



U.S. Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville

10426 Alta Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32226-2307
Phone: (904) 714-7500
Fax: (904) 714-7483

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 052-17

September 8, 2017

SET HURRICANE CONDITION YANKEE IN THE PORTS OF FERNANDINA AND JACKSONVILLE

Effective **8:00 a.m., September 9, 2017**, Hurricane Condition YANKEE will be set in the ports of Fernandina and Jacksonville. All commercial, oceangoing vessels greater than 500 gross tons, including oceangoing tugs and barges greater than 500 gross tons are prohibited from entering the port. Oceangoing commercial vessel traffic outbound will be authorized to transit through the port until Hurricane Condition ZULU. Additionally, all ship-to-shore cargo operations must cease 6 hours prior to setting Hurricane Condition ZULU.

Maritime interests are reminded that there are no "safe havens" identified within the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina, and Canaveral for a vessel to safely survive tropical storm force winds, or storm surges without creating a threat to the safety of the port and public welfare. The safest condition for the port and during the arrival of a hurricane is when the inventory of vessels is at a minimum. All ships should coordinate their efforts in accordance with their evasion plan. Masters should take early and decisive action to ensure the safety of their vessels and crews.

Be advised, most draw bridges will be locked down well before the predicted arrival of sustained gale force winds (above 39 mph), and will not open until after the severe weather has passed. It is critical that vessels intending to evacuate the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina, or Canaveral via the St. Johns River or the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway depart early to avoid being blocked by bridges.

For additional information please contact Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville at (904) 714-7557.

T. C. WIEMERS
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Jacksonville, Florida