NEW LOCK AT THE SOO PROJECT UPDATE

Mollie Mahoney P.E. PMP
Deputy Chief, New Lock Project Office

Kristina Schnettler P.E.
Senior Project Manager

New Lock at the Soo

29 SEPT 2026

U.S. ARMY

US Army Corps of Engineers®

HISTORY OF THE SOO LOCKS

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1855
State Lock Opens

1896
First Poe Lock Opens

1919
Sabin Lock Opens

1969
Second Poe Lock Opens

2011
Preparatory Work for New Soo Lock Completed

1800 1850 1900 1950 2000 2050

1986
New Soo Lock Authorized

2020
New Lock at the Soo Construction Started

US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Detroit District

1883
Wietzel Lock Opens

1914
Davis Lock Opens

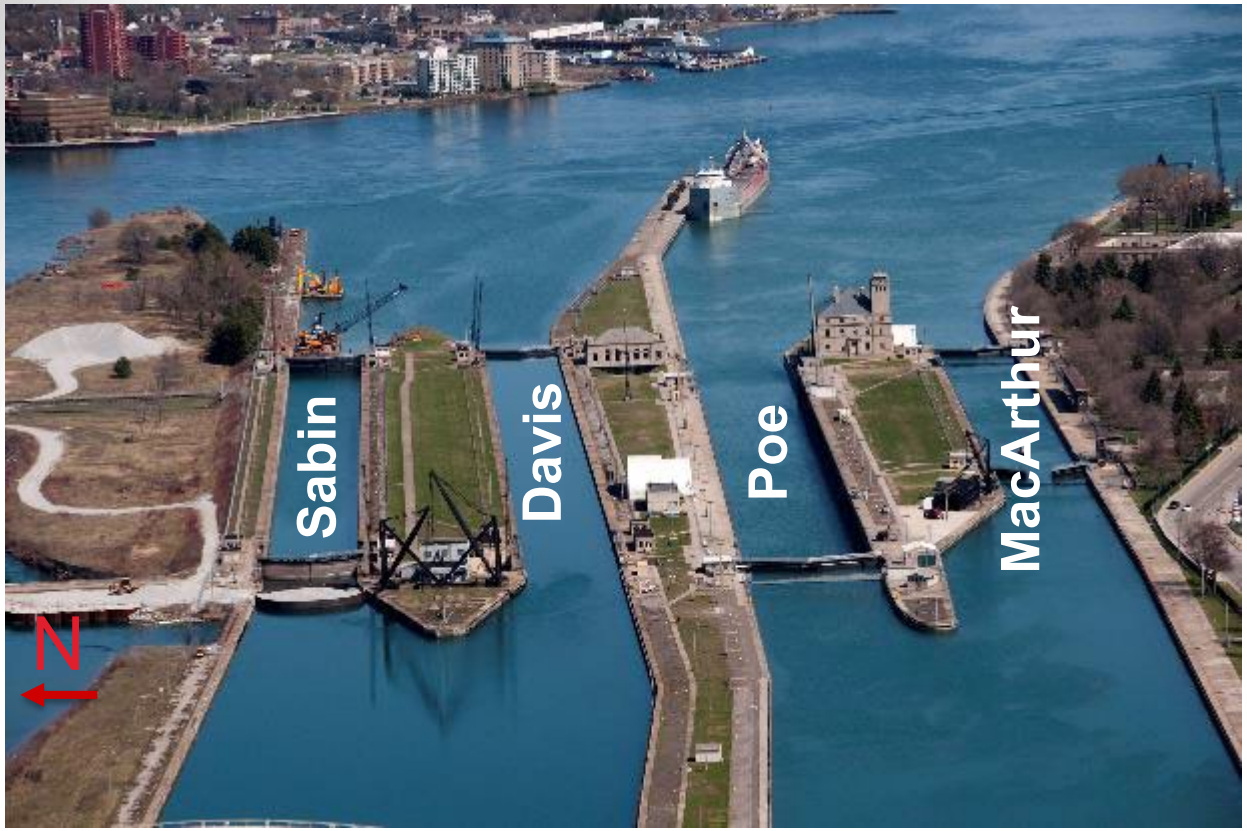
1943
MacArthur Lock Opens

2030 New Lock at the Soo Scheduled Completion

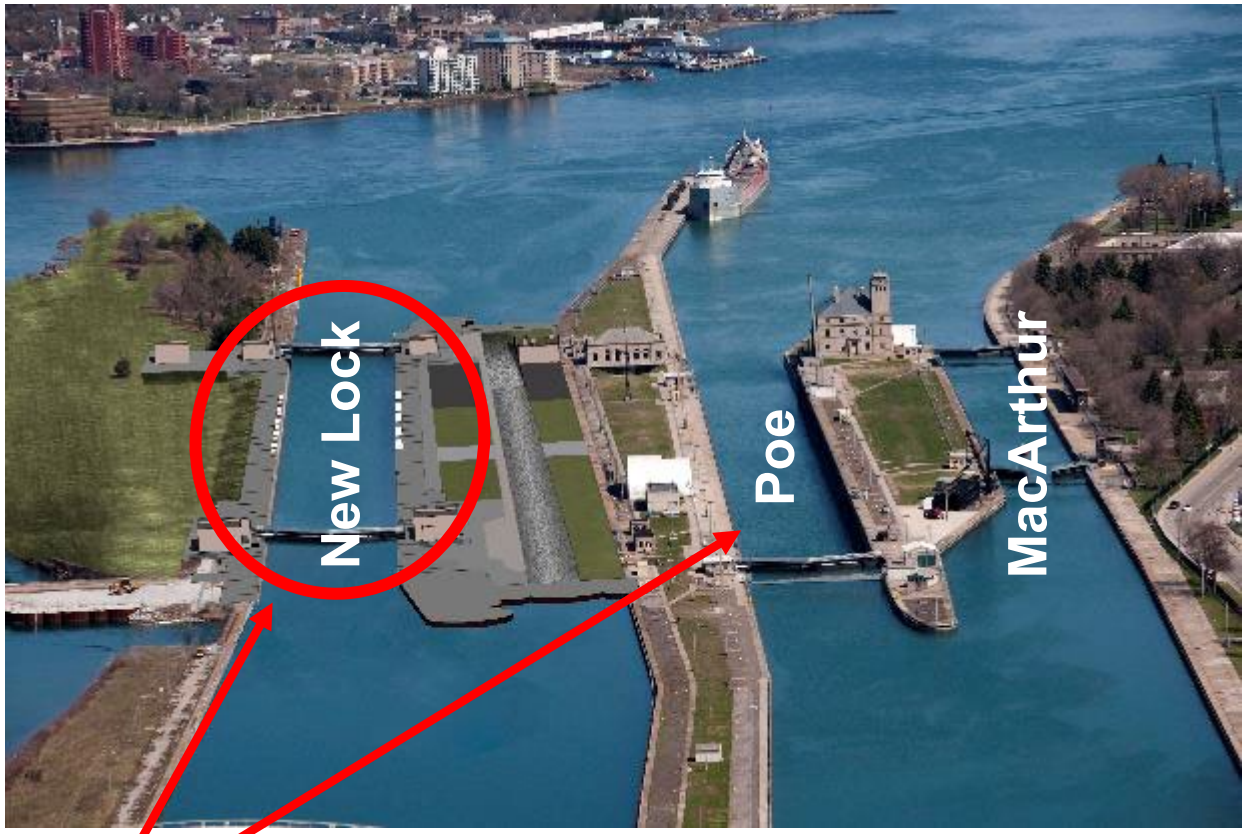
- A new lock was constructed on average every 19 years from 1855 to 1969

NEW LOCK AT THE SOO RENDERING

U.S. ARMY



Pre-Construction Facility



Future Facility

New lock will have **same dimensions** as existing Poe Lock
(1,200 ft length by 110 ft width and a depth of 32 ft)

NEW LOCK AT THE SOO ALLOCATIONS & CAPABILITIES

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$2.407B Funded to Date*

A Federal Allocation

B Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

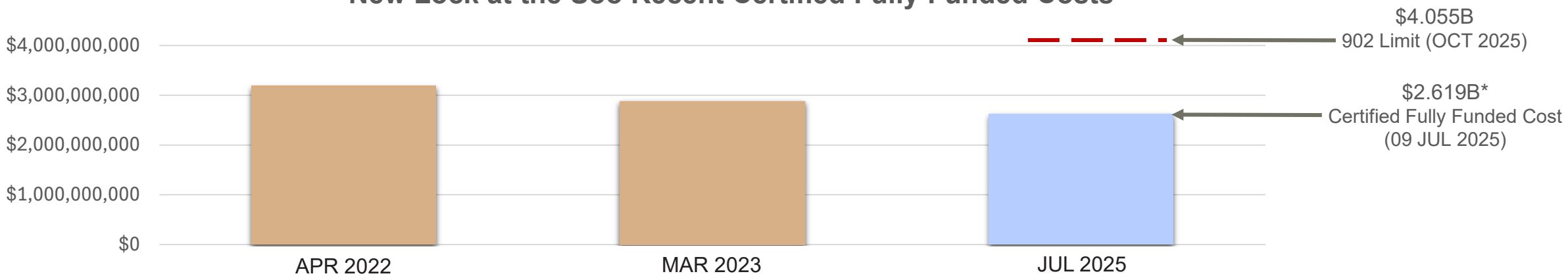
M State of Michigan

C Capability

PRIOR YEARS	FY 26	FY 27
A $1.486B	A	C
M $52.0M		
B $693.1M		
$2.231B	$176.6M	$78.0M**

*Includes $52M voluntarily contributed to the project by the State of Michigan in 2019.
**FY27 Capability fully funded in FY27 President's Budget Request.

