Marine Highway M-69

TX

Houston

M-69

Galveston

M-69

GULF OF AMERICA

M-69

Corpus Christi

M-69

Brownsville

Mexico

Sponsor: Texas Department of Transportation

Landside Route Served: Interstate-69

Route Description:
 The M-69 Route includes the Gulf of America, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and connecting commercial navigation channels, ports, and harbors within the State of Texas. It includes 11 deep-water and 13 shallow-draft ports between Brownsville and Port Arthur. It intersects with the M-146 Route and connects with the M-10 Route in Port Arthur, which extends and intersects with the M-49 Route in Morgan City, LA; the M-55 Route in New Orleans, LA; and the M-65 Route in Mobile,AL.

 Attributes:
 Together, the I-69 Route (including secondary roads between Port Arthur and Brownsville); the I-10 Route between Port Arthur and Lake City, FL; and the I-75 Route on Florida's West Coast (and extending to the Tampa/Port Manatee area) parallel the U.S. Gulf Coast, accommodating considerable east-west freight. The U.S. Department of Transportation has identified major freight truck bottlenecks at several points along this Route, including around Houston and in Laredo. Border congestion is a considerable issue. In 2011, about 111,000 trucks per month on average entered Texas via the World Trade Bridge, and about 32,000 trucks per month on average entered via the Laredo-Colombia Solidarity Bridge.

 Fortunately, the extensive network of coastal, intracoastal, and inland waterways along this Route can offer relief to the existing and projected truck delays. Although there are maritime operations along this Route, these existing limited services demonstrate that marine highway operations in this Route are possible. In addition, large volumes of petrochemical products moving along this Route show the possibility for new container-on-barge services.

Marine Highways
— M-69
— Other Marine Highway Routes

0   25   50   100
Miles