

Thank you for joining the Port of Morgan City and Brice Civil Constructors, Inc. today as we celebrate our success!



Special Thanks

U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration

USACE New Orleans District, USACE Vicksburg District, USACE Headquarters

U.S. Senators: Bill Cassidy, John Kennedy

U.S. House of Representatives: Clay Higgins, Garret Graves, Steve Scalise, Troy Carter, Mike Johnson, Julia Letlow

Louisiana Senator Bret Allain, Representative Beryl Amedee, Representative Vinny St. Blanc

Port of Morgan City Commissioners: Joseph Cain, President; Peter Orlando, Vice-President; Steven Cornes, Secretary; Deborah Garber, Treasurer; Ben Adams, Matthew Glover; Troy Lombardo; Adam Mayon; Matthew Tycer

Port of Morgan City Past Commissioners: Lee Dragna, Duane Lodrigue, Tim Matthews; In memorium: Matt Ackel, Gary Duhon



The Port of Morgan City and Brice Civil Constructors

Present

The Atchafalaya River Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Tuesday, June 7, 2022

4:30 PM

Port of Morgan City Multimodal Terminal Facility Dock
800 Youngs Road, Morgan City, LA

Ceremony Celebrating the Re-opening of the Atchafalaya River and the Success of the Specialty-Built Dredge Arulaq

Welcome

City of Morgan City Mayor Lee Dragna

Prayer

Town of Berwick Mayor Duval Arthur

Pledge of Allegiance

Port of Morgan City Commission President Joseph L. Cain

Introduction of Guests

Port of Morgan City Executive Director Raymond M. “Mac” Wade

Comments

Port of Morgan City Executive Director Raymond M. “Mac” Wade

Brice Civil Constructors, Inc., President Jon McVay

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District Commander
Colonel Stephen Murphy

Louisiana Department of Transportation, Office of Multimodal
Commerce Commissioner Renee Lapeyrolerie

Ribbon Cutting

Dredge Demonstration

**Please join us at the Port of Morgan City Emergency
Operations Center for a Dinner Reception**

OUR STORY

The operation of specialty-built dredge equipment by Brice Civil Constructors, Inc. on the Atchafalaya River is proving that innovative dredging techniques can provide an efficient and cost-effective solution for channel maintenance.



Prior dredging strategy and budget constraints for the Atchafalaya River and Bayous Boeuf, Black and Chene (ARBBBC) Federally Authorized (20 foot deep by 400 foot wide) Project resulted in the loss of import/export business for the Port of Morgan City and was detrimental to the operation and growth of local industries. The Bar Channel (the last 18 miles to the Gulf of Mexico from Morgan City) was subject to large infilling rates of fluid mud referred to as “fluff”. The refill rate in that area was 3’ per month upon completion of each dredging cycle, and there was only enough funding to dredge once a year, or sometimes less frequently. Everchanging river conditions warranted continuous fluff management 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The Port of Morgan City and the Corps of Engineers, looking for a more innovative way to maintain the channel, determined that “agitation” dredging would manage fluff at a fraction of the cost of traditional dredging methods. Brice Civil Constructors, Inc. (Brice), an 8(a) Alaska Native Corporation Small Business, expressed interest in performing this task after attending the Corps of Engineers New Orleans District Industry Day on August 25, 2017.

On December 8, 2019, the Arulaq (in the Alaska Native Language Yupik, means to Agitate), a specialty-built dredge constructed at Halimar Shipyard in Morgan City, departed for the Atchafalaya River Bar Channel. When the Arulaq arrived in the channel, the channel had not been dredged for nearly five years. Unexpected volumes of debris sandwiched in layers of consolidated material caused equipment to severely clog. The Arulaq overcame the obstacles and has exceeded expectations running over the 1.25 required density and pumping over 5 million yards per month. In January 2022 the dredge reached a 250-foot width at a 20-foot depth.

Operation of the Arulaq is proving that innovative dredging techniques can provide an efficient and cost-effective solution for continuous channel maintenance that has re-opened the Atchafalaya River for business.

With the use of innovative dredging, recent rail improvements and future dock expansions, the Port of Morgan City is ready to ship and receive cargo in all directions!