

Marine Highway M-35

Sponsors: Illinois Department of Transportation, Iowa Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Missouri Department of Transportation, and Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Supporters: Inland Rivers Ports and Terminals Association and Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

Landside Routes Served: Interstate-35, Interstate-94, (includes U.S. 61, Missouri State Route 27, Iowa State Route 27, and I-35)

Route Description:

The M-35, which can commonly be referred to as “Waterway of the Saints” Marine Highway Route, links the Upper Mississippi River with the existing M-55 Route. The M-35 Route runs from Lock/Mile 1 on the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, MN to the confluence of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers in Grafton, Illinois, where the M-55 Route begins. Together, the M-35 and M-55 provide an all-water route from the beginning of the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico.

Attributes:

This M-35 is a major hub for freight tonnage transported by truck to some of the region’s major metropolitan areas such as Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN, Chicago, IL, and St. Louis, MO. By 2040, the U.S. Department of Transportation predicts that several major highway segments (e.g., I-70 in Missouri, I-80 in Iowa, and I-90 and I-94 from Chicago to Minneapolis) will experience more recurring peak-period congestion and high volume truck segments on the National Highway System that carry more than 8,500 trucks per day.

Water transportation is an important part of the Upper Mississippi River region’s freight network. The M-35 promotes domestic and international trade by establishing a strong link and other connections to the Gulf of Mexico. For example, in 2011, approximately 61.2 million short tons of cargo were transported on the M-35, compared to 60.7 million tons in 2010 (domestic and foreign). The states along the M-35 use the Upper Mississippi River to ship commodities to as many as 15 adjacent or nearby states.



Marine Highways

- M-35
- Other Marine Highway Routes

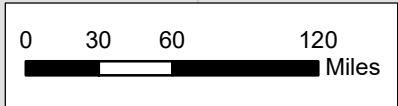


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Projection:
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Data Sources:

1. International Boundaries: IPUMS (<https://international.ipums.org/international/gis.shtml>)
2. Bathymetry data: Michael Baker International
3. Marine Highways: MARAD/DOT