

The mission of Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association (GICA) is to facilitate commerce through ensuring safe, reliable and efficient Gulf Coast waterways.

GICA Staff works to:

•Identify, analyze and address GIWW issues

•Educate and inform the public of GIWW's importance to the region and the nation

•Advocate for adequate capital and maintenance funding - Federal, state and locally

•Coordinate and partner with other industry groups/associations on waterways issues

•Assist USCG and USACE in identifying and rectifying hazards and improvements to the waterway – (e.g. Joint Hurricane Team)

•Partner with sister regional and national level trade associations to promote and support inland waterways transportation.

• Develop common-sense methods to preserve, protect, enhance and restore coastal wetlands while maintaining our vital Waterway by reaching consensus with responsible government agencies and private-sector groups

•Host an annual three-day seminar, on the Gulf coast, presenting a great opportunity for learning and sharing information among the many diverse member-groups and stakeholders

OUR INLAND WATERWAYS

The inland waterways system includes 12,000 miles of commercially navigable channels and some 240 lock sites. These "inland highways" move commerce to and from 38 states, serve industrial and agricultural centers and facilitate imports and exports at gateway ports.

MOVING THE NATION'S COMMODITIES

By safely and cost-effectively moving America's cargo, barge transportation makes a vital contribution to our nation's economy, environment and quality of life. In 2021, about 500 million tons of waterborne cargo transited the inland waterways, a volume equal to roughly 14% of all intercity freight and valued at nearly $158 billion.

Barges are ideal for hauling bulk commodities, and oversized/overweight equipment, including: *Coal, Petroleum, Chemicals, Grain, Iron & Steel, Aggregates, Intermodal Containers and Project Cargoes*

STRENGTHENING OUR ECONOMY

America's economy benefits from the cost efficiencies barge transport provides over transport by truck or rail. Approximately 60% of the nation's grain exports move by barge, helping our agricultural exports stay competitive in global markets. Barge transport also keeps our nation's vital energy sources flowing, fueling our industrial base and keeping our high-tech economy running. In fact, more than 22% of domestic petroleum and petroleum products and 20% of the coal used in electricity generation transit our inland waterways.

America's safe, reliable and efficient inland river transportation system is the envy of the world. With world-wide demand for waterborne commerce expected to more than double by the year 2025, our nation needs a strategic vision and must invest in the waterways infrastructure needed to maintain America's economic competitiveness.

GICA

GULF INTRACOASTAL CANAL ASSOCIATION

The Voice of the GIWW and its Users



Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association

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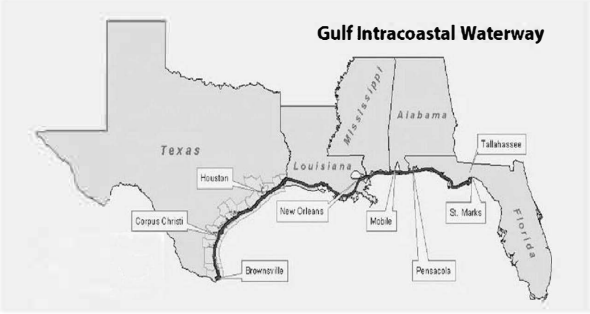
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Why The GIWW?

The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) is a 1200 mile inland system of channels and tributaries spanning the U.S. Gulf Coast from Brownsville, TX to St. Marks, FL. It is the *third busiest* inland waterway in our nation in terms of tonnage carried. Our members and others transport 111 million tons of commodities each year on the GIWW and a **$61 billion economic impact to the Gulf states, including 143,000 jobs directly related to the GIWW.**

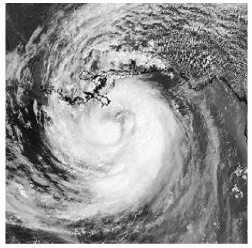
As a safe, efficient and environmentally responsible artery between ports in five Gulf states and the inland waterways to the heartland of our nation, the GIWW is critical to the delivery of raw materials and finished products. The very nature of the waterways offers distinct economic and environmental benefits to industry and contributes to the health of the nation's economy as well as our viability in the intensely competitive global market.



Well maintained, modernized infrastructure is critical to continues safe, reliable and economic GIWW operation and flow of commerce. Currently, several USACE lock/floodgate projects are at various stages of consideration and study. The Brazos River Floodgates and Colorado Locks in Texas and the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal Lock in New Orleans are projects for which **GICA** leads advocacy and engagement efforts. All three of these outdated, undersized structures are well past their normal service lives and must be replaced.

Why GICA?

GICA acts as a single voice for the industries that utilize the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. The Association advocates on behalf of our members, working closely with the US Army Corps of Engineers District Offices in Galveston, New Orleans and Mobile, to advocate for infrastructure is maintenance channel dredging to ensure a safe and reliable waterway. Additionally we partner with the Eighth Coast Guard District staff and all the Gulf Coast Sector offices to assure safe operations and aids to navigation are sustained.



GICA leads the Gulf Inland Waterways Joint Hurricane Response Team and maintains the Response Team Protocol. which outlines a coherent self-help program by which the industry can participate in post-storm efforts to clear the waterways and get traffic and commerce moving. GICA's work during recent years' hurricanes was invaluable to mariners' and companies' storm planning efforts and greatly assisted our Federal, state and local officials in restoring waterways and critical maritime commerce across the Gulf states.

GICA stands the watch, identifying and reporting on GIWW conditions that can affect the mariner, shipper and cargo owners. GICA issues real-time Navigation Alert messaging to our members to ensure they know what's happening where. Also, through a partnership with PortVision GICA is able to provide a geographic representation of the status of the GIWW and key tributaries.

GICA provides a conduit for two-way communication between members and agencies. Through the Association, members have a forum to express their concerns and ideas to others in the industry, and collectively form a coalition of support for specific causes.

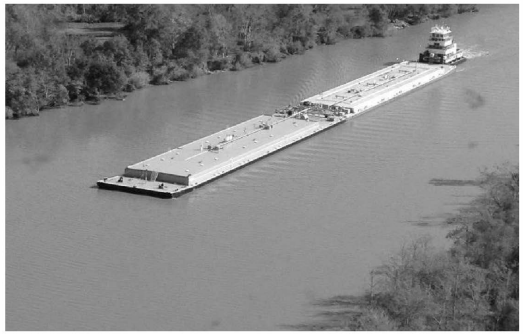
Supporting the waterway through GICA is a an investment in our future.

Who is GICA?

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JOIN US!

GICA membership is open to all. We presently serve members from tow and barge companies, shipyards, ports, shippers, agents, refineries, chemical plants, fuelers, government agencies, the general public and more. Dues are tailored to your business type and volume and help GICA to provide value and service to our industry.

Visit www.gicaonline.com