to 11h45 EST
December	06h15 to 11h30 EST
January	06h15 to 12h00 EST
February	05h45 to 12h45 EST
March	05h45 to 13h30 EDT
April	04h45 to 15h15 EDT
Until May 1st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 16h00 EDT

VIII – Departure from Québec (upbound)

	<i>*Rising tide (ONLY)</i>	<i>All tide conditions</i>
Until November 30 – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 06h29 EST	06h30 to 14h45 EST
December	04h00 to 06h44 EST	06h45 to 14h30 EST
January	04h00 to 06h44 EST	06h45 to 15h00 EST
February	04h00 to 06h14 EST	06h15 to 15h45 EST
March	04h00 to 06h14 EDT	06h15 to 17h15 EDT
April	04h00 to 05h29 EDT	05h30 to 18h00 EDT
Until May 1st – Four-season buoys breakdown or end of winter	04h00 to 04h29 EDT	04h30 to 18h45 EDT

*For the purposes of this section, rising tide means from one hour after low tide in Quebec, and this, until high tide.

3.Ile Blanche Reservation Procedure

The boarding procedures at Quebec City are as follows when the LPA and the Pilot Corporation agree that the ice conditions at the Quebec Bridge are not safe (section 3.11 – policy #9):

- a) The pilot is reserved for the vessel's passage at Ile Blanche ;
- b) Once reserved, the pilot cannot be transferred to another station ;
- c) When calling the pilot, the LPA's Dispatch Centre will inform the pilot of the usual ship's ETA for Québec City and ;
- d) The pilot will provide instructions to the LPA's Dispatch Centre regarding boarding time at Quebec City, considering ice conditions, tide and weather conditions.

3.1 When the Ile Blanche Reservation Procedure is in effect, compliant vessels departing from a berth or anchorage upbound from Quebec, **must leave at the times shown in table IX**. Once in transit, there are no further restrictions for these ships, so they can continue their way to their destination.

IX – Departure from Québec (upbound) - Ile Blanche Reservation in effect

	<i>*Time between low tide & high tide</i>	<i>All tide conditions</i>
December	15h01 to 06h14 EST	06h45 to 14h30 EST
January	15h46 to 05h44 EST	06h45 to 15h00 EST
February	04h00 to 06h14 EST	06h15 to 15h45 EST
March	04h00 to 06h14 EDT	06h15 to 17h15 EDT
April	04h00 to 05h29 EDT	05h30 to 18h00 EDT

*For the purposes of this section, departures from section QBC86, the assignment can take place one hour before low tide time.