New Lock at the Soo Recent Certified Fully Funded Costs



(AS OF 30 SEP 2026)

NEW LOCK AT THE SOO CONSTRUCTION STATUS

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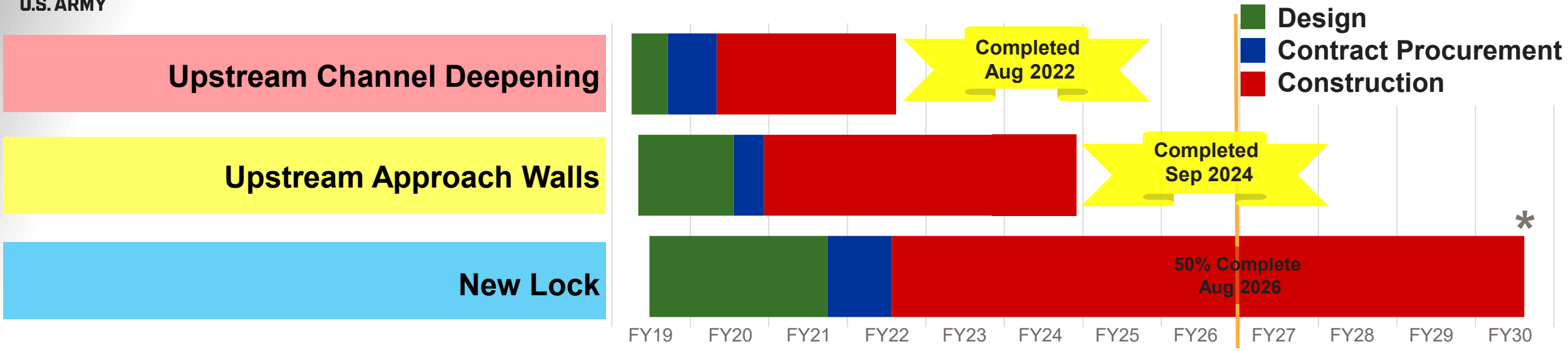


* Assumes continued efficient funding

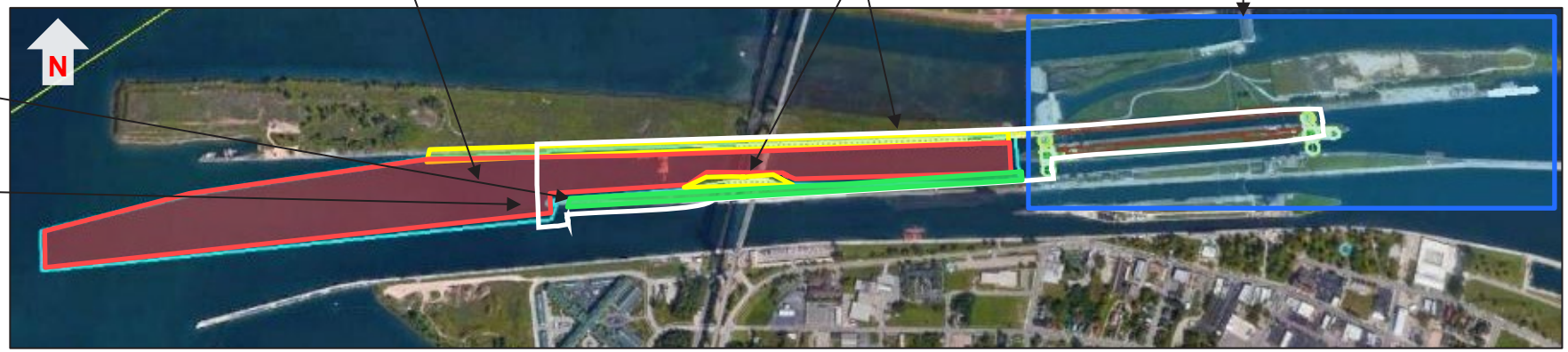
Upstream Channel Deepening
(Completed AUG 2022)

Upstream Approach Walls
(Completed SEP 2024)

New Lock
(Base and Options)

Remaining Upper Approach Wall Work
(FY27 Award)

Ice Mitigation Feature Construction
(Tentative FY27 Award)



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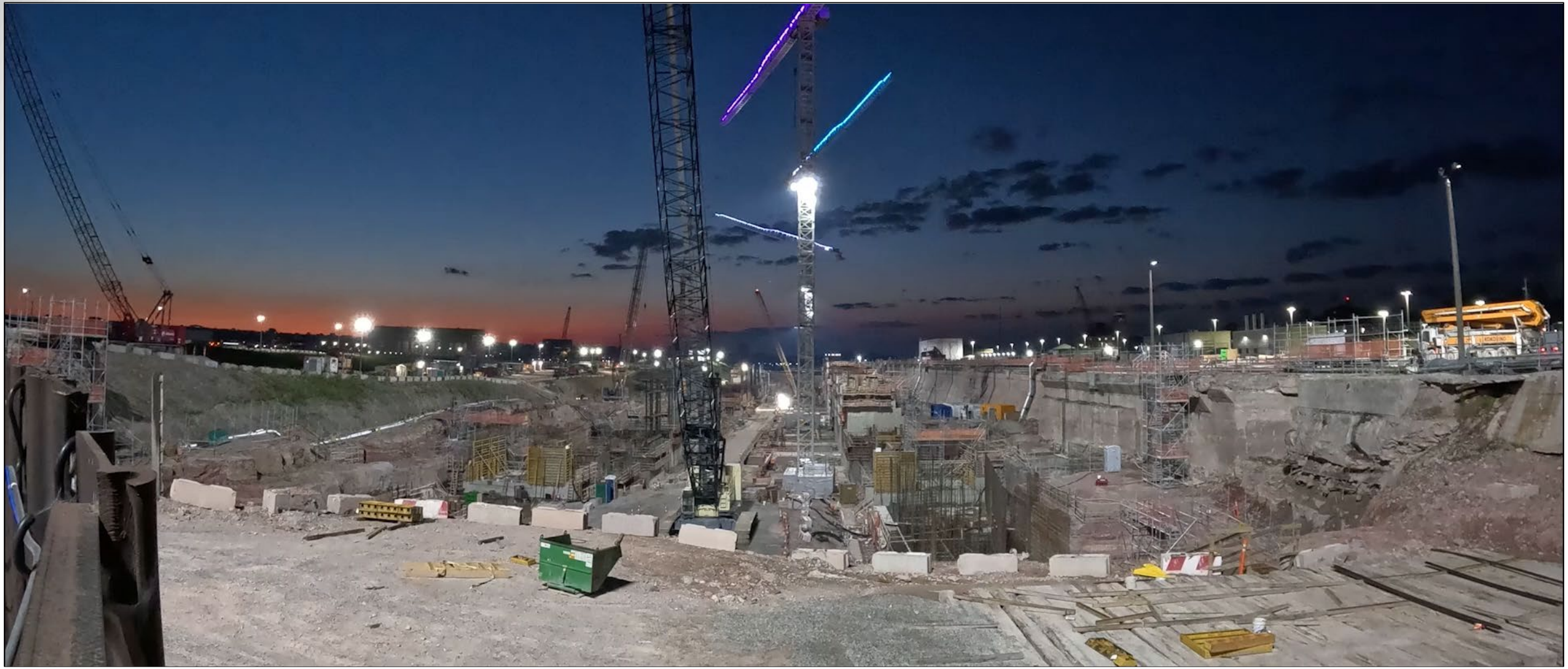
NEW LOCK PHASE 3 - 50% Complete!



NEW LOCK AT THE SOO CONSTRUCTION STATUS

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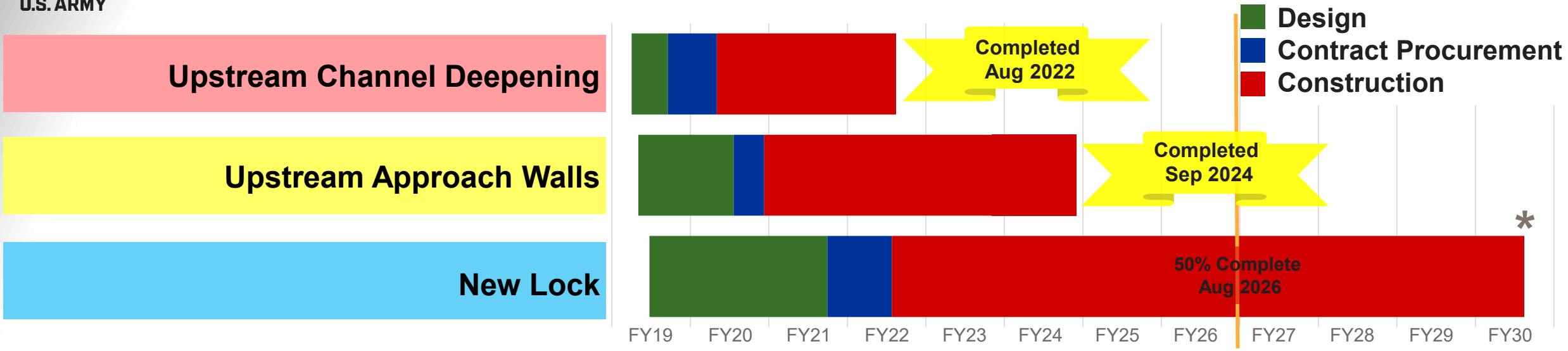

