

Hurricane Information for the Marine Industry

1. GENERAL:

A. The Captain of the Port (COTP) Houston-Galveston provides information to the maritime community at the beginning of each hurricane season. You are encouraged to review this document and revise your hurricane plans accordingly. Circumstances may require that the COTP make some revisions of this plan mandatory using the authority granted in 33 CFR 160 and 33 CFR 165. When this is necessary, affected parties will be notified via Broadcast Notice to Mariners, Port Emergency Action Team (PEAT), or EOC/LEPC liaisons.

B. This plan is developed to assist the maritime community in the Houston-Galveston Captain of the Port Zone to take appropriate precautions for severe weather. Most of the preventive provisions and recommendations of this plan are intended to be enacted prior to the onset of *sustained* gale force winds, *when hurricane conditions* (winds and surge) *are predicted to follow*. Due to the unpredictable nature of severe weather, the maritime community should plan for a worst-case scenario.

C. Each port in the MSU Galveston area of responsibility has a Coast Guard representative assigned as a PEAT Liaison Officer. These Liaison Officers will advise MSU Galveston regarding actions pertinent to the port, such as when to close/open the port. Your PEAT Liaison Officer is empowered to represent the MSU Commanding Officer and will serve as your direct link to the MSU. They have no assignment during hurricanes other than to address port concerns. Please make every attempt to resolve port issues through your PEAT Liaison Officer prior to making contact with the MSU.

D. Ports and waterways may be closed to commercial traffic prior to the landfall of a hurricane. The closure is to ensure safety during and after severe weather when communications may be severely impacted. This will allow time to complete bottom assessments and assess hazards to navigation prior to passage of commercial traffic. A port closure does not automatically mean that all vessels are required to leave port. Contact your PEAT Liaison Officer to address any concerns or to request waivers.

E. As there are no “safe havens” within the zone, the COTP believes that when sustained winds of forty-eight knots or greater are imminent, evasion at sea is the safest course of action for all seaworthy, deep-draft vessels. The low elevations along the Gulf Coast offer limited protection from strong winds and sheltered berths and anchorages are limited. During a marginal threat, the COTP recommends that seaworthy deep-draft vessels await developments at anchorage areas to decrease the time required to reach open sea.

F. Commercial ocean-going vessels and ocean-going tug/barge combinations over 500 gross tons should take early and decisive action to depart the port and evade the storm as it approaches. However, the Coast Guard recognizes that commercial oceangoing barges and their tugs (other than integrated tug barges or ITBs) may not be able to safely evade or ride out a hurricane or tropical storm at sea, depending on the track and speed of the storm. Ultimately, the responsibility for the safety of a vessel and its crew rests with the vessel’s master. Therefore,

unless a thorough assessment of the situation indicates a greater level of risk to the safety of life in the port, the COTP will respect a master's decision to remain in port. **Facility operators should be advised that the COTP will not order vessels to depart the facility if doing so would unduly hazard the vessel.** Masters or agents of vessels over 500 GT unable to depart should report their intentions to the COTP or MSU Galveston. Requests to remain in port should contain detailed information about the facility where the vessel will remain moored, and an indication of whether the facility operator concurs with the request to remain.

G. Shallow draft vessels that intend to seek shelter upriver should anticipate bridges closing due to high winds and proceed upriver before being trapped on the south side of a bridge. A prudent mariner should know under what conditions the bridges in your area would close.

H. Barge fleets, particularly those carrying hazardous cargoes, should make every attempt to reduce barge fleet populations upon notification of an impending hurricane. Standby vessels should be positioned for quick recovery in the event of a breakaway.

2. USING THIS PLAN - This plan has the following key parts:

- A. Planning Factors – The maritime community may utilize these when developing severe weather plans; ensuring full understanding of local risk factors and policies that may impact operations and preparations before, during, and after severe weather.
- B. Pre-Storm Procedures – Lists specific operational restrictions and recommendations for the maritime community from the COTP. Those affected include: terminals, facilities, marinas, owners, operators, agents, and masters of vessels, etc. The “action items” checklists should be referred to whenever the COTP changes the Port Hurricane Condition.
- C. Post Storm Procedures – Outlines the process the COTP will use to re-open the ports after passage of severe weather as well as the roles and responsibilities of the maritime community. Refer to Post Storm Procedures when making plans to re-establish operations after the passage of a storm.
- D. Communications Plan – Describes how the COTP will communicate with the maritime community and how marine interests should contact the Coast Guard before, during, and after severe weather. The radio frequencies and other communication mechanisms outlined in this section should be incorporated into individual severe weather plans.

