SET PORT CONDITION YANKEE

Hurricane Information:

At 1100 local time, June 06, 2020, in preparation for Tropical Storm CRISTOBAL and for the potential to form to hurricane strength, the Captain of the Port (COTP), Houma set Port Condition YANKEE.

The National Weather Service has issued a Tropical Storm Surge Watch for the entire Gulf Coast.

Based on current conditions, the National Weather Service is predicting rainfall totals to be 4 to 8 inches with isolated amounts as much as 12 inches. This will result in significant flooding. Storm surge could be significant along coastal areas, depending on the strength of the storm. Isolated tornadoes will be a threat from Sunday through the weekend. The exact timing, location, intensity, and specific threats are still developing. People should be prepared for hurricane-force winds by Saturday evening, with tropical storm force winds continuing through Sunday.

Port Waterway Status:

Effective immediately, due to multiple Flood Control Measures being put in place, the COTP Houma has secured all inbound vessels that do not have berth arrangements confirmed.

The COTP has ordered the strict enforcement of the Vessel Traffic Service Berwick Bay control area under 33CFR 161.40. All vessels in the vicinity of Morgan City and Vessel Traffic Service Berwick Bay should expect closure of the area once winds reach 35kts sustained. Under no circumstances may vessels transit the Berwick Bay Vessel Traffic Zone once this occurs.

All vessels entering and departing the COTP Houma Zone are reminded to update their Notice of Arrival with any changes to their arrival or departure information (33 CFR 160.208, 33 CFR 160.212). The COTP will make notifications as soon as waterway and bridge closures become apparent.

The Bayou Beouf and Berwick Locks located in Morgan City, LA will secure all vessel traffic 24hrs before landfall of the storm.

The Bubba Dove Flood Gate on the Houma Navigational Canal was closed by the Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District as of 2200, June 05, 2020.

This information, as well as other important hurricane-related information, will be relayed to the maritime community through Marine Safety Information Bulletins and Safety Broadcast Notice to Mariners.

Vessels and Facilities: From MM 63 to MM 47 on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, mooring of red flag barges along the waterway, outside of commercial facilities, is prohibited.

The following precautionary measures are provided for your consideration. All vessels and facilities are strongly urged to implement these measures:

- Secure missile hazards and clear nonessential equipment and loose gear.
- Secure/remove hazardous materials or cargoes to a safe location, especially drums.
- Oil transfer terminals not engaged in transfer operations should drain all loading arms and hoses of product, blank off hoses, and empty/clean small discharge containment.
- Mooring lines doubled up with due consideration given to the effects of predicted storm surge.
- If moored, outboard anchor rigged at a short stay.
- Ensure sufficient number of officers and crew onboard to tend mooring lines, and/or get underway.
- Vessel ballasted to ensure maximum safety.
- All side ports, hatches, portholes, and other openings are closed and secured.
- All firefighting equipment is ready for immediate use.
- A continuous radio watch maintained on Channel 16 and 67 VHF-FM.
- If at anchorage, at least two anchors set.
- If at anchorage, vessels should remain ready to get underway within 15 minutes.
- Spare mooring lines and/or wires should be readily available.

You are strongly encouraged to review your existing hurricane plan or develop a plan if you do not have one. It is extremely important to decide in advance how to minimize your risk and be prepared to evacuate, if necessary.

**Post Storm Considerations:** Once the storm passes, the U. S. Coast Guard will be focused on search and rescue, port security, pollution response and the restoration of commercial operations. Should the port be closed, before reopening the port, COTP Houma must consider the possibility of shoaling and other navigational hazards, the status of aids to navigation, the status of port security and the readiness of port infrastructure to receive vessels. Based on these factors, COTP Houma will work closely with entities to determine the ability to resume operations and the priority for reopening waterways.

For a current list of MSIBs in the COTP Houma Zone visit: https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/Houma under "Safety notifications"

Ports and mariners are cautioned that the COTP Houma may quickly set Port Condition Zulu and further conditions as the situation develops.

Marine Safety Unit Houma Officer of the Day- 985-665-2437  
Marine Safety Unit Morgan City Officer of the Day - 985-397-3300  
Vessel Traffic Center Berwick Bay - 985-380-5374 / 985-380-5320  
Coast Guard District Eight Bridges: -504-671-2128  
National Response Center (24 Hour): 1-800-424-8802

J. W. Russell  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port  
Houma, Louisiana