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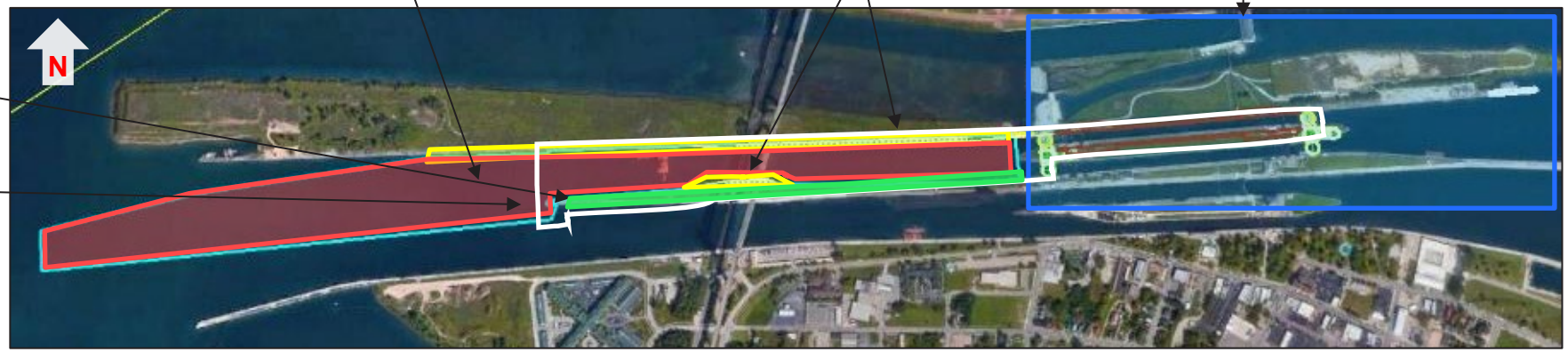

REMAINING UPPER APPROACH WALL WORK

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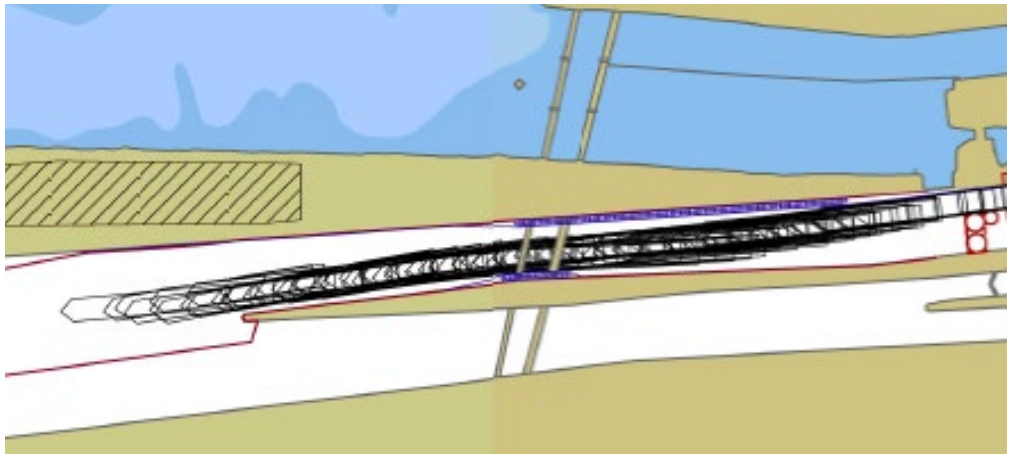
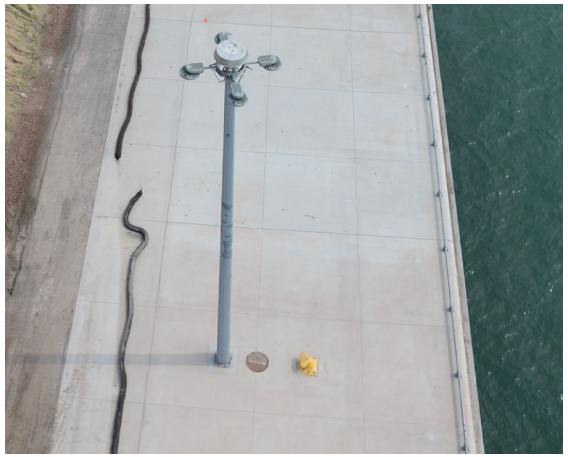
Virtual navigation through the New Lock at the Soo, ERDC Ship Simulation Study (May 2019)



Upbound vessel track plots, ERDC Ship Simulation Study (May 2019)



UAW high mast LED light fixture, mooring bollard, and guardrail (completed Sep 2024)

ICE MITIGATION

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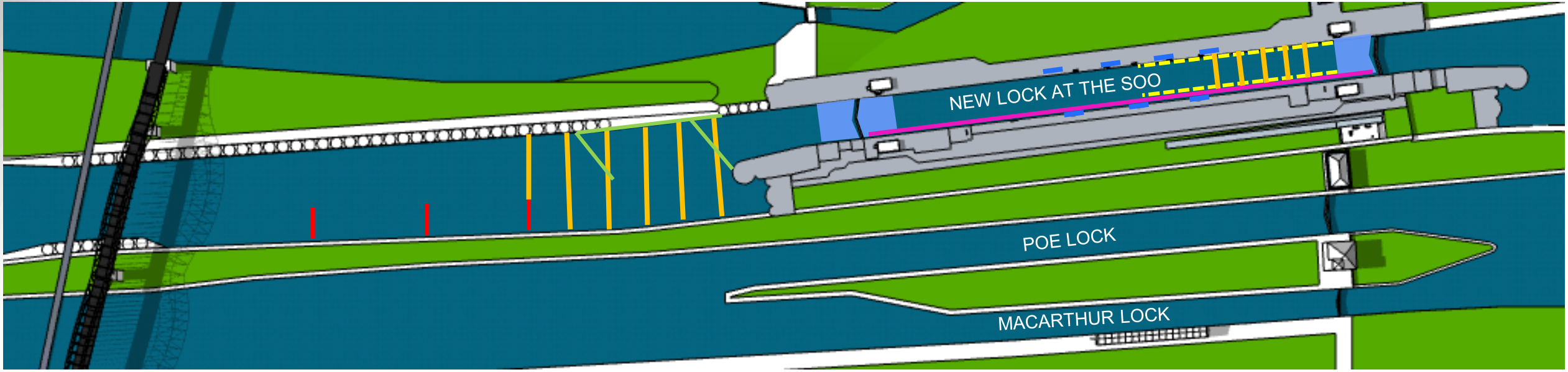

Ice Mitigation Features Under Design:

1. Ice Booms
2. Bubbler Curtains
3. Cascade Curtains
4. Chamber Wall Coatings
5. Longitudinal Bubbler Curtain
6. Additional Point Source Bubblers around Miter Gates

NEW LOCK CONSTRUCTION MILESTONES

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2020
- Upstream Deepening Start
- Upstream Approach Walls Start

2021

2022
- New Lock (Phase 3) Start
- Upstream Deepening Complete

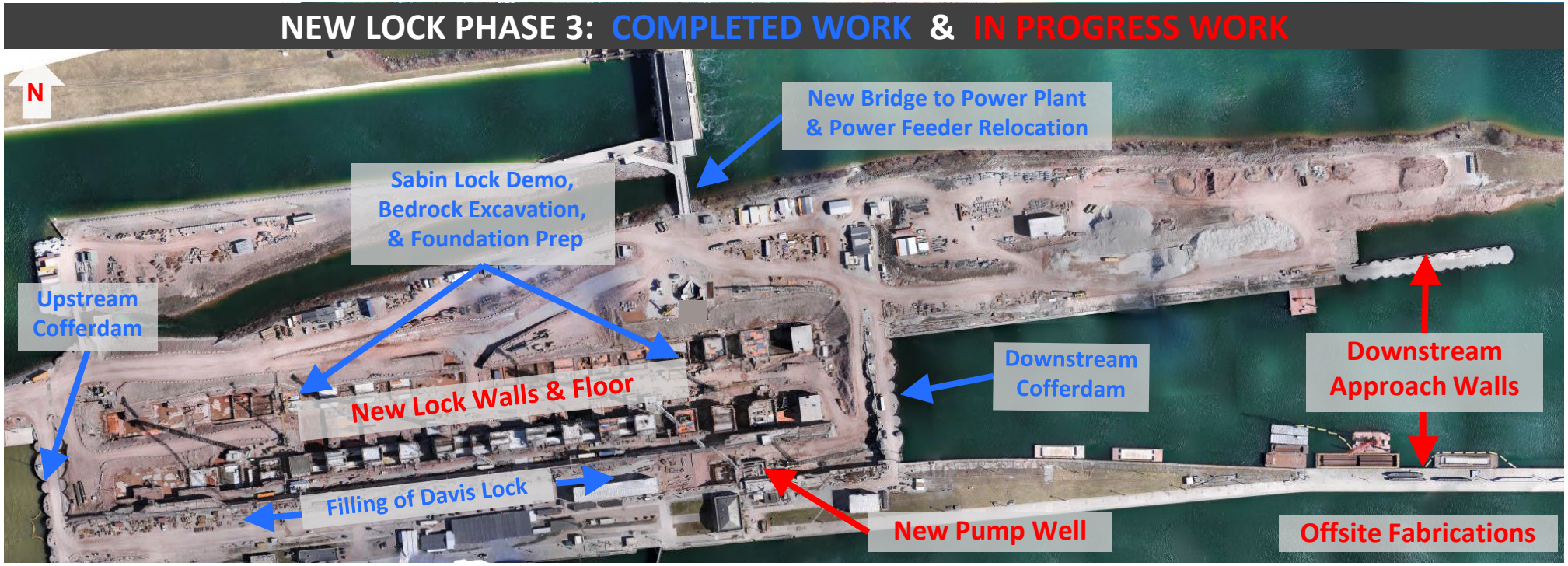
2023

2024
- Construction Site Dewatered
- Upstream Approach Walls Complete
- First Concrete Placement

