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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

[MSIB # 23-11]

September 1, 2011

UPPER DELAWARE BAY CONDITIONS

The Captain of the Port, Sector Delaware Bay, has determined that the significant hazards post Hurricane **IRENE** of increased debris and flooding have diminished and pose no further threat to the port. The Delaware River and Bay are open to all vessel traffic.

Mariners are advised that post hurricane **IRENE** soundings of the upper Delaware River by the Army Corp of Engineers indicate shoaling in the turning basin off of the Grows/Kinder Morgan Fairless Hills Terminals in Pennsylvania.

Mariners should take caution when transiting the upper Delaware River and are urged to adhere to recommendations by the Mariners Advisory Committee of a maximum draft for all berths at the Grows Terminal and berths 3 & 4 Kinder Morgan, Fairless Hills at **34 ft FW**. The recommended draft for berths 1 and 2 at Kinder Morgan, Fairless Hills, PA is **36 ft FW**. Ships drawing over **35ft FW** for Kinder Morgan shall try to time their arrival for the higher of the two daily high tides. This recommendation is in effect until the dredging of the turning basin in late September allows otherwise.

Due to temporary freshet conditions in the upriver, all vessels with drafts in excess of 32'06" shall try to schedule their arrival for two hours before high water at Edgely until conditions allow for returning to normal arrivals according to draft.

Furthermore, due to higher than usual tides in the upriver section of the Delaware, the maximum air draft restriction will be set daily by the Pilots' Association for the Bay and River Delaware. It is anticipated that transits for normal air draft of 132ft will be resumed in the coming days as the tides return to normal.

The Coast Guard continues to ask for a collaborative effort from port members in reporting any hazardous conditions within the river and bay. If there are any questions regarding the contents of this bulletin or expectations of the Captain of the Port, please contact (215) 271-4807.



MEREDITH L. AUSTIN
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Delaware Bay