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Service Change Notice 21-99
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Allison Allen
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Subject: Mobile Bay Marine Channels Forecast Implementation: Effective
December 6, 2021

Effective December 6, 2021, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will launch the Mobile Bay Marine Channels Forecast, a collaborative tool that centralizes all of the region's available meteorological and oceanographic forecasts into one place. Mobile Bay's system is the second of its kind in the United States, and will fully integrate wind, wave, rain and visibility forecasts issued by the National Weather Service (NWS) with water level and current forecast guidance maintained by the National Ocean Service (NOS). The system provides information critical for the U.S. economy and safety of coastal communities. Vessel operators can use the system alongside real-time observations to safely navigate busy shipping channels in Mobile Bay. Forecasts will be available at 19 locations in the seaport along with real-time observations generated by NWS and the NOS Mobile Bay PORTS®.

The effective date (December 6, 2021) of this change is sooner than specified by NWS policy (NWS Instruction 10-1805). The reduction of the normal advance lead time was approved after coordination with NOS, the owner and operator of this product. This is an expansion of an already existing capability.

Link for the Mobile Bay Marine Channels Forecast effective December 6, 2021:

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/ofs/ngofs2/mbmcf.html>

For questions and/or comments, please contact:

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