



Panama Canal Authority
Vice Presidency for Operations

Advisory To Shipping No. A-22-2026

July 1, 2026

TO: All Shipping Agents, Owners, and Operators

SUBJECT: Draft adjustment in the Neopanamax Locks

As part of the Panama Canal Authority's (ACP) water management strategy to ensure the safe, reliable, and sustainable operation of the Canal under current hydrological conditions and considering the potential development of an El Niño phenomenon over the watershed in the upcoming months, the ACP will implement a draft reduction at the Neopanamax Locks. The ACP will continue to closely monitor lake levels and hydrological projections and will announce any additional operational adjustments as deemed necessary.

Accordingly, based on present and projected Gatun Lake levels for the upcoming weeks, the ACP announces that, effective July 24, 2026, the maximum authorized draft for vessels transiting the Neopanamax Locks will be 14.94 meters (49.0 feet) in Tropical Fresh Water (TFW). In addition, effective August 15, 2026, the maximum authorized draft will be adjusted to 14.78 meters (48.5 feet) TFW.

The ACP appreciates the continued understanding and cooperation of the maritime community.

For any further inquiries regarding these rules, please contact: operationservices@pancanal.com.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Boris Moreno Vásquez
Vice President for Operations