3. PLANNING FACTORS

- A. Tidal Surge And SLOSH Tables – More damage is typically caused by tidal surge than by wind during tropical storms and hurricanes. Storm surge is therefore regarded as the greatest threat to the maritime community during severe weather. Many factors impact the storm surge that accompanies tropical storms and hurricanes. The following table provides useful information for

planning purposes:

SLOSH Data (for select areas)

Hurricane Category	Bolivar Roads	Texas City Dike	Freeport Entrance	Barbours Cut	Upper Turning Basin
1	8.2'	7.3'	8.4'	8.5'	8.0'
2	9.8'	8.7'	10.1'	10.3'	9.9'
3	13.4'	14.0'	13.6'	17.5'	21.2'
4	16.8'	17.8'	17.5'	22.7'	27.6'
5	20.0'	21.4'	21.3'	27.3'	32.7'

Note: Based on 2002 SLOSH Model Data developed by NWS Galveston on 26 Mar 02

- B. Geographic Considerations – The worst natural disaster in the history of the United States impacted Galveston in 1900 and left between 6,000-8,000 dead. No areas within Galveston County and Brazoria County are considered safe hurricane havens since surrounding low topography does not provide an adequate windbreak. The Ports of Houston, Galveston, Texas City, and Freeport do not provide suitable refuge from either hurricanes or tropical storms. In addition, Houston, Texas City and Freeport are ports of significant national interest, and every effort must be taken to minimize the damage caused by severe weather. In most cases this means that vessels or barges greater than 500 GT may not be permitted to remain anywhere within these ports.
- C. Vessel Sortie Policy – As there are no safe havens in the Houston-Galveston Captain of the Port Zone, the risk of damage to our ports is reduced when the number of commercial vessels is at a minimized. Accordingly, commercial ocean-going vessels and ocean-going tug/barge combinations over 500 GT will generally be encouraged to depart the port when hurricanes approach. Masters or agents of vessels unable to depart the port should contact MSU Galveston before Condition X-Ray is set for the region. Survey information that needs to be provided to MSU Galveston is included in this pre-event plan.

Vessel Sortie Recommendations

Port Hurricane Condition	Recommended Actions for Commercial, Oceangoing Vessels and Barges Over 200 GT
Condition Whiskey (Alert – 72 Hrs)	Make all preparations to get underway within 24 hours. Set navigation and radio watch. “Dead” ships or vessels or barges unable to put to sea must contact MSU Galveston. Information should be submitted prior to setting Condition X-Ray.
Condition X-Ray (Readiness – 48 Hrs)	All vessels should prepare to complete cargo operations and depart port within 24 hours, or when Condition Yankee is set. Vessels and barges unable to depart must contact MSU Galveston before setting Condition Yankee.
Condition Yankee (Warning – 24 Hrs)	Port is closed to incoming traffic without specific written approval of COTP. All cargo operations should be secured. All vessels are encouraged to put to sea.

Condition Zulu (Danger – 12 Hrs)	Port is closed. No terminal, facility, or vessel operations are permitted.
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Note: Maritime community should anticipate that storm movement may accelerate and periods between Port Hurricane Conditions may be less than the 24 or 12 hours indicated above.

- D. Berthing Arrangements – most of the deep draft berths in the ports of Galveston, Texas City, and Freeport are owned or controlled by ports authorities or private terminal operators. Many have policies against berthing of vessels during severe weather, and will typically direct vessels to depart their facility unless prior arrangements have been made. The responsibility to find a suitable lay berth to weather a storm lies with the vessel owner or agent. The COTP generally will not order a terminal operator to lay berth a vessel during severe weather.
- E. Vessel Evacuations – The following factors should be considered when planning vessel evacuations:

1. Harbor Tugs – Masters and agents of deep draft vessels and tug/barges that require assistance during docking and transit should keep in mind that there might be very limited availability of harbor tugs. Vessels that postpone departure until the final hours of Port Hurricane Condition Yankee may find it difficult to schedule harbor tugs, and may experience delays that make it difficult to evade the storm at sea. Plan to depart the port early, and anticipate some scheduling conflicts caused by the simultaneous departure of many deep draft vessels.