2025
- Sabin Lock Demo Complete
- First Monolith Complete

2026
- 100,000 Cubic Yards of Concrete Placed
- Start of Lock Floor Construction
- Phase 3 Contract 50% Complete

NEW LOCK – PHASE 3 (CONSTRUCTION IN PROGRESS)



Scope: Construct new 1,200’ long by 110’ wide by 32’ deep chamber, New Pump Well, and New Power Plant Bridge, and rehabilitate downstream approach walls

Construction Status:

- Contract awarded in July 2022 to Kokosing Alberici Traylor, LLC
- Total contract is valued at $1.940B
- Over $975M of work completed to date

Estimated Completion: Summer 2030

NEW LOCK - PHASE 3: PROGRESS

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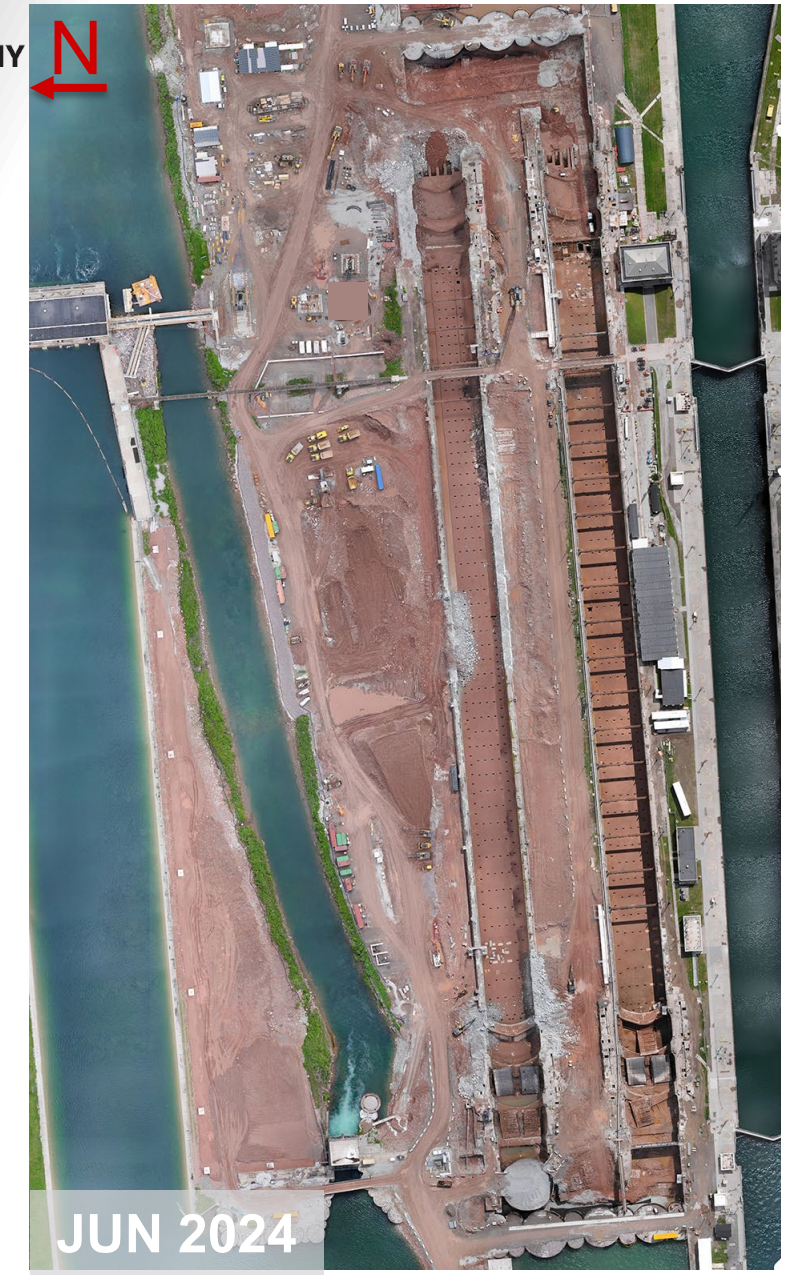

Completed Features

- ✓ Dewatering
- ✓ Bridge to NPP
- ✓ Sabin Lock Demo
- ✓ Davis Lock Fill
- ✓ Tower Crane Construction
- ✓ Bedrock Excavation
- ✓ Monolith Foundation Preparation

In Progress Features

- Wall Construction
- Floor Construction
- New Pump Well Construction
- Offsite Fabrication of Lock Components
- Downstream Approach Walls

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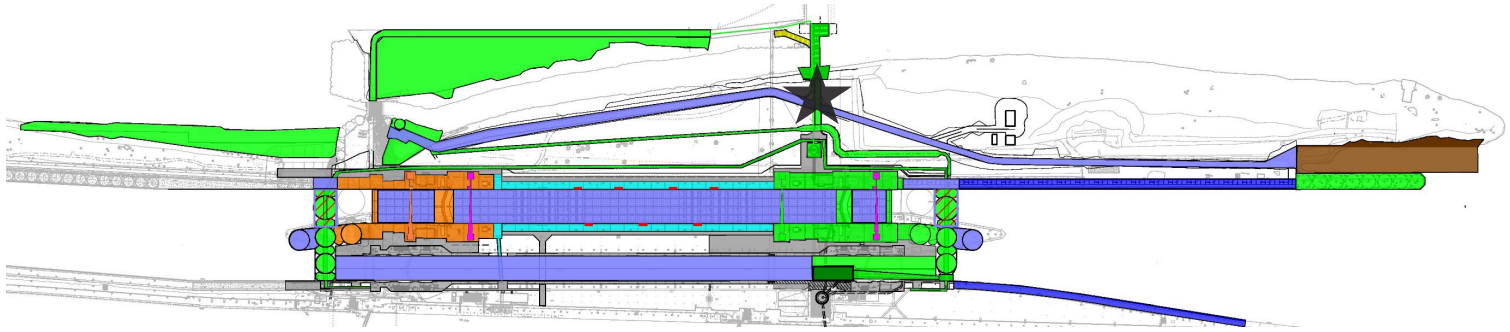
✓ BRIDGE TO NEW POWER PLANT



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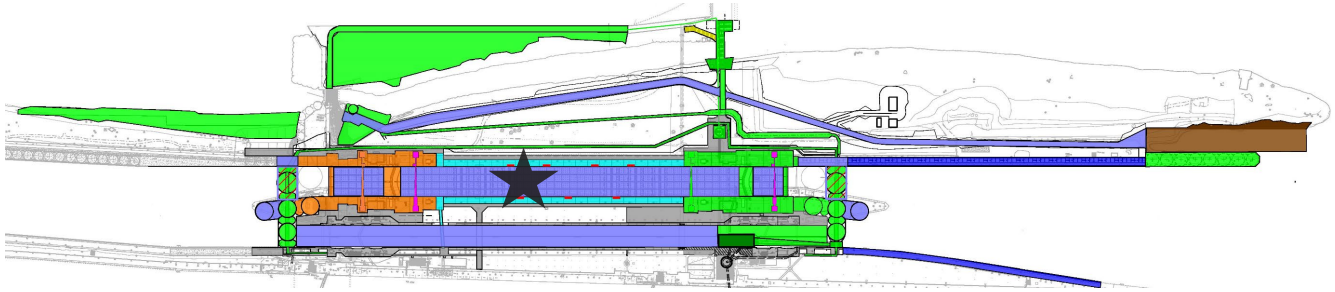
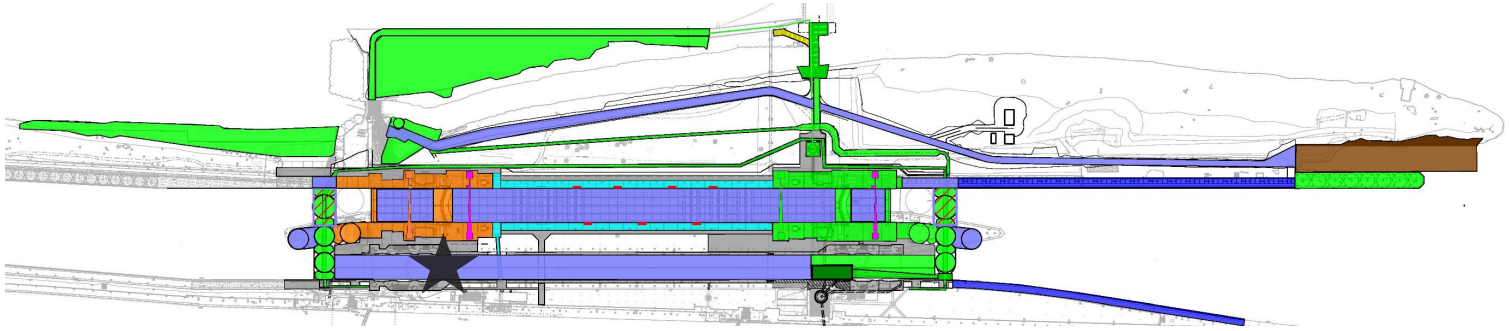
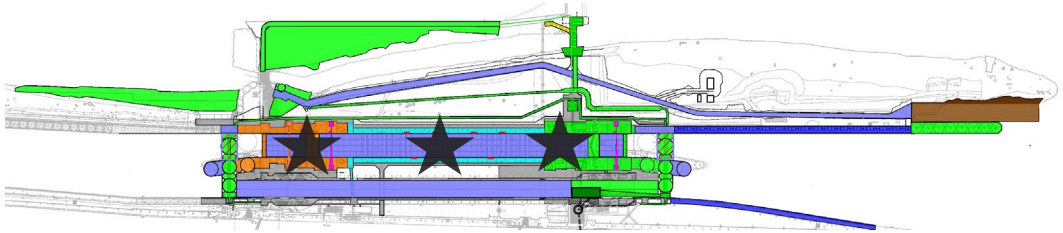
✓ SABIN LOCK DEMO



