



Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston Marine Safety Information Bulletin 46-19

Date: July 10,
2019
Time: 7:00 p.m.

POTENTIAL TROPICAL CYCLONE ACTIVITY Port Condition Whiskey


The Captain of the Port (COTP) has set Port Condition Whiskey for the ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport and Texas City and portions of the GIWW between MM-319 and MM-441.5. Heavy weather conditions from the potential tropical cyclone activity in the Gulf of Mexico are expected to make landfall within 72 hours. The port community is advised to monitor the progress of the storm and make appropriate preparations. For information on Port Conditions, please refer to Chapter 3 of the Sector Houston-Galveston Heavy Weather Plan, which is located on the HOMEPORT website.

Continued uncertainty on the impact of the track may result in decreased preparation time once the path of the storm becomes more defined. As storm information is updated, there is the potential to go to Port Condition X-Ray or straight to Port Condition Yankee. Additional guidance will be issued via Marine Safety Information Bulletins (MSIB), Broadcast Notice to Mariners or other forms as necessary. The Port Coordination Team will hold a teleconference on Thursday, July 11, at 9:00 A.M. and will facilitate communications between and amongst port stakeholders and to, and on behalf of, the COTP. Affected stakeholders should establish and maintain communications with your PCT delegates.

The COTP has established a safety zone for the following areas: That portion of Sector Houston-Galveston's Captain of the Port Zone (as defined in 33 CFR 3.40-28) west of GIWW MM-319 to include the ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport and Texas City and all surrounding navigable waterways. Vessels that desire to enter, transit or remain within this safety zone, must comply with the following requirements:

- All self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT and all oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs shall plan to immediately depart the port in the event Port Condition Yankee is set. If a vessel or barge greater than 500 GT arrives prior to the setting of Port Condition Yankee, they must be prepared to depart if Port Condition Yankee is set. Bunkering operations shall be completed prior to setting Port Condition Yankee to ensure a safe and timely departure.
- Only for extreme circumstances should self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT and oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs request to remain in port if Port Condition Yankee is set, and shall submit a Declaration of Intent to Remain In Port to the Sector Prevention Department or MSU Texas City prior to the setting of Port Condition X-Ray. The Prevention Department can be reached at houstonpsc@uscg.mil or (281) 464-4767. MSU Texas City can be reached at INSPECTIONSMSUTEXASCITY@uscg.mil or (409) 978-2718.
- Regardless of Port Condition, if sustained gale force winds are predicted (40-60 mph), the COTP will require departure from the Bolivar Anchorage 24 hours prior to predicted landfall.

Additional guidance regarding the tropical cyclone activity will be issued in the form of further Marine Safety Information Bulletins, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, or other forms as necessary. Please address questions to the Sector Houston-Galveston Command Center at (281) 464-4855. This bulletin shall remain active until cancelled or superseded by another bulletin


K. D. ODITT, Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port, Houston-Galveston, TX

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K. D. ODITT
Captain, United States Coast Guard
Captain of the Port

For a current list of MSIBs within the COTP Houston-Galveston Zone visit: <https://homeport.uscg.mil> and select Houston-Galveston under the Port Directory.