



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

Commander (spw)
U.S. Coast Guard
Sector Mobile
1500 15th Street
Mobile, AL 36615

MSIB Number: 23-18
Date: October 8, 2018
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PORT STATUS YANKEE FOR CAPTAIN OF THE PORT MOBILE AREA OF OPERATIONS

(Gale force winds are predicted within 24 hrs)

Weather Advisory Port Status YANKEE

Time: 6:00 P.M. / Date: Monday, October 8, 2018

1. Information for the Marine Industry: Due to the possibility of gale force winds (39-73 mph) associated with Hurricane Michael entering Sector Mobile's area of responsibility within 24 hours, the Captain of the Port (COTP) is ordering **Port Status YANKEE for the Ports of Gulfport, Pascagoula, Mobile, Pensacola, Panama City, and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GICWW).**
- 2.
3. Current port and waterway status: Effective 6:00 P.M., October 8, 2018
 - a. GICWW: YANKEE
 - b. Port of Panama City: YANKEE
 - c. Port of Pensacola: YANKEE
 - d. Port of Mobile: YANKEE
 - e. Port of Pascagoula: YANKEE
 - f. Port of Gulfport: YANKEE
 - g. At this time all waterways in the Mobile AOR are open to all traffic with the below mariner guidelines (see paragraph 3).
 - h. The COTP may issue additional MSIBs as the weather system approaches and Port Conditions change. Mariners throughout the COTP Mobile AOR are encouraged to use all means available to monitor the path of Hurricane Michael and remain prepared to take actions if the storm path changes.
 - i. Current information may be obtained from the COTP Mobile Voice Mail Announcement system at phone number (251) 441-5080.
4. Mariner Guidelines: The following guidelines are provided in order to make preparations for the onset weather system.
 - a. **Port Status Yankee is set at this time and the following actions are required:**

U.S. Coast Guard COTP Mobile:

- (1) The COTP Mobile may close portions of the port in response to forecasted weather and actual damage, impact, or threat in different geographic areas within the port.
- (2) The Coast Guard will conduct final assessments of waterfront facilities and vessels approved to remain in port to ensure proper mooring and heavy weather preparations have been made.

All Oceangoing Commercial Vessels and CG Regulated Barges Over 300 GT

- (1) All oceangoing commercial vessels and Coast Guard regulated barges over 300 GT, unless authorized by the COTP to remain in port, must depart their respective ports for open ocean immediately. All oceangoing commercial vessels and Coast Guard regulated barges over 300 GT that have been authorized to remain in port are required to submit a *Remaining in Port Checklist for Oceangoing Vessels* (Annex A) and a detailed mooring plan to the COTP Mobile. The request must be emailed to secmobarrivals@uscg.mil.
- (2) Oceangoing commercial vessels and Coast Guard regulated barges over 300 GT allowed to remain in port should consider the adequacy of vessel moorings and double up or change mooring line arrangements where indicated. The mooring plans submitted to the COTP Mobile must be strictly followed during all phases of the severe weather event.
- (3) ***No vessel movements within the port will be permitted unless communicated to the COTP.*** Vessel movements must also be coordinated with the cognizant Port authority, Pilots, Port Emergency Advisory Team (PEAT) and waterfront facility operator.
- (4) Complete the pre-storm preparations for Port Status **YANKEE** outlined in the *Storm Preparation Checklist for Vessels* (Annex B).

Waterfront Facilities:

- (1) Ensure all commercial vessels and oceangoing barges over 300 GT permitted to remain in port and moored at the facility are prepared for heavy weather.
- (2) Waterfront facilities must secure cargo-handling operations prior to setting Port Status **ZULU**. Product storage tanks should already be loaded to optimum level for withstanding storms, winds, and flooding. Proper measures should be taken to ensure empty sealed tanks are properly secured to the facility, filled, or opened. Ensure all buildings are secured and cargo is properly stored and secured for heavy weather.
- (3) Complete the action items for Port Condition **YANKEE** outlined in the Storm Preparation Checklist for Waterfront Facilities (Annex C)

Commercial Fishing Vessels:

- (1) Advised to seek refuge upriver away from the respective mouths of the waterways.

5. Mariners are advised that movable bridges may close as early as 12 hours prior to forecasted tropical storm force winds within the COTP Mobile AOR.
6. Ports and mariners are cautioned that the COTP Mobile may quickly change port status and other conditions as the situation develops.

7. Port Coordination Team conference calls will be held daily per the following schedule:

- 1300 Port of Gulfport
- 1330 Port of Pascagoula
- 1400 Port of Mobile
- 1430 Ports of Pensacola and Panama City

Conference line number: (877) 716-9133, Participant Code: 6913296

- 8. The COTP Mobile anticipates setting Port Status ZULU for the Ports of Pensacola and Panama City at 1200 CDT on October 9, 2018.
- 9. Further questions may be addressed by contacting Sector Mobile Command Center at (251) 441-5976.



M. R. MCLELLAN
Captain, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile
Captain of the Port Mobile

Please visit us on the internet at <http://homeport.uscg.mil/mobile>

- Annexes:** Annex A – Remaining in Port Checklists for Oceangoing Vessels
Annex B – Storm Preparation Checklist
 Appendix 1 – Recommended Precautionary Measures for Ships
 Appendix 2 – Recommended Precautionary Measures for Barges
Annex C – Storm Preparation Checklist for Waterfront Facilities