✓ DAVIS LOCK FILL



✓ TOWER CRANE CONSTRUCTION



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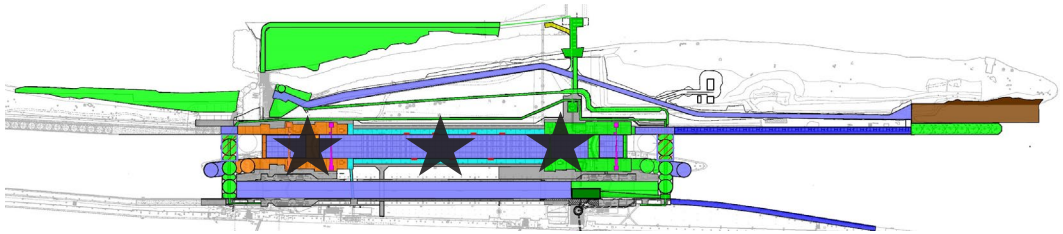

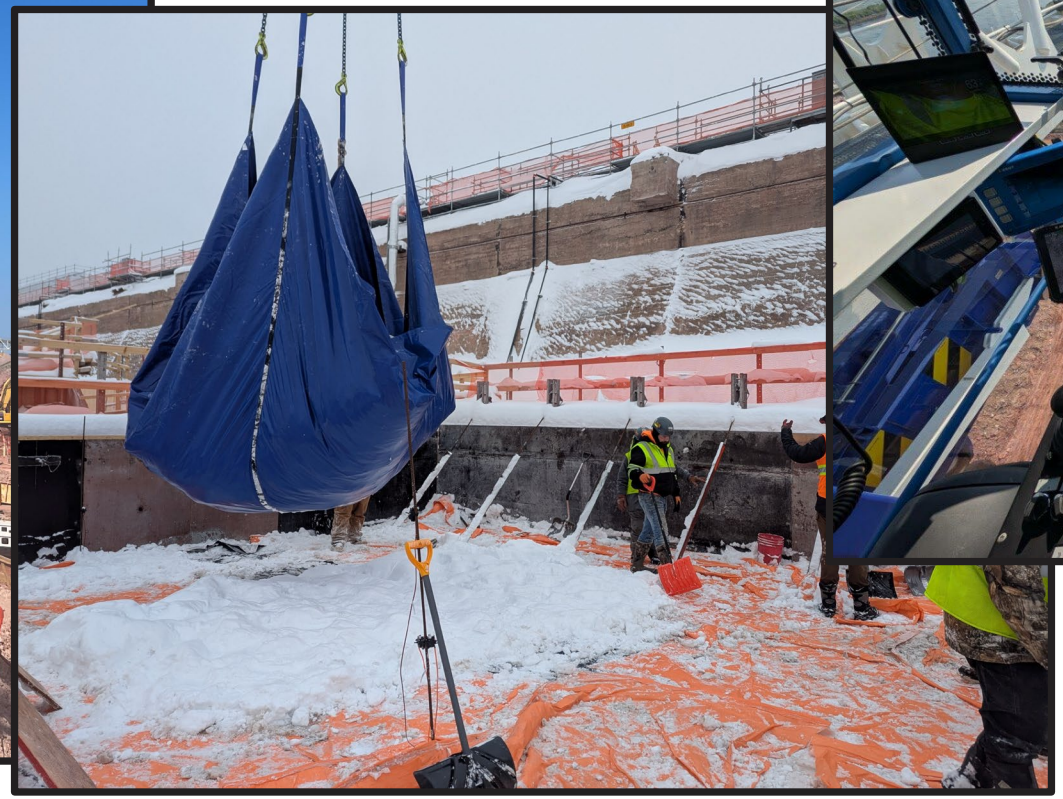

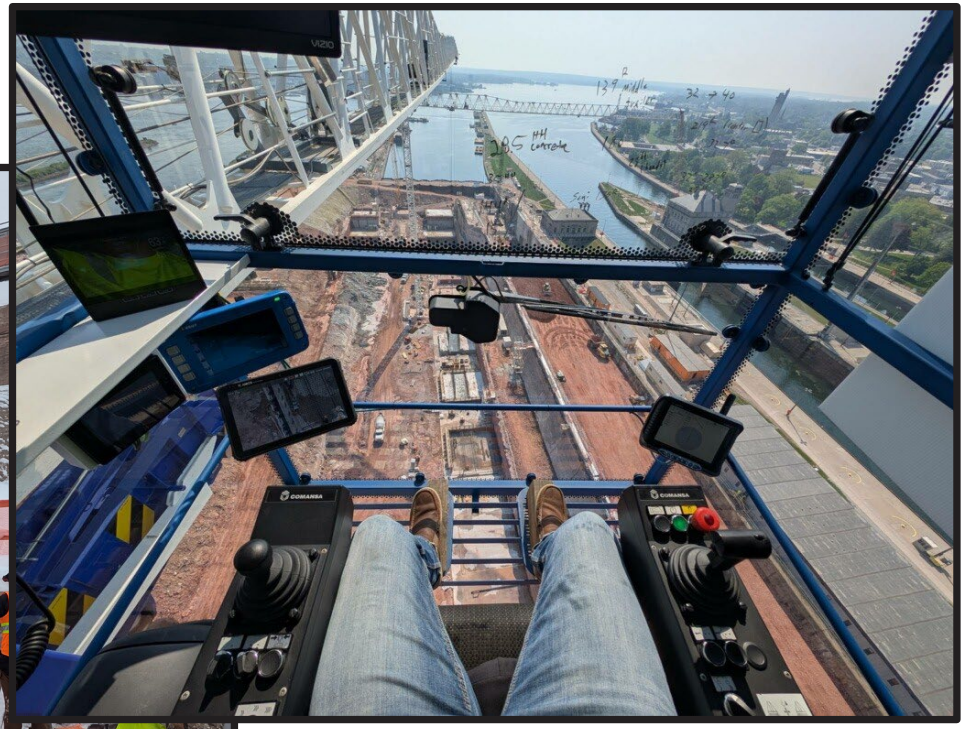

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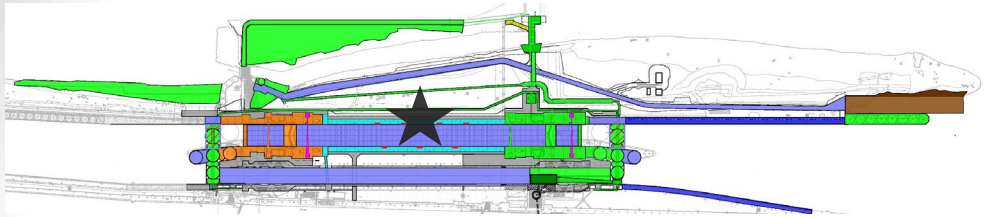
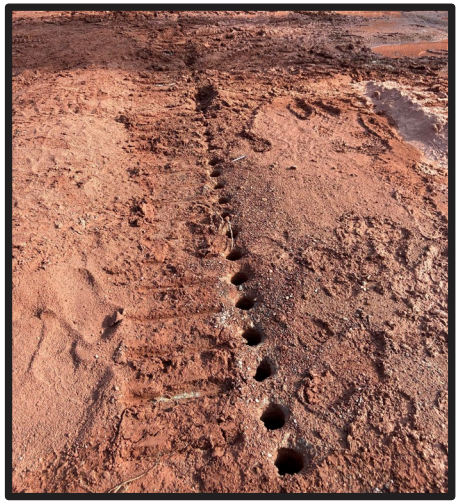
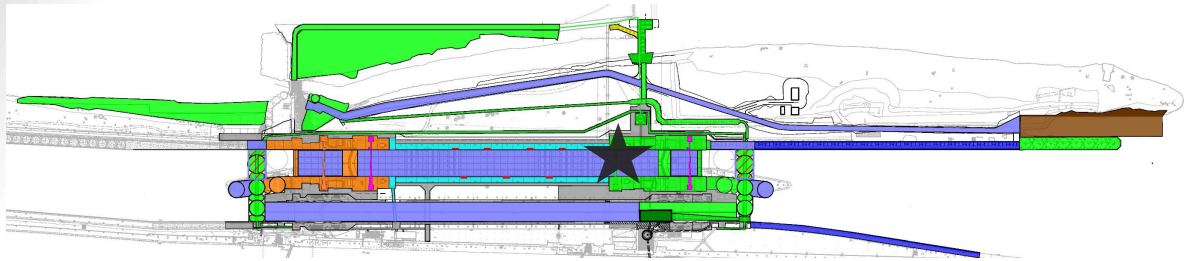
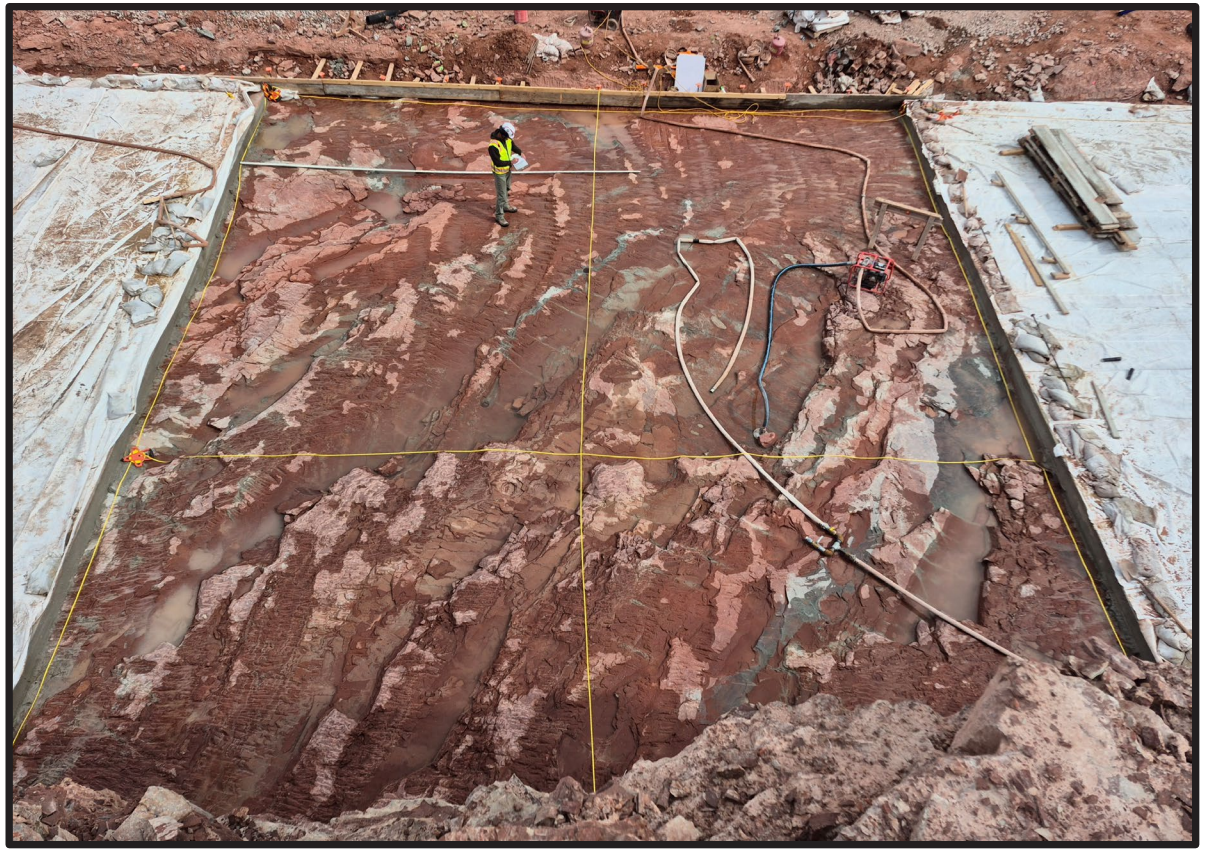
✓ BEDROCK EXCAVATION

