

Ballard Locks remains closed to public access except vessel traffic

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The Army Corps of Engineers has closed public access to Chittenden Locks in Ballard except for vessel traffic. The grounds will remain closed to the public today and until further notice. The Corps' Seattle District operates the Locks and is at a heightened state of security regionwide.

Access to the Seattle District's projects in Washington, Idaho and Montana is restricted to those with official business. This means that all public recreation and visitation areas - including visitor centers - will be closed, all access to the projects will be restricted, and all deliveries will be thoroughly inspected.

In addition, the district is readying equipment and personnel for its Urban Search and Rescue team, Structural Assessment Team and Logistics Support Team for possible deployment.

Seattle District offices are cautiously open and doing business. Until further notice, access to Federal Center South will be through the Diagonal Street guard entrance or the front lobby only. We are operating under Federal Protective Service Level 3. This means that all personnel, including their purses, packages, etc., are subject to search. In addition, visitors may be required to be escorted by Corps personnel while in the building.