



**COAST GUARD**  
**MARINE SAFETY OFFICE**  
**JACKSONVILLE**



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**MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 17-03**

**May 30, 2003**

**HURRICANE CONDITION IV  
FOR THE PORT OF JACKSONVILLE, FERNANDINA, AND CANAVERAL**

Effective Sunday, June 1, 2003 Hurricane Condition 4 is set in the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina and Canaveral. Although it has been more than 30 years since a hurricane has had a major impact on the Port of Jacksonville, Canaveral, and the surrounding areas, we must remain alert and prepared for the worst-case scenario. Hurricanes are nature's most destructive storms and provide some of the most devastating effects in terms of loss of life and damage/destruction to property. This hurricane season is predicted to be very active so the time to prepare is now.

Marine interests should be aware that there are no "safe havens" identified within the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina, and Canaveral for a vessel to safely survive hurricane force winds, or storm surges without creating a threat to the safety of the port and public welfare. The safest condition for the port during the arrival of a hurricane is when the inventory of vessels is at a minimum. COTP policy directs vessel owners/operators and agents to make every attempt to put vessels greater than 200 tons to sea in the event a hurricane or tropical storm threatens the ports of Jacksonville, Fernandina, or Canaveral.

As a reminder, the Captain of the Port is requiring heavy weather plans for vessels in a lay-up status to include procedures for each category of storm (1-5). For further information, contact CWO3 David Cooke @ 232-2640 x145.

In the event that a commercial oceangoing vessel or oceangoing barge over 200 gross does not intend to put to sea, the person in charge of the vessel must submit a **Remaining in Port Checklist** to the COTP. **No vessels will be allowed to remain at facilities which are within one half mile of any bridge.** Vessels allowed to remain in the port must have the decks clear of any missile hazards, potential pollution hazards, and flammable materials. All persons in charge must ensure hatches are secured for heavy weather.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please contact LCDR Douglas Campbell at 232-2640, ext. 131.

R. J. PETOW  
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard  
Alternate Captain of the Port