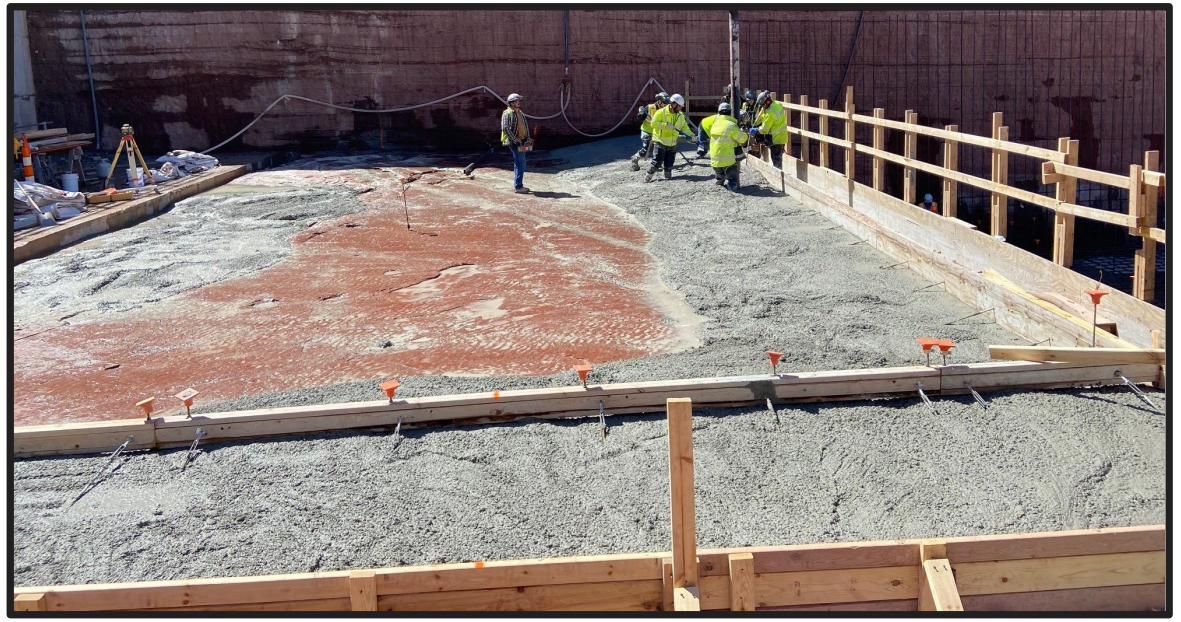




✓ MONOLITH FOUNDATION PREPARATION







WALL CONSTRUCTION

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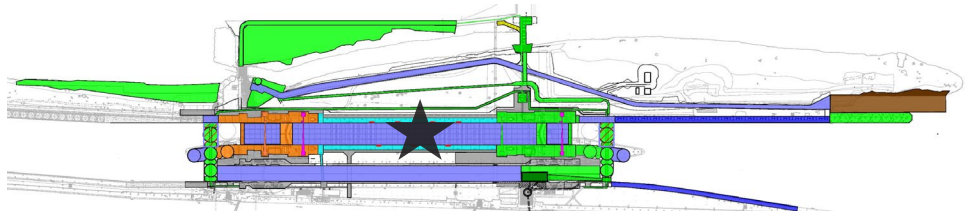
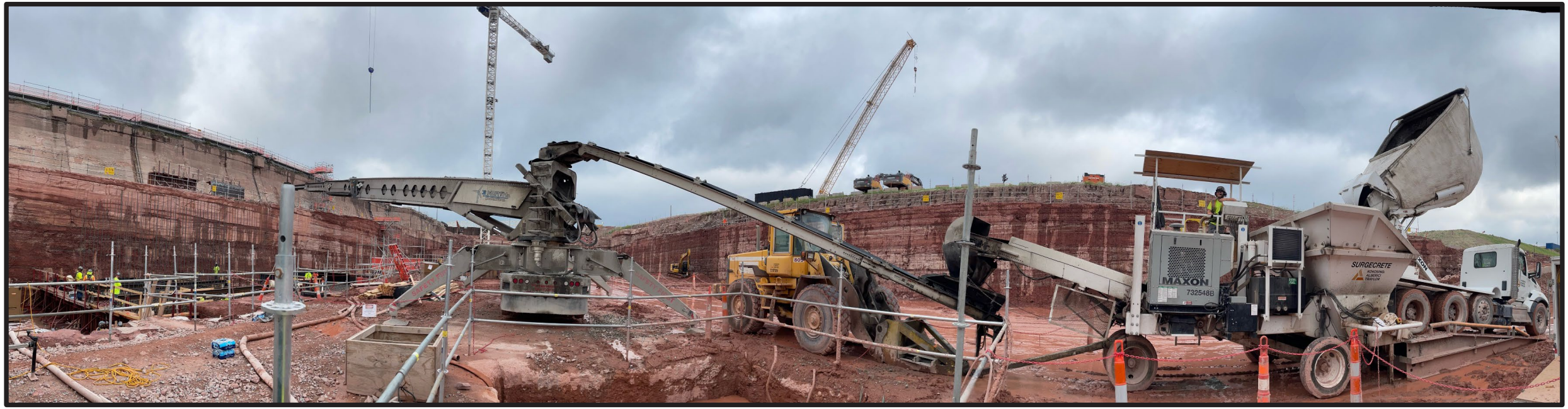
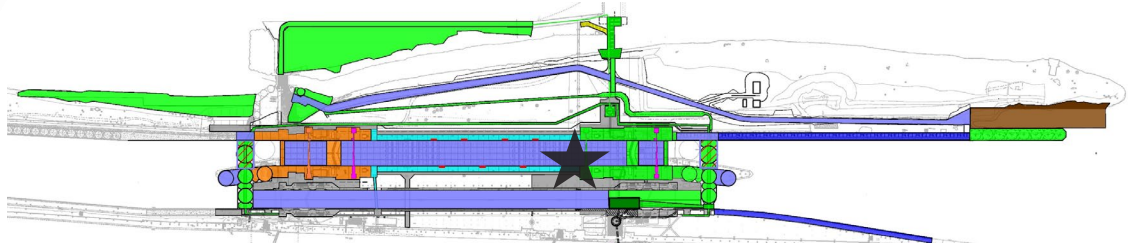


