Keeping Blue Water Mariners Safe - Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch (TAFB) Marine Products and Services

To provide meteorological analysis, forecasts and warnings over the tropical and subtropical oceans for the protection of life and property.
A Bad Cruise
Global High Seas Forecasts
- International Maritime Organization
Ships over the Open Ocean

https://www.marinetraffic.com/
Note that the main areas for gales are near gaps and coastal terrain - this is not a coincidence!
Typical areas for tropical storms and hurricanes

- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
GOES-16: A new era of geo-stationary satellite imagery and data
Tools - Models

GFS MSLP (mb) & 10m Wind Speed (kt)
Init: 18z Nov 12 2019 [Analysis] valid at 18z Tue, Nov 12 2019
Tools - Workstations
Unified Surface Analysis
Areas of Responsibility

https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb_latest/USA_latest.gif
HIGH SEAS FORECAST
NWS NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER
1030 UTC FRI OCT 02 2015

SUPERSEDED BY NEXT ISSUANCE IN 6 HOURS

SEAS GIVEN AS SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT...WHICH IS THE AVERAGE
HEIGHT OF THE HIGHEST 1/3 OF THE WAVES. INDIVIDUAL WAVES MAY BE
MORE THAN TWICE THE SIGNIFICANT WAVE HEIGHT.

PAN PAN

ATLANTIC FROM 07N TO 31N W OF 35W INCLUDING CARIBBEAN SEA AND
GULF OF MEXICO.

SYNOPSIS VALID 0600 UTC FRI OCT 02.
24 HOUR FORECAST VALID 0600 UTC SAT OCT 03.
48 HOUR FORECAST VALID 0600 UTC SUN OCT 04.

.WARNINGS.

...HURRICANE WARNING...
.HURRICANE JOAQUIN NEAR 23.3N 74.7W 935 MB AT 0900 UTC OCT 02
MOVING NW OR 315 DEG AT 3 KT. MAXIMUM SUSTAINED WINDS 115 KT
GUSTS 140 KT. TROPICAL STORM FORCE WINDS WITHIN 160 NM W
SEMICIRCLE...140 NM NE QUADRANT AND 180 NM SