



BELIZE PORT AUTHORITY

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24 Hour **Emergency Access:** VHF Channel 16 or Toll-free Phone 966

Ref: MS/23/1/2020

BELIZE CITY
01 SEPTEMBER 2020

ORDER TO CEASE PORT OPERATIONS

The Belize Meteorological Service has issued a tropical storm warning and a hurricane watch for Tropical Cyclone Nana, as at 1742 hours today, Tuesday, 01 September 2020. Conditions are forecast to deteriorate with the cyclone making landfall as a Category 1 Hurricane overnight Wednesday, 02 September 2020, to early Thursday morning. This system is forecast to affect the entire coast (and country) of Belize.

The Belize Port Authority, in accordance with the standards of operation of ports and under the authority granted by the Belize Port Authority Act, and in order to avoid danger to life and property, hereby directs as follows:

1. All ports shall be closed to arrival and departure of ships no later than 1000 Hours on Wednesday 02 September 2020.
2. All foreign flagged ships in Belize are to depart and be clear of the territorial seas of Belize no later than 1200 hours on Wednesday 02 September 2020, and are advised to seek safe harbour in accordance with their emergency plan.
3. Ports, Shipping Agents and the Maritime Community in general are reminded of the weather restrictions established for port operations, which are attached.

Ships are prohibited from entering the ports and harbours of Belize until this order is lifted in writing by the Ports Commissioner. Such order shall not be issued until the port damage assessment is concluded after the All Clear (Green) phase has been issued by the Belize Meteorological Service, and a determination has been made that port operations can resume safely.

By Order
Belize Port Authority

Merlene Bailey Martinez
Ports Commissioner



"Maritime Service, Security & Efficiency"
Report navigational hazards or marine accidents immediately.

MS/23/1/2019(61)

**MARINE CIRCULAR No 05/2019
Weather Restrictions – Big Creek Port**

Beaufort Number	Wind Speed	Port Restrictions	
		Cargo	Tanker
#4	11-16 knots	Above 200 Meters remain/move to anchorage at 15 knots and above	Port in full operation with tug support for tanker mooring.
#5	Up to 21 knots	Port in full operation; tug and barge operation permissible for vessel over 200 meters	Port in full operation; tug required for tanker mooring.
#6	22-27 knots	Full operation for vessels at berth. Vessels prohibited from transiting the channel above 30 knots; to remain at anchorage	Full operation; All vessels without bow thrusters require tugs for all operations. Transit of vessels over 150 meters through channel prohibited with wind speed above 25 knots
#7	28-33 knots	Full operations with vessel at berth; Transit of Vessels through the channel prohibited at over 30 knots. Cargo operations suspended.	At or above 30 knots: If at berth, operations continue. If at anchorage, to remain there. Transit through the channel prohibited
#8	34-40 knots	Cease operations; Port closed; Terminal disconnects all cargo arms at 40 knot	Port closed Terminal disconnects all cargo arms. All connection for tankers disconnected at 40 knots

By Order
Ports Commissioner
05 July 2019

MARINE CIRCULAR No 03/2019
Weather Restrictions – Port of Belize Ltd

Beaufort Number	Wind Speed	Port Restrictions		
		Tanker	Cargo	Passenger
#5	Up to 21 knots	Port in full operation with tug support for tanker mooring.	Port in full operation	Port in full operation; Passenger operations at anchorage
#6	22-27 knots	Cargo operations suspended for tankers with wind speed above 25 knots. All connection for tankers disconnected	Port in full operation	Port in full operation; Passenger operations at anchorage
#7	28-33 knots	Removal of hoses/connections	Kings Pier: 30 knots or below may transit to anchorage; loading and unloading suspended	No passenger transfer above 33 knots
#8	34-40 knots	Transit of English Caye Channel prohibited over 40 knots	Operations prohibited; may remain at anchorage	Operations prohibited
#9	41-47 knots	Port closed	Port closed	Port closed

By Order
 Ports Commissioner
 05 July 2019