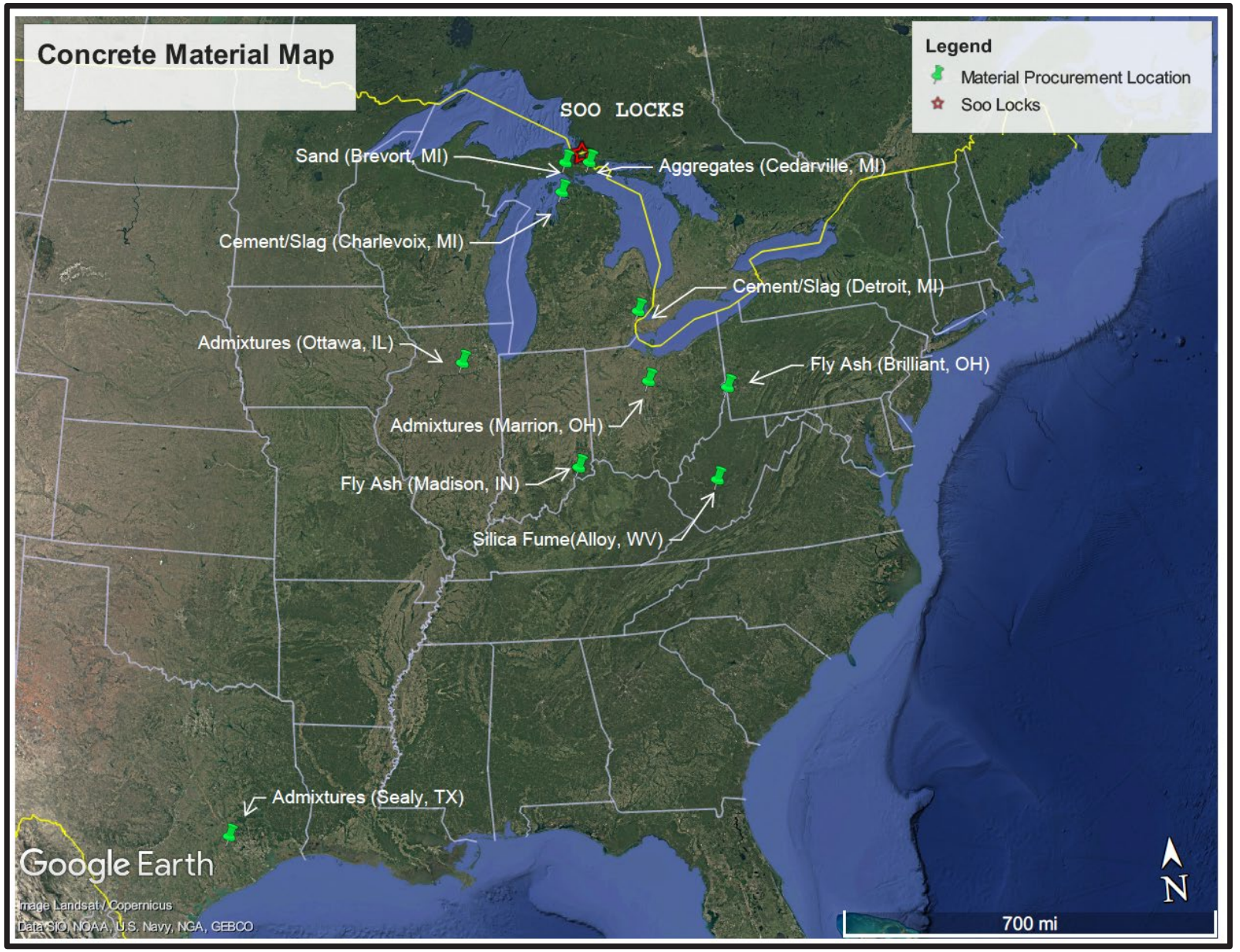


WALL CONSTRUCTION

U.S. ARMY



MONOLITH CONCRETE



MONOLITHS COMPLETE – (9)

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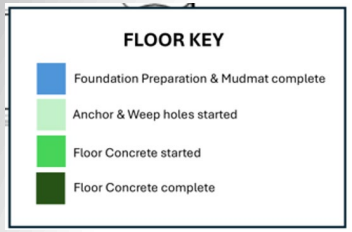

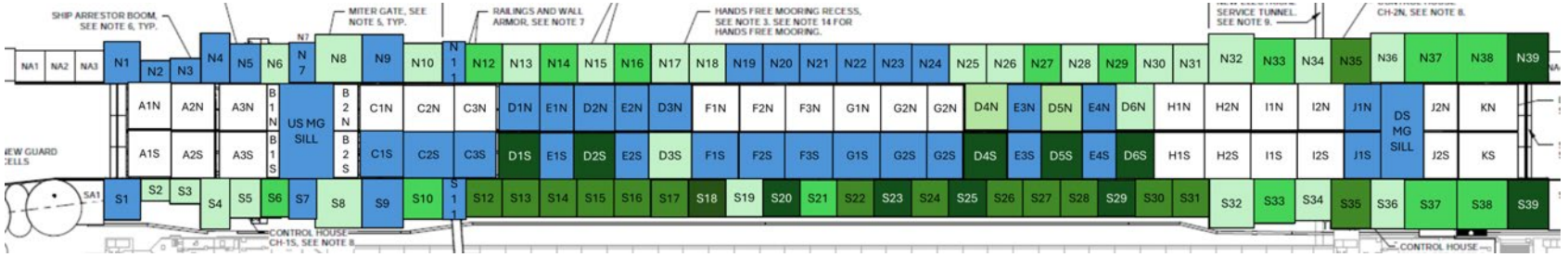

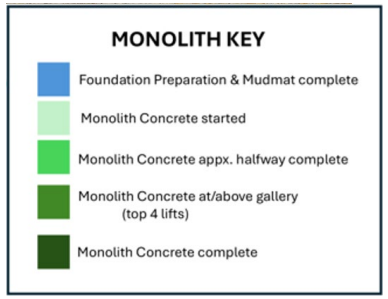

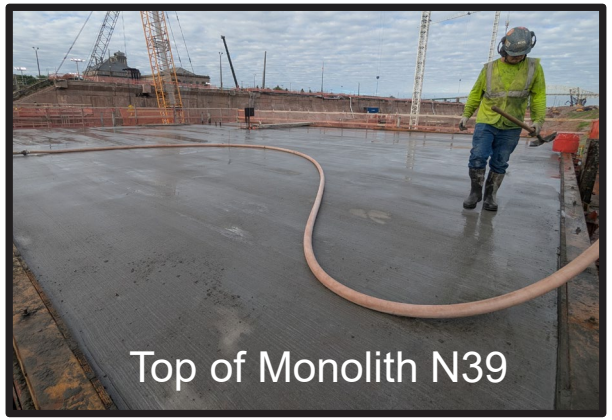

FLOOR CONSTRUCTION

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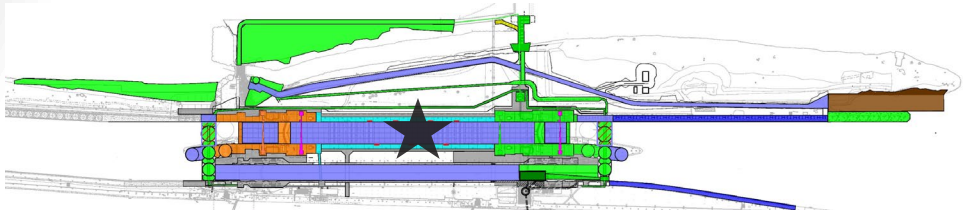
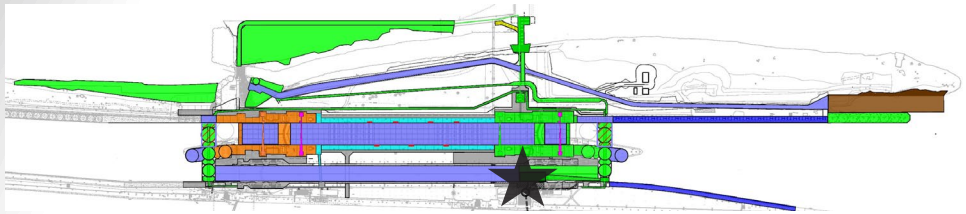


