



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

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

MSIB Number: 24-18
Date: October 9, 2018
Contact: CWO Stephen Jones
Phone: (251) 217-8096
E-Mail: stephen.l.jones@uscg.mil



PORT STATUS ZULU FOR CAPTAIN OF THE PORT MOBILE AREA OF OPERATIONS

(Gale force winds are predicted within 12 hrs)

Weather Advisory Port Status ZULU

Time: 12:00 P.M. / Date: Tuesday, October 9, 2018

1. Information for the Marine Industry: Due to the possibility of hurricane force winds (73+ mph) associated with Hurricane Michael entering Sector Mobile's area of responsibility within 12 hours, the Captain of the Port (COTP) is ordering **Port Status ZULU for Ports of Pensacola, Panama City, and portions of the GICWW,**
2. Current port and waterway status: Effective 1200, October 9, 2018
 - a. GICWW MM166 east: ZULU
 - b. Port of Panama City: ZULU
 - c. Port of Pensacola: ZULU
 - d. Port of Mobile: YANKEE
 - e. Port of Pascagoula: YANKEE
 - f. Port of Gulfport: YANKEE
 - h. As of 1200 CDT, all waterways with the Ports of Pensacola and Panama City, as well as the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway from mile marker 166 east are closed to ALL traffic with the below mariner guidelines (sec paragraph 3). All facility and vessel operations are suspended.
 - i. 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 Tropical Storm Gordon and remain prepared to take actions if the storm path changes.
 - j. Current information may be obtained from the COTP Mobile Voice Mail Announcement system at phone number (251) 441-5080.

3. Mariner Guidelines: The following guidelines are provided in order to make preparations for the onset weather system.

Port Status ZULU is set at this time and the following actions are required:

U.S. Coast Guard COTP Mobile:

- (1) The Coast Guard will conduct a final survey of all ports, vessels, facilities, and waterways to determine their present state of readiness and to ensure the port is secured and ready for hurricane force winds.
- (2) The COTP has suspended all facility and vessel operations.

All Oceangoing Commercial Vessels and CG Regulated Barges Over 300 GT:

- (1) All vessel movements and cargo handling operations are suspended unless permission is request and approval granted. Approval will be given on a case-by-case basis. This approval provision does not apply to operation involving Cargo of Particular Hazard or Certain Dangerous Cargoes, which in every case must be suspended.
- (2) If the vessel is authorized by the COTP to remain in port, ensure the vessel is securely moored and prepared for severe weather conditions.
- (3) Report hazardous conditions or breakaway of vessels directly to the COTP Mobile via the **Sector Mobile Command Center (251-441-5976)** immediately.
- (4) Complete the pre-sort preparations for Port Status **ZULU** outlined in the *Storm Preparation Checklist for Vessels* (Annex B).

Waterfront Facilities:

- (1) All waterfront facility cargo-handling operations are suspended unless permission is requested and an approval granted. Approval will be given on a case-by-case basis. This approval provision does not apply to operations involving Cargo of Particular Hazard or Certain Dangerous Cargoes, which in every case must be suspended.
- (2) Complete the action items for Port Status **ZULU** outlined in the *Storm Preparation Checklist for Waterfront Facilities* (Annex C).

4. Movable bridges may close at the discretion of the bridge operator as weather conditions deteriorate within the COTP Mobile AOR at Port Status **ZULU**.

5. 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

6. 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