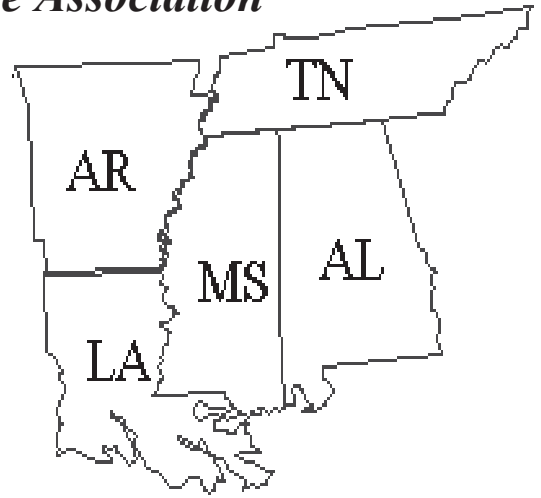


# *Southern Currents*



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**Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community**

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**Date: May 18, 2009**

**No.: 09-007**

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**SUBJECT: Asian Gypsy Moth High Risk Season Awareness**

The purpose of this trade notice is to inform the maritime vessel and vessel agent industries of the upcoming Asian Gypsy Moth season. The Asian Gypsy Moth is one of the most devastating plant pests in the world but has not been established in the United States. Any vessels transiting or performing business in ports of Far East Russia, Japan and South Korea are high risk for Asian Gypsy Moth. To ensure the awareness of this pest, Customs and Border Protection will begin an outreach effort.

Beginning May 26, 2009, CBP will be providing Asian Gypsy Moth posters to vessel agents for distribution to their vessel captains who frequent these ports. These posters should be placed on vessels for crewmen awareness. Posters will be provided to the industry at the marine desk at seaports in Louisiana.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Merlin Hymel, Assistant Port Director, Trade at (504) 670-2088.

/s/

Mitch M. Merriam  
Area Port Director  
New Orleans, LA