



United States Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston



2022 Gulf Inland Waterways Joint Hurricane Team Response Protocol Review

***Captain Keith M. Donohue
Deputy, Sector Houston-Galveston***



Personnel Changes

SHG Prev MTS - CDR Corina Ott

Replacing: **CDR Tim Tilghman**

SHG Prev MTS - LT Lloyd Banks

Replacing: **LT James Mittard**

SHG VTS Dir - ? TBD ?

Replacing: **Mr. Brian Smith**

MSU TC Prev - LCDR Ethan Lewallen

Replacing: **LCDR Megan Clifford**



Biggest Concerns



- **Information Exchange**
 - Connecting with you
 - Your notifications to the USCG
- Heavy wx prep
 - In port checklist (500 GT)
- Growth:
 - Texas City “Y” → cruise ship ops, anhydrous ammonia....etc
- ATON Pilings & USCG Black Hull fleet availability
- Shoaling areas → MM420 (CO Riv locks)
- Project 11 = more dredges on the water



What can GICA do?

Get the word out: tell us what you see:

- We can't be quick & efficient if we don't know what we don't know.
- Shoaling, ATON knock downs / off-station...etc
- *Any unintended consequences of Project 11*
- SHG Command Center: (832) 622-8088

Maritime Partnerships:

Barge rides; USCG recruiting



AtoN Knockdown Campaign “Report When You Hit”



➤ **VHF:**

Channel 16

➤ **Online:**

AtoN Discrepancy Report Form

<https://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=atonOutageReport>

➤ **Phone:**

*Command Center, (281) 464-4855 or;
Vessel Traffic Service, (281) 464-4837*

➤ **E-Mail:**

Waterways Management (WWM) Division
houstonwwm@uscg.mil



Notable Changes & Lessons Learned



- **ACOE Reps in USCG Command Post**
- **Brown/Blue Reps in MTSRU**
- ***Integration of MTSRU w/ VTS & Planning***
- **Houston-Galv Barge Fleeting Waterway Action Plan**
- ***Fishing Vessel Safe Haven***
- ***Information Delivery***
- ***Port Condition Matrix Revisions***



Are you getting the information you need?



Information Delivery:

- ***GovDelivery – E-Mail based active notification***
 - ~1500 subscribers
- ***Homeport – Web-based passive notification***
 - ***Public Facing under Safety Notifications:***
<https://homeport.uscg.mil/port-directory/houston-galveston>
- ***Port Coordination Team calls & E-Mails***



Heavy Weather Port Conditions

Subject to Change

	MODIFIED TRACK	TRADITIONAL TRACK
Triggers	Heavy Weather predicted for AOR. Certainty below 20% of any tropical storm conditions or any chance of only low intensity tropical storms.	Heavy Weather predicted for AOR. Certainty above 20% of any tropical storm condition except low intensity tropical storms.
MSIB	Modified WHISKEY (72 hrs) - Begin planning w/ preventative measures. - Initiate stay in port checklists.	WHISKEY (72 hrs) - Begin planning w/preventative measures. - Temp safety zone established. - Initiate stay in port checklists. - Remain-in-Port Checklist submitted to SHG - Vessels begin seeking shelter away from the port. - Port closure expected 12 hours out from tropical storm conditions.
	Modified XRAY (48 hrs) - Port not closing due to low probability of sustained Tropical storm force winds (39-73 mph). - <u>Any vessel requesting to remain in anchorage shall notify Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) of their intentions.</u> - <u>Small vessels shall take seek shelter</u> -Finalize all stay in port checklists.	XRAY (48 hrs) - Ocean going vessels begin making plans for immediate departure if Yankee is established. - Any vessel requesting to remain in anchorage shall notify Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) of their intentions. - Smaller vessels shall seek shelter in preparation for possible port closure. - Finalize all stay in port checklists - Port closure expected 12 hours out from tropical storm conditions.
	Modified YANKEE (24 hrs) - <u>Any necessary inbound transits should be coordinated with VTS for pre-approval.</u> - Clear all vessels from Bolivar Anchorage - Suspend bunkering and lightering - Suspend all cargo transfers w/ winds \geq 40mph - Disconnect transfer hoses/arms w/ winds \geq 50mph	YANKEE (24 hrs) - Suspend all inbound transits - Clear all vessels from Bolivar Anchorage - Suspend bunkering and lightering - Suspend all cargo transfers w/ winds \geq 40mph - Disconnect transfer hoses/arms w/ winds \geq 50mph - Inland tows properly moored - Port closure expected 12 hours out from tropical storm conditions.
		ZULU (12 hrs) - All cargo/bunkering operations must cease - Port Closed to all transits



Thank You!

Keith.M.Donohue@uscg.mil

(281) 464-4803

**For more information, contact
Sector Houston-Galveston's Waterways
Management Division:
houstonwwm@uscg.mil**