



U.S. Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville

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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN (MSIB) 050-17 SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

SET HURRICANE CONDITION X-RAY IN THE PORTS OF FERNANDINA AND JACKSONVILLE

Effective **6:00 p.m., September 7, 2017**, Hurricane Condition X-RAY was set in the ports of Fernandina and Jacksonville. The port remains open to all commercial traffic. Oceangoing vessels greater than 500 gross tons, including oceangoing tugs and barges greater than 500 gross tons, already in port or arriving during Hurricane Port Condition X-RAY shall continue with preparations and safely depart the port before the setting of Hurricane Port Condition ZULU (12 hours preceding the arrival of sustained gale force winds).

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.

Vessels desiring to remain in port during the Hurricane must request and receive permission. For vessels already in port, this request should have already been submitted within 12 hours of the Captain of the Port setting Hurricane Condition WHISKEY. Vessels arriving after the setting of Hurricane Port Condition WHISKEY must submit a request to remain in port prior to entering the port. The request must be submitted in writing and explain the reasons why the vessel is submitting the request. All requests must also include a completed "Remaining in Port Checklist" that will describe the mooring arrangements and vessel specifics. This checklist must be signed by the vessel's master and a representative of the facility where the vessel intends to moor. If the request is approved, additional measures may be required to ensure the safety of the port and the vessel. These measures may include, but are not limited to, the addition of extra mooring lines or fenders and the removal of cargo from the vessel. All remain in port requests must be submitted to the Remain in Port Liaison Officer (RIPO) at jaxdomestic@uscg.mil. If you have any questions regarding remain in port requests please contact CWO Duncan at (904) 714-7604, MST2 Terpstra at (904) 714-7633, or MST2 Peterson at (904) 714-7621.

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