

# MarketWatch | Refined Products

Monday, March 21, 2022

## Market Commentary

Recap: The past week was a wild ride for crude oil prices, with WTI crashing into \$93.53 before reverting to the upside. Despite the higher move on Friday, oil futures fell more than 4% for the week. Market participants are a bit confused on what to make of the Russian oil exports volumes, with all eyes on Russian exports for April and May, which so far have found very few buyers. April WTI rose \$1.72, or 1.7%, to \$104.70 a barrel. WTI has fallen 9.5%, or \$11, over the past two weeks. May Brent tacked on \$1.29, or 1.21%, to end the week at \$107.93, for a weekly loss of 4.21%. April RBOB rose 2.22 cents or 0.69% to \$3.2288 a gallon, for a weekly loss of 2.21%, while April heating oil added 11.07 cents, or 3.17%, to settle at \$3.5981 a gallon, up

<u>Technical Analysis</u>: A lot of the war premium has been taken out of the market, and now we are focusing on the continued supply issues. Although oil futures showed signs of exhaustion during the week, WTI hammered out a bottom down around the 50-day moving average. Coming into the week's trading session, we expect to see prices work higher, with a near term objective of \$110, with resistance above that at \$114.88. Support is set at \$100 and \$96.47.

<u>Fundamental News</u>: The International Energy Agency unveiled a 10-point plan to reduce oil use focused mostly on reducing transportation as Russia's invasion of Ukraine deepens concerns about supply. The IEA said recommendations could reduce oil demand by 2.7 million bpd within four months, with measures including lower speed limits, working from home, carfree days in cities, cheaper public transport and more carpooling.

On Friday, the Kremlin accused Ukraine of trying to drag out peace talks, saying that Russia's delegation was showing readiness to work faster than the Ukrainian side. Earlier, the Kremlin said Russian President Vladimir Putin told German Chancellor Olaf Scholz during a phone call on Friday that Kyiv was attempting to stall peace talks with Russia but that Moscow was still keen to continue negotiations. Separately, a German government spokesperson said German Chancellor Olaf Scholz called for a ceasefire in Ukraine during a phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday. In their nearly hour-long conversation, Chancellor Scholz also stressed that the humanitarian situation needed to be improved and progress needed to be made in finding a diplomatic solution as soon as possible.

Later, Russian negotiator, Vladimir Medinsky, said Russia and Ukraine are "halfway there" in agreeing on the issue of Ukraine's demilitarization, and their views are most aligned on Ukraine's neutrality and giving up on joining NATO. Interfax news agency quoted Medinsky as saying negotiating teams trying to agree on ending hostilities in Ukraine were discussing nuances of security guarantees should Ukraine no longer attempt to join the Western military alliance.

Andrii Sybiha, the deputy chief of staff of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said Ukraine will not abandon its bid to join the European Union to reach a compromise with Russia as part of an agreement to end the war. The chief of staff said negotiations with Russia were ongoing but difficult. Meanwhile, Ukrainian President, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, said he spoke with the head of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen on Friday and Ukraine expects progress to be made on its application to join the European Union in the coming months.

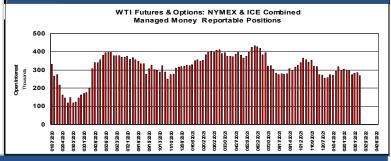
IIR Energy reported that U.S. oil refiners are expected to shut in more than 1 million bpd of capacity in the week ending March 18<sup>th</sup>, decreasing available refining capacity by 55,000 bpd. Early Market Call - as of 9:38 AM EDT

WTI - Apr \$109.50 up \$4.80 RBOB - Apr \$3.3588 up 12 cents HO - Apr \$3.8248 up 22.67 cents

### All NYMEX | Prior Settlements

	ULSD (HO)	Prior Settle	Change In
Month	Close	Change	One Week
Apr-22	\$3.5981	\$0.1107	\$0.1805
May-22	\$3.3821	\$0.0884	\$0.0890
Jun-22	\$3.2051	\$0.0650	\$0.0136
Jul-22	\$3.0842	\$0.0437	-\$0.0416
Aug-22	\$3.0042	\$0.0335	-\$0.0648
Sep-22	\$2.9593	\$0.0337	-\$0.1097
Oct-22	\$2.9247	\$0.0363	-\$0.0435
Nov-22	\$2.8893	\$0.0392	-\$0.0325
Dec-22	\$2.8546	\$0.0428	-\$0.0246
Jan-23	\$2.8235	\$0.0443	-\$0.0201
Feb-23	\$2.7966	\$0.0432	-\$0.0173
Mar-23	\$2.7681	\$0.0430	-\$0.0124
Apr-23	\$2.7376	\$0.0423	-\$0.0075
May-23	\$2.7135	\$0.0413	-\$0.0030
Jun-23	\$2.6949	\$0.0407	\$0.0008
Jul-23	\$2.6830	\$0.0396	\$0.0041
Aug-23	\$2.6730	\$0.0383	\$0.0085
Sprague HeatCurve C	Octobor 2022 April 202	2	<b>ፍ</b> ኃ ያኃኃፍ

Sprague HeatCurve October 2022-April 2023		\$2.8226	
		Close	Change
Crude - WTI	May Brent-	<b>\$</b> 104.7000	\$1.7200
Crude - Brent	WTI Spread	\$107.9300	\$1.2900
Natural Gas	\$3.23	\$4.8630	-\$0.1270
Gasoline		\$3.2388	\$0.0222



## Commitment of Traders Report for the Week Ending March 15, 2022

#### Producer/Merchant Heat Positons CFTC Commitment of Traders Report 300 Number of Contracts 200 Thousands 150 Short 100 50 0 01-Jan-19 02-Apr-19 01-0ct-19 29-Sep-20 02-Jul-1 Week Ending

