

November 21st 2021

To Whom It May Concern

While working as pilot Southbound with 35 loads onboard the M/V Marquette Warrior at approximately mile 539 LMR we encountered an electrical issue which resulted in loss of steering.

I sounded the general alarm and followed the company procedures that have been set in place for such an occurrence.

I immediately started maneuvers to lessen the impact in case steering was not restored in time to avoid grounding.

I then notified via VHS radio all boats in the area that risk of grounding was inevitable as we were coming down into a tight bend at Lagrange Light approximately mile 538 LMR.

Within a few minutes I had the tow slowed to under 6 MPH and steering had been restored but it was not soon enough to avoid grounding the port lead barges in the port 3 strings.

Captain Jerry Alexander was my lookout and handled communication as I worked to contain the situation at hand.

Tow busted up and we were able to control the other 32 barges within a couple hours.

Please see the surveyors report for a list of any damages or loss.

Thank You

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of John C Mitchell.

John C Mitchell