



Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston Marine Safety Information Bulletin 36-21

Date: 26 Aug 2021
Time: 1747

Tropical Storm Ida MODIFIED Port Condition Whiskey

The Captain of the Port (COTP) will set a **modified** Port Condition Whiskey at Thursday, August 26, at 8:00PM, for the ports of Houston, Galveston, Freeport and Texas City and the portion of the GIWW from MM 319.5 to MM-442. Heavy weather from Tropical Storm Ida is expected to impact the area in the next 72 hours. The port community is advised to monitor the progress of the storm and make appropriate preparations. For information on Port Conditions, please refer to the 2021 Sector Houston-Galveston Heavy Weather Port Condition Matrix, which is included with this Marine Safety Information Bulletin (MSIB).

Continued uncertainty on the impact of the track may result in decreased preparation time once the path of the storm becomes more defined. Additional guidance will be issued via MSIBs, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, or other forms as necessary. Affected stakeholders should establish and maintain communications with your Port Coordination Team delegates.

All vessels and facilities are encouraged to begin planning to take preventive measures in advance of the storm. Such measures may include the following:

- Safety measures should be taken to secure missile hazards, nonessential equipment and loose gear.
- Container stacking protocols should be reviewed and implemented accordingly to predicted sustained winds by the National Weather Service.
- Oil transfer terminals should be prepared to drain all loading arms and hoses of product, blank off hoses, and empty /clean small discharge containment prior to storm arrival.
- Ensure that vessel moorings are adequate for the predicted wind and surge. Mooring lines ready to be doubled up with due consideration given effects of predicted storm surge. Consider leaving port if moorings are not adequate.
- Sufficient number of officers and crew onboard to tend mooring lines or get underway.
- Vessel ballasted to ensure maximum safety.
- All side ports, hatches, portholes, and other openings are closed and secured.
- A continuous radio watch maintained on VHF-FM Channel 16 and designated Vessel Traffic Service frequencies.
- Ensure that anchor and anchoring equipment is in good working condition.
- Spare mooring lines/and or wires should be inspected and made ready.

Additional guidance regarding Tropical Storm Ida will be issued in the form of further Marine Safety Information Bulletins, Broadcast Notice to Mariners, or other forms as necessary. Please contact the Sector Houston-Galveston Command Duty Officer at (281) 464-4851 if you have any questions or comments.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. E. Smith".

J. E. SMITH
Captain, United States Coast Guard
Captain of the Port