



COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY OFFICE
JACKSONVILLE



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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 26-04

5:00 PM, September 1, 2004

**HURRICANE CONDITION X-RAY (formally condition three) SET IN THE PORTS OF
NORTHEAST and EAST CENTRAL FLORIDA**

Effective at 17:00 (5:00 p.m.) in Port Canaveral and Ponce inlet and at 24:00 (midnight) in the Ports of Jacksonville and Fernandina, Hurricane Condition X-Ray (48 Hour Alert) is set for Northeast and East Central Florida. Hurricane FRANCES has increase speed slightly and is approaching at about 15 MPH. National Weather Service forecasts indicate that FRANCES may be in position to threaten the central and northern Florida Coasts in about 48 hours.

All mariners are reminded that there are no safe havens in the Captain of the Port Jacksonville area, and that the port is safest when the inventory of vessels is at a minimum. All oceangoing vessels and barges over **500** GT are requested to put to sea when Hurricane Condition Yankee is set. Oceangoing vessels over 500 GT that wish to remain in port must submit a **Remaining in Port Checklist** to the Captain of the Port, and should contact the Marine Safety Office immediately. If/when Condition Yankee is set the port will be closed to unauthorized vessel movement, and cargo operation must stop. Inland tank barges must be emptied and secured, and dredges and construction equipment must be secured and moved away from bridges. Hurricane FRANCES is a very large and very powerful storm, and all marine interests must take early and substantial action to ensure safety of the port and vessels.

If/when the storm continues on the current track and speed we anticipate setting Condition Yankee in the Ports Northeast and East Central Florida when gale force winds are expected within 24 hrs. Please follow weather forecasts and reports closely as long-range predictions can change significantly. For additional information please contact LT J. Tedtaotao at (904) 232-2640 ext. 153.

BRIAN. K. PENoyer
Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
By Direction of the Captain of the Port