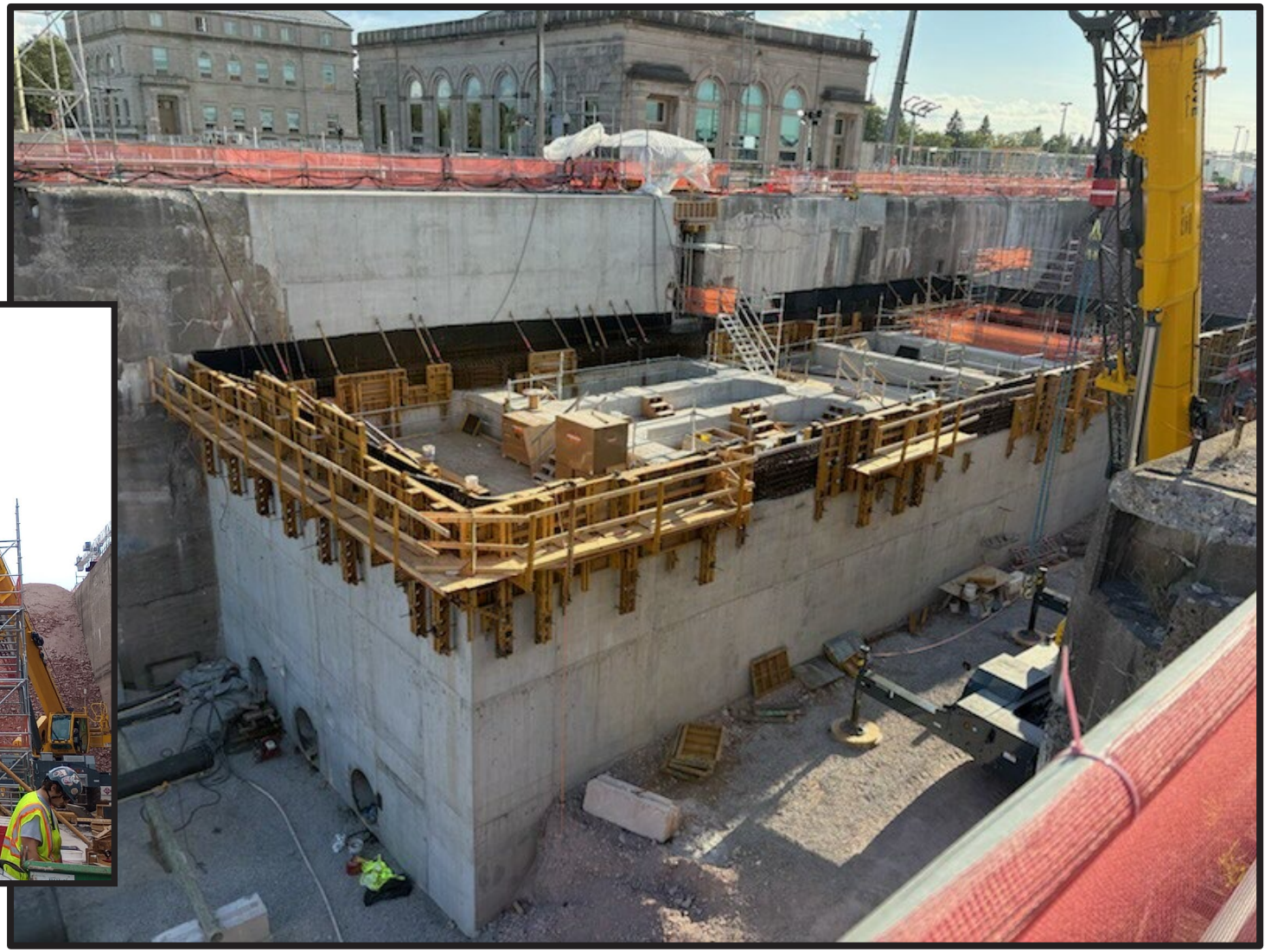
NEW LOCK AT THE SOO: CONCRETE

The quantity of concrete (400,000 cubic yards) used to construct the New Lock at the Soo could build a 5 ft wide sidewalk from the Soo Locks to Orlando, FL

U.S. ARMY

NEW PUMP WELL





OFF-SITE FABRICATION

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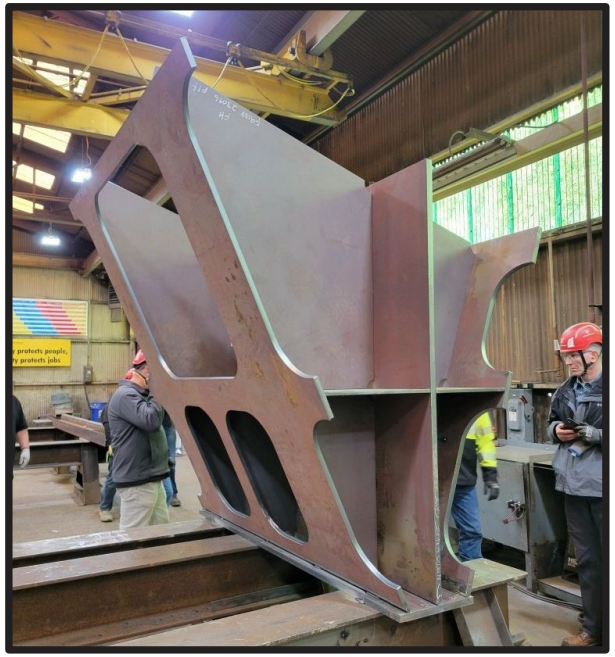

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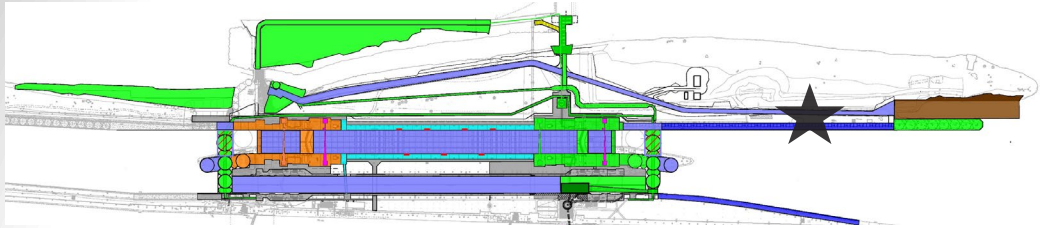
DOWNSTREAM APPROACH WALL



ROADMAP TO COMPLETION

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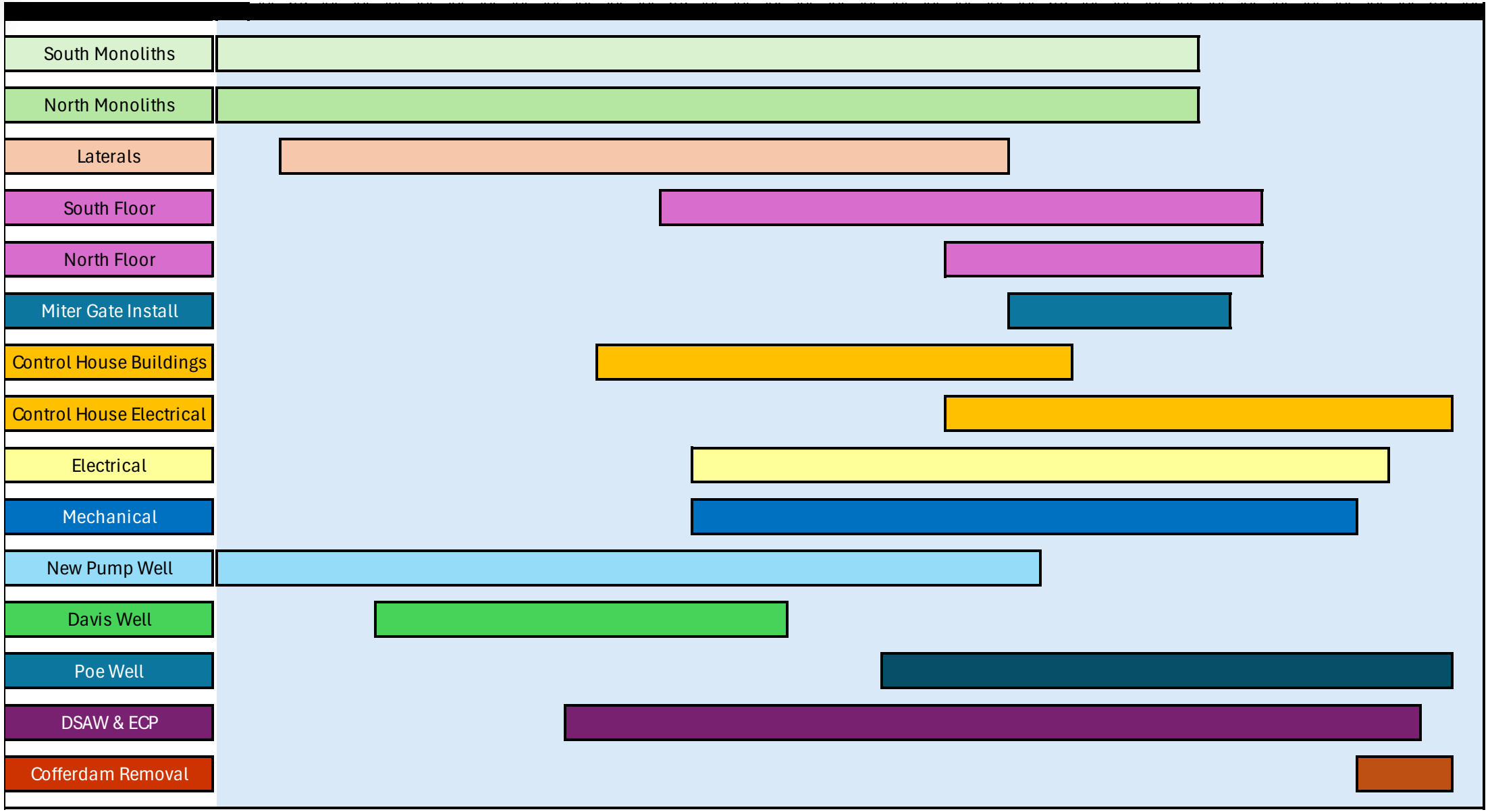
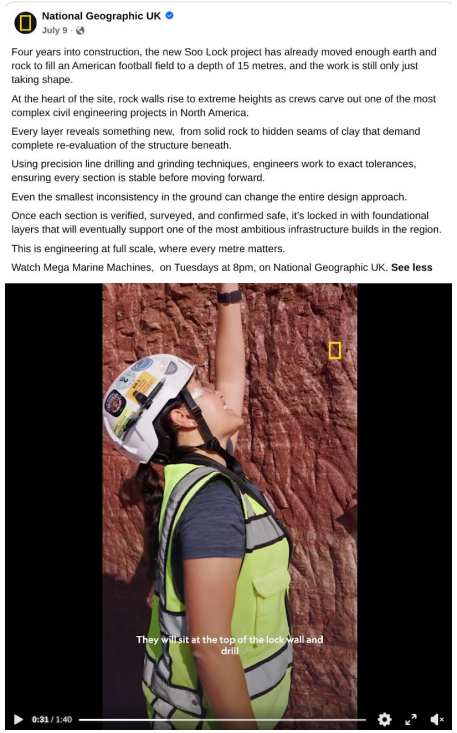


RECENT & UPCOMING SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

U.S. ARMY

Recent Engagements and Dates of Importance:

- Mega Marine Machines National Geographic episode: Jul 2026
- Detroit District Change of Command, Lt. Col. Bandeff to Lt. Col. Lew: Jul 2026
- Maj. Gen. Jason Kelly visit: Jul 2026
- USACE Historians – oral history interviews: Aug 2026
- Lake Carriers' Assoc. visit: Sep 2026



Lt. Col. Donald Lew
Detroit District Commander

U.S. ARMY

QUESTIONS