



Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB) 19-018, Hurricane Dorian

Weather Advisory Port Condition X-RAY - 48 HOUR ALERT Time: 12:00 P.M. / Date: August 29, 2019

In accordance with the National Hurricane Center forecast issued at 1100 EDT on Thursday, August 29, 2019, Hurricane Dorian is approximately 200 miles North of Puerto Rico, moving Northwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph. Sustained tropical storm force winds (39-73 mph / 34-63 knots) are expected to reach South Florida within 48 hours.

As a result, the Captain of the Port (COTP) has ordered **Port Condition X-RAY** be set at 12:00 p.m. August 29, 2019 for the following:

Miami River, Port of Miami, Port Everglades, Port of Palm Beach, Port of Ft. Pierce, and all remaining terminals and facilities within Sector Miami's area of responsibility.

Prohibited Operations: None at this time.

Current Actions:

- Container stacking heights shall be reduced to four or less and two or less, if they contain hazardous material.
- Waterfront facilities shall review and prepare to implement their post hurricane pollution contingency plan including planning for reconstitution of security plans.
- The COTP will contact all ports regarding the timing of operational phase downs and termination plans, and will have personnel conduct follow-up surveys to ensure hazardous conditions identified earlier are being resolved.
- All oceangoing commercial vessels greater than 500 gross tons must prepare to depart the ports, and anchorages. These vessels shall depart immediately upon the setting of Port Condition Yankee.
- All oceangoing commercial vessels greater than 500 gross tons unable to depart the port by Port Condition Yankee must contact the COTP to request permission to remain in port. Proof of facility owner/operator approval will be required.
- Vessels with permission to remain in port shall take all necessary precautions to secure the vessel for forecasted winds and tidal surges.
- All petroleum barges shall have cargo levels reduced to a minimum and shall be adequately secured.
- Ship/tug services should maintain at least one tug each on standby for call-out.
- Dredges shall move clear of the ICW and seek sheltered moorings.

Anticipated Actions:


All ports in the Miami COTP Zone should be following this storm closely and prepare for the setting of Port Condition YANKEE. The COTP anticipates setting Port Condition YANKEE on August 30, 2019. Should Port Condition YANKEE be set, the following measures will be implemented:

- Finalize removal and securing missile hazards and hazardous cargoes at open wharves.
- Cessation of cargo handling operations at waterfront cargo facilities 12 hours before expecting sustained tropical force storm winds during Port Condition Zulu.
- Anticipate that storm movement may accelerate and periods between Port Conditions may be shortened. Plan cargo/vessel operations accordingly.
- All oceangoing commercial vessels greater than 500 gross tons will be required to depart the port immediately. COTP orders will be issued to vessel masters, if necessary, requiring them to depart. Vessels with an arrival of less than 24 hours before hurricane landfall shall arrange to seek shelter elsewhere.
- Anticipate that the COTP will close ports to incoming vessels greater than 500 gross tons when Port Condition Zulu is set. Sector Miami will issue a Broadcast Notice to Mariners announcing impending port closures and special conditions deemed necessary by the COTP.
- Inspect mooring lines of vessels granted permission to remain in port.
- COTP survey teams will conduct final facility and vessel surveys to address any remaining unresolved discrepancies.
- Certain waterfront facilities may insist vessels depart their docks during this period. Vessel movement will not be permitted by the COTP, unless the move can be done safely and mooring space has been identified at another pier, wharf or shipyard, or if the vessel is departing to sea.
- Vessels associated with “cargo operations associated with storm preparations” may enter the port. Storm preparations include moving cargo within the port for purposes of securing it, crane and other port/facility equipment preparations, and similar activities, but does not include offloading cargo onto the port or loading/discharging operations unless specifically authorized by the COTP.
- Drawbridges may not be operating due to sustained tropical storm force winds or because of evacuations. As per bridge lock down process the USCG anticipates that all bridges will be closed to vessel traffic in ALL counties (Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St Lucie, and Indian River) 8 hours prior to sustained tropical storm force winds. During lock-down, power to the bridge will be turned-off while in the down position and will not be operational.

Questions regarding this MSIB or required actions should be directed to the Maritime Transportation System Recovery Unit by telephone at (786) 295-9051.

Marine Safety Information Bulletin updates are available on Homeport at <http://homeport.uscg.mil/miami> under “Port Conditions”.

The COTP may be reached by telephone at (305) 535-4472, or via Channel 16 VHF FM Marine Radio through Coast Guard Sector Miami.


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Captain of the Port, Miami