

STORM PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR PILOTS

A. Hurricane Condition ALERT: A seasonal alert during which a hurricane can be expected to occur. This alert condition is automatically set on June 1st and remains in effect through November 30th, unless otherwise established.

- _____ Review this plan to ensure familiarity upon setting Hurricane Condition ALERT.
- _____ Coordinate any changes, updates or suggestions to this plan with MSO Wilmington's planning staff prior to May 15th.
- _____ Notification should be made to the Coast Guard COTP of any problems noted that would prevent or limit preparedness for the hurricane, and identify potential problems or conditions that cannot be mitigated within 72 hours

B. Hurricane Condition 4 (72-Hour Alert): The COTP normally sets this condition 72 hours before the expected arrival of gale force winds (34 knots or 39 mph) at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

- _____ Monitor the approach of the hurricane as broadcast by the National Weather Service (NWS) and Coast Guard BNTMs and MSIBs. Utilize the web pages for the NWS (www.nwsilm.wilmington.net/) and the National Hurricane Center (www.nhc.noaa.gov/).
- _____ All self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT, all oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs, and all tank barges over 200 GT are expected to begin preparations for departure during this Hurricane Condition unless granted permission to stay in port from the COTP. This request must be submitted to the Captain of the Port ***within the next 24 hours or prior to the setting of Hurricane Condition 3.***
- _____ Notification should be made to the COTP of any problems noted that would prevent or limit preparedness for the hurricane, and identify potential problems or conditions that cannot be corrected or mitigated within 48 hours.
- _____ Anticipate requests for arrangements to shift vessels to sea upon setting Hurricane Condition 3.

C. Hurricane Condition 3 (48-Hour Alert): The COTP normally sets this condition 48 hours before the expected arrival of gale force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

STORM PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR PILOTS

- _____ All self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT, all oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs, and all tank barges over 200 GT are expected to be finalizing preparations for departure during the next 24 hours unless granted permission to stay in port from the COTP.
- _____ All outbound self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT, all oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs, and all tank barges over 200 GT must **clear** the sea buoy at least 12 hours prior to gale force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.
- _____ Maintain close contact with COTP Wilmington to advise of any unusual or dangerous situations. Notification should be made to the COTP of any problems noted that will prevent or limit preparedness for the hurricane, and identify potential problems or conditions which cannot be mitigated within 24 hours.
- _____ Review and prepare for Hurricane Conditions 2 and 1. Contact COTP with specific questions.
- _____ Vessels should conduct final preparations for seeking shelter. Vessels should anticipate delays at drawbridges due to vehicular evacuation routing or the possible securing of drawbridges for their protection. Bridges along the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway and the Cape Fear River may be secured at Hurricane Condition 1 or when winds exceed 39 mph.

D. Hurricane Condition 2 (24-Hour Alert): The COTP normally sets this condition 24 hours before the expected arrival of gale force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

THE DESIGNATED WATERS OF THE COTP WILMINGTON ZONE, INCLUDING WILMINGTON, MOREHEAD CITY, THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY AND INLETS, ARE CLOSED TO INBOUND TRAFFIC.

- _____ Anticipate closure of the port to all inbound and outbound traffic when Hurricane Condition 1 is set.
- _____ All self-propelled oceangoing vessels over 500 GT, all oceangoing barges and their supporting tugs, and all tank barges over 200 GT must **clear** the sea buoy at least 12 hours prior to gale force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.
- _____ Inform COTP Wilmington of any vessels requesting to moor within the COTP Zone.
- _____ Advise COTP Wilmington when pilot services will be suspended.

STORM PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR PILOTS

E. Hurricane Condition 1 (12-Hour Alert): The COTP normally sets this condition 12 hours before the expected arrival of gale force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

THE DESIGNATED WATERS OF THE COTP WILMINGTON ZONE, INCLUDING WILMINGTON, MOREHEAD CITY, THE INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY AND INLETS, ARE CLOSED TO INBOUND AND OUTBOUND TRAFFIC.

A Safety Zone is established for all waters within the COTP Wilmington Zone, and will remain in effect until terminated by the Captain of the Port. Vessel movements without specific authorization from the COTP are prohibited. Permission for vessels to move within the port may be granted up until 12 hours before the projected arrival of hurricane force winds at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

_____ Maintain close contact with COTP Wilmington to advise of any unusual or dangerous situations. Notification should be made to the COTP of any problems noted that will prevent or limit preparedness for the hurricane, and identify potential problems or conditions which cannot be mitigated

_____ Notify vessels en route to the Cape Fear River or Morehead City area that gale force winds are expected to reach the Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7 within 12 hours and the waters of the COTP Wilmington Zone are closed. Pilots should inform vessels to remain at sea or seek alternate ports.

F. Hurricane Condition RECOVERY (Post-Storm): The COTP normally sets this condition once sustained winds drop below gale force at Frying Pan Shoals Buoy #7.

COTP Wilmington will begin conducting port surveys to assess damage to port infrastructure (Bridges, Aids to Navigation, etc..) to ensure that the waterways are safe to transit. Once these surveys are complete port restrictions will be eased as conditions allow.

_____ Conduct a damage assessment survey as soon as possible after the passing of the storm. Notify the COTP Wilmington of any persons in distress, major damage, pollution or any other hazardous situations as soon as possible.

_____ It can be anticipated that commercial power and consequently other utilities will be interrupted for up to 96 hours or more. The various draw and swing span bridges may experience delays or closures, which could severely hinder both marine and vehicle traffic.

_____ Assist COTP Wilmington in assessing channel and aids to navigation damage, assist vessels in distress, and coordinate vessel movements.