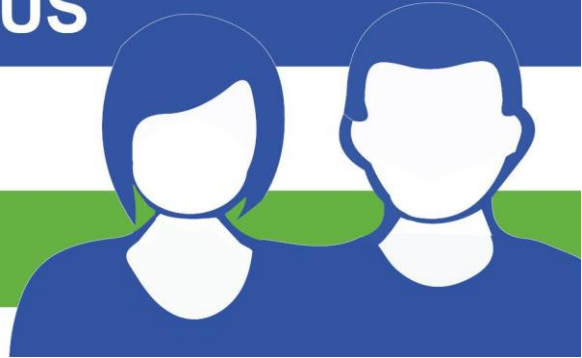


CORONAVIRUS



While the epidemic of Coronavirus strikes the country with an unprecedented crisis, further to the measures taken by the President of the French Republic and the Government, Voies Navigables de France takes several actions intended to match with the requested travel restrictions, to protect everyone's health and help limit the spread of the virus.

VNF will focus its efforts on hydraulic management, a public service mission essential for the safety of people and assets, especially in a particularly tense hydrological context throughout the territory. Public service continuity must be ensured in the long term.

On wide gauge canals & rivers

With the exception of the Rhine, the opening of locks and other facilities for goods transportation purposes is kept at this stage but on a reduced daily timescale, which may also slightly differ from one area to another. These measures may experience further developments depending on the situation. VNF relevant local branches inform you via notices to skippers and VNF website.

Regarding the Rhine, the locks remain open at this stage as usual. However, this measure may experience further developments depending on decisions made with other European states, in particular after the Council of European Ministers to be held on Wednesday March 18.

On small gauge canals

Locks operation for cargo transportation purpose may be considered, at the carriers' request to VNF regional offices, according to VNF's requirements and capabilities during this period.

These measures may experience further developments depending on the situation.

During this entire period of crisis, VNF will stop invoicing of navigation duties. However, for statistical purposes, shipowners must carry on declaring their voyages on the VELLI application <https://www.vnf.fr/veli/Login.html>

For further information on river navigation and network availability, please consult and subscribe to notices to skippers published here [https://www.vnf.fr/vnf/alertes/mesures-exceptionnelles-mises-en-place-sur-le-reseau-vnf/](https://www.vnf.fr/vnf/services/avisbat/https://www.vnf.fr/vnf/alertes/mesures-exceptionnelles-mises-en-place-sur-le-reseau-vnf/)

You can contact us by email at the following address: cgn@vnf.fr

Information to the IWT industry

VNF keeps informing the IWT industrial organisations with regular contact about developments on the taken measures.

In the event of infection, there are simple steps to protect your health and those of those around you :

- Wash your hands very regularly;
 - Cough or sneeze into your elbow;
 - Greet without shaking hands or kissing;
 - Use disposable tissues;
 - Wear a mask if you are sick;
- In addition, make sure to maintain a minimum space of one meter between you and your contacts.

Face au Coronavirus, il existe des gestes simples pour préserver votre santé et celle de votre entourage :



For any information relating to the coronavirus, you can contact 0800 130 000 (official number).