



Marine Safety Information Bulletin

MSIB Number: 26-02
U.S. Coast Guard
Sector Long Island Sound
120 Woodward Ave.
New Haven, CT 06512

Date: September 23, 2026
Contact: Lieutenant Joel Chapman
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Potential Heavy Weather Impacts September 24 - 28, 2026

SUMMARY: Due to a prolonged period of gusty northeast winds and rain, the Captain of the Port Sector Long Island Sound is urging the public to exercise extreme caution and strongly advising boaters against operating in adverse weather conditions. During this time, the Coast Guard's ability to respond to emergencies may be degraded. Maritime stakeholders should review continuity of operations and communication procedures, as well as methods of minimizing storm damage and environmental risk, such as riding out the storm at sea, doubling up mooring lines, securing transfers, ballasting down storage tanks and draining transfer lines.

SITUATION: The National Weather Service forecasts peak winds between **35-50 knots with gusts exceeding 55 knots** beginning Friday and continuing through the weekend. Hazardous marine conditions are expected. Dangerous rip currents will continue along local ocean beaches, with high surf and areas of beach erosion possible. Conditions will include significant rainfall, potential for minor coastal flooding, and moderate coastal erosion due to storm surge during periods of high tide. Mariners should consider altering plans to avoid possible hazardous conditions. Remain in port, seek safe harbor, alter course, and/or secure the vessel for severe wind and waves. Marinas, Yacht Clubs, and private residents are encouraged to secure all paddle craft and small boats to prevent unintentional drifting out to sea. Due to the high winds, regional draw bridge operations may be impacted.

MONITORING: Vessels at facilities shall carefully monitor their moorings and cargo operations. Vessels at anchor shall prepare for heavy winds. Additional anchor(s) should be made ready to let go and preparations shall be made to have a continuous anchor watch. Engine(s) should be made immediately available for maneuvering. Mariners should maintain a continuous listening watch on VHF Channel 16 and are advised to monitor the latest forecasts from the [National Weather Service](#) or other weather media outlets as conditions and forecasts may change.

COMMUNICATIONS: For urgent safety of life issues, please contact the **Sector Long Island Sound Command Center on VHF-FM Channel 16 or call (866) 299-8031**. Additionally, please check [USCG Navigation Center](#) often for updates to the public from the US Coast Guard.

Questions regarding this bulletin may be address to Lieutenant Joel Chapman, Chief of Waterways Management Division at (475) 355-5336 or email SECLISSPWMarineEvent@uscg.mil.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David T. Bourbeau" with a stylized "CB" monogram to the right.

David T. Bourbeau
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard
Chief, Prevention Department
By Direction