Port	Average Number of Tugs Typically Available
Houston	11
Galveston/Texas City	5
Freeport	2

2. As a reminder, pilots generally stop working when conditions at the sea buoy prevent safe transfer from ship to pilot boat, or at the on-set of sustained Gale Force Winds.

- F. Lay-Up Vessels – No vessel will be permitted to enter or remain in lay-up status during the hurricane season, except as provided below. Vessels in lay-up during the off-season (1 Dec – 31 May) must depart port **no later than May 31**. Layed-up vessels unable to depart before June 1 each year must obtain written permission from the COTP to remain in port. Such requests, at a minimum, shall include a lay-up plan containing specific provisions for **all categories of hurricanes**. For purposes of this policy, a vessel is considered in lay-up status if it is not operational or not undergoing repairs or contracted to commence repairs within seven (7) days. A vessel is considered operational only if it is manned, has valid certificates from the flag administration, and is prepared to conduct cargo operations or sail within 14 days of entering port.

4. **POST-STORM PREPARATION**

A. After hurricane passage, the Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers will need to make assessments of all affected areas to ensure navigation safety. MSU Galveston uses the following priorities for the assignment of resources:

1. Restore and/or provide essential services and commodities to enhance, facilitate, and carry out efforts to support/restore public safety.
2. Security and protection of the environment.
3. Commercial interest with focus on survey and reopening of waterways.

Following the passage of a storm, portions of the Houston-Galveston COTP Zone may remain closed and the COTP Safety Zone may remain in effect. After a direct hit or near miss by a hurricane, it is likely that the port will remain closed while damage surveys are conducted and channels are cleared. It is also likely that some waterways will remain closed until the proper operation of bridges can be assured. If shoaling or other blockage is suspected, deep draft channels will be surveyed before they are re-opened. In addition, normal port operations may not be restored until communications and power systems are fully operational.

As soon as possible after the passage of a storm, the Coast Guard will dispatch Field Observers by land, air and water to survey the extent of damage to the port infrastructure. The COTP will also coordinate with other federal, state, and local agencies. Maritime interests can assist the COTP in re-opening the port as quickly and safely as possible. All interests should report any damage, pollution, hazard to navigation, or unsafe condition to the COTP/MSU Galveston as soon as possible and by any means available after the passage of a storm.

Specific responsibilities following the passage of a storm and a basic communications plan are follow as part of this pre-event plan:

Post-Storm Reporting Requirements

Who	What
Terminal and Facility Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey facilities and report any damage, pollution, or unsafe conditions. 2. If shoaling is suspected, ensure soundings are taken and report results. 3. Account for all vessels and barges moored at the facility prior to the storm. Report status to COTP/MSU Galveston. 4. Make a recommendation to the COTP/MSU Galveston regarding the operational status of your facility.
Barge and Barge Fleet Managers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey the barges or barge fleets. Account of all barges moored prior to the storm. Report the status of your barges, including any damage, pollution or unsafe conditions.
Dredge Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey all dredge equipment and report status to the COTP/MSU Galveston. Specifically address the availability of dredge equipment for emergency dredging if required.
Pilots	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make a recommendation to the COTP regarding the status of the main channels, the need for extensive surveys, and the timeline for re-opening the port.
Harbor Tug Companies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey all tugs and facilities and report and damage, pollution, or unsafe conditions. Make a recommendation to the COTP/MSU Galveston regarding the availability of tugs.
Masters, Agents, Operators of All Commercial Vessels Remaining In Port	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey vessels and mooring facilities and report any damage, pollution or unsafe condition. 2. Make a specific recommendation to the COTP/MSU Galveston regarding the operational status of each vessel. 3. Make any requests for shifting berths, deadship movements, or vessel departures as soon as possible.

Communications Plan

Method	How Transmitted	When Used	Notes
Marine Safety Information Broadcast (MSIB)	Telefax or E-mail	When Port Hurricane Conditions change, as needed to update status and announce meetings.	1,2,5
Broadcast Notice To Mariners (BTM)	VHF-FM Channel 16.	When Port Hurricane Conditions change and when safety zones are enforced.	1,2,3
Landline COTP Houston-Galveston MSU Galveston USCG Group Galveston	(713) 671-5100 (409) 766-5400 (409) 766-5620	To make request, reports or inquires to the Coast Guard.	4
Telefax COTP Houston-Galveston MSU Galveston USCG Group Galveston	(713) 671-5177 (409) 766-5415 (409) 766-4702	To make request, reports or inquires to the Coast Guard.	4
VHF-FM	Channel 16	To make request, reports or inquires to the Coast Guard.	3

- Note: (1) To be added to the fax broadcast list, contact MSU Galveston with the fax number and point of contact. Please ensure only one number and POC per company or agency.
- (2) To be added to the e-mail distribution list, contact MSU Galveston with the e-mail address and point of contact. Please ensure only one e-mail address and POC per company or agency.
- (3) VHF-FM channel 16 is monitored by Coast Guard Group Galveston. Broadcasts are made by Coast Guard Group Galveston on VHF-FM channel 16.
- (4) When Port Hurricane Condition X-ray is set the Coast Guard Incident Commander may issue a detailed Communications Plan (ICS-205) with landline and cellular phone number for the Coast Guard Command Post. This Communications Plan will be issued as an MSIB.
- (5) E-mail may not be available once Port Hurricane Condition Zulu is set.

HURRICANE PROCEDURES FOR THE MARITIME INDUSTRY

Pre-Storm Procedures: This section outlines the actions to be taken by maritime interests and the operational restrictions imposed by the COTP for each Port Hurricane Condition. The operational restrictions and required actions listed here are intended for the worst case; when Gale Forces Winds are predicted *and* hurricane conditions are expected to follow. In cases when less severe weather is expected, the COTP may chose lesser requirements and operational restrictions. These will be communicated to the maritime community in accordance with the Communications Plan provided in this Chapter.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition 5 (Page 1 of 1)		Set: Seasonally, 1 Dec – 31 May	
Description: “Stand-down” – review and update plans. Incorporate lessons learned from previous hurricane season.			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and update hurricane plans. 2. Make recommendation to COTP for changes to this plan. 	By 1 June	
Operators of Oceangoing Barges & Tugs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make arrangements with local terminal and facility operators for berthing during severe weather, if your intent is to remain in port. Provide details of these arrangements to the COTP. 	By 1 June	Early planning is essential to ensue safety of tugs and barges.
Vessel and Barge operators or agents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Submit Hurricane plans for lay-up vessels and barge fleets that will be unable to depart the port when severe weather threatens. 	By 1 June	

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition 4 (Page 1 of 1)		Set: Seasonally, 1 Jun – 30 Nov	
Description: “Alert” – Ensure all preparations are complete to implement Heavy Weather Plans			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	1. Attend Port Hurricane Meeting to review COTP Policy and requirements, and discuss any other topics of concern.	By 15 June	Scheduled by COTP or MSU Galveston.
Terminal & Facility Operators	1. Ensure all required equipment is on hand and operational. 2. Conduct tests of emergency systems, including communications and power systems. 3. Provide COTP/MSU Galveston with updated list of all vessels and barges over 500 GT moored at the facility for more than 30 days.	By 15 June	
Vessel and Barge operators	1. Review vessel sortie recommendations. 2. Ensure storm moorings are in place or on hand for vessels or fleets planning to remain in port during severe weather. 3. Provide COTP with updated list of the number and size of barges and vessels over 500 GT that have been granted permission to remain in port.	By 15 June	Plans for barge fleets and lay-up vessels that are planning to remain in port should be submitted to the COTP/MSU Galveston for approval prior to setting Port Hurricane Condition 4.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition Whiskey (Page 1 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are possible within 72 hours	
Description: “Alert” – Prepare to implement the Heavy Weather Plan			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend Port Hurricane Meeting to review COTP Policy and requirements, and discuss any other topics of concern specific to this storm. 2. Review the requirements for Port Hurricane Condition X-ray. 	By 15 June	Scheduled by COTP or MSU Galveston.
Terminal & Facility Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure the open areas of docks, wharves, and piers are cleared of all potential missile hazards. 2. Notify the COTP/MSU Galveston of any labeled dangerous cargo which must remain in open areas by reason of insufficient shed space. 3. Ensure drums are banded on pallets not more than two tiers high, or laid horizontally with secure dunnage. 4. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston of any vessels or barges (over 500 GT) at the facility that may not be able to get underway within 48 Hours. 	Prior to setting Condition X-ray	1. Hazardous materials should be removed from areas prone to flooding.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition Whiskey (Page 2 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are possible within 72 hours	
Description: “Alert” – Prepare to implement the Heavy Weather Plan			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
Vessel and Barge (Over 500 GT) operators, agents, or Masters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make preparations to get underway, including setting navigational watch & maintaining listening watch on channel 16 VHF-FM. 2. Ships and barges over 500 GT unable to get underway within 48 hours or desiring to remain in port during the storm should declare their intent to the COTP/MSU Galveston. 3. Ships and barges that have prior approval to lay-up must update their status with the COTP/MSU Galveston and implement their Hurricane Plans. 4. Review scheduled arrivals and departures to identify potential needs for assistance or possible deviations from COTP Policy. 	Prior to setting Condition X-ray	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. See Remaining in Port Checklist for details if intending to stay in port. 3. All practicable and reasonable measures must be taken to ensure vessel stability (ballasting, shifting of cargo, securing hatches) 4. Once Port Hurricane Condition X-ray is set ALL Ships and Barges over 500 GT may be required to make notice of arrival to the COTP.
Dredge Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston of current position and intentions. 	Prior to setting Condition X-ray	Dredges may be required to clear the channel and seek refuge once Port Hurricane Condition X-ray is set.
Small Craft & Recreational Boaters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take early action to evacuate to port. Vessels that can be removed from the water should be. 	Prior to setting Condition X-ray	Evacuation of small craft will become more difficult as the storm approaches.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition X-ray (Page 1 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are possible within 48 hours	
Description: Readiness – Implement the Heavy Weather Plan			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare to secure all operations within 24 hours . 2. Anticipate that the storm may accelerate and that Port Hurricane Condition Yankee may be set in less than 24 hours. 3. Review the requirements for Port Hurricane Condition Yankee. 		
Terminal & Facility Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete all cargo operations. 2. Secure potential missile hazards and hazardous cargo or supplies. 3. Reduce container and pallet stacks to one high where possible. 4. Lay-up vessels should be singled-up. 5. Report any unusual or unsafe conditions to COTP/MSU Galveston. 	Prior to setting Condition Yankee	
Vessel and Barge (Over 500 GT) operators, agents, or Masters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If planning to get underway, make final preparations. Ensure all required stores are aboard. 2. Vessels with permission to remain in port should secure for severe weather in accordance with the plan approved by the COTP/MSU Galveston. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 	Prior to setting Condition Yankee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ocean-going tank barges remaining in port may be required to empty cargo tanks and ballast down. 2. Vessels remaining in port should be manned with sufficient crew to adjust lines.
Operators of Inland Vessels and Vessels Less Than 500 GT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make preparations to evacuate to sheltered water. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston of intentions. 	Prior to setting Condition Yankee	No areas in the Houston-Galveston COTP Zone are considered “safe havens.”

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition X-ray (Page 2 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are possible within 48 hours	
Description: Readiness – Implement the Heavy Weather Plan			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
Barges and Barge Fleets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barge fleets moored at facilities should be reduced as much as possible and singled-up. 2. Barge fleets not moored at facilities should be relocated away from the highest risk areas. 3. Barge fleets should be secured in accordance with the Hurricane Plan approved by the COTP/MSU Galveston. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 4. All barges remaining in port must be emptied of all cargo. Report to the COTP/MSU Galveston when cargo operations are complete. 5. All barges should consider ballasting down for maximum stability. 	Prior to setting Condition Yankee	
Agents, Ship & Tug Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make notice of arrival to the COTP for all ships, tugs & barges over 500 GT. 2. Encourage vessels intending to remain in port complete the Remaining in Port Checklist. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 24 hrs prior to arrival. 2. Prior to setting Condition Yankee 	
Dredge Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove all equipment from the waterway and seek sheltered moorings. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 	Prior to setting Condition Yankee	Dredge equipment should be moored no closer than ½ mile from any bridge.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition Yankee (Page 1 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are predicted within 24 hours	
Description: Warning – Commerce stops, all operations are to prepare the port for severe weather.			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Normal” port operations are secured. Efforts are directed toward preparation for severe weather. 2. Anticipate that the COTP will enact a safety zone prohibiting all vessel or port facility operation within 12 hours. 3. Anticipate that the storm may accelerate and that Port Hurricane Condition Zulu may be set in less than 12 hours. 4. Review the requirements for Port Hurricane Condition Zulu. 	Upon the setting of Condition Yankee	The requirements for Port Hurricane Condition Yankee may be modified in cases where gale forces winds are predicted but hurricane conditions are not expected to follow.
Terminal & Facility Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure all cargo operations and cargo handling equipment. 2. Bulk liquid terminals should ensure that all transfer hoses and loading arms are drained, flanged, and secured. Secure valves on transfer piping leading to pier and waterfront areas in the closed position. 3. Make final survey of the facility to ensure all potential missile hazards and hazardous materials are secured. Report to COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upon the setting of Condition Yankee 2. Prior to setting Condition Zulu 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shore-side storage tanks at bulk liquid facilities should be loaded to withstand maximum winds and storm surge. 2. Reports to the COTP/MSU Galveston should contain a list of all vessels and barges (of any size) moored at the facility and a phone number or frequency for a point of contact during and after the storm.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition Yankee (Page 2 of 2)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are predicted within 24 hours	
Description: Warning – Commerce stops, all operations are to prepare the port for severe weather.			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
Vessel and Barge (Over 500 GT) operators, agents, or Masters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vessels ordered to put so sea by the COTP must depart at this time. 2. Vessels with COTP/MSU Galveston approval to remain in port should ensure all provisions of the approved mooring plan are in place. Report to COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 	Upon the setting of Condition Yankee	Reports to COTP/MSU Galveston should include verification that measures outlined in the approved mooring plan have been enacted, and a phone number or radio frequency for a point of contact.
Operators of Inland Vessels and Vessels Less Than 500 GT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evacuate to sheltered water. Notify COTP/MSU Galveston when complete. 	Upon the setting of Condition Yankee	No areas in the Houston-Galveston COTP Zone are considered “safe havens.”
Barges and Barge Fleets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report barge and fleet status to COTP/MSU Galveston. 	Prior to setting Condition Zulu	Reports to COTP/MSU Galveston should include a phone number or radio frequency for a point of contact during and after the storm.
Agents, Ship & Tug Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report any delays in implementing COTP requirements or anticipated problems. 	Prior to setting Condition Zulu	Reports to COTP/MSU Galveston should include a phone number or radio frequency for a point of contact during and after the storm.
Dredge Operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report status and location of all dredge equipment. 	Prior to setting Condition Zulu	Report to COTP/MSU Galveston should include a phone number or radio frequency for a point of contact during and after the storm.

CONDITION: Port Hurricane Condition Zulu (Page 1 of 1)		Set: When sustained gale force winds are predicted within 12 hours & hurricane conditions are expected to follow.	
Description: Maximum Preparedness – Final preparation and verification that all requirements are met.			
Action Items			
Who	What	When	Notes
All maritime interests	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make final preparations for severe weather. Ensure all operations and equipment are secure. 2. Anticipate that the storm may accelerate or slow down, and that Port Hurricane Condition Zulu will be in effect until cancelled by the COTP after passage of the storm. 3. Review the requirements for Post-Storm Procedures. 	Upon the setting of Condition Zulu	1. The COTP may establish a safety zone that prohibits any commercial vessel transits or port facility operations without approval of the COTP. This safety zone will remain in effect until specifically lifted by the COTP.
Operators of all vessels and barges remaining in port	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that mooring are secured and checked/adjusted as necessary. Report any unusual condition or damage to the COTP/MSU Galveston as soon as possible. 	Upon the setting of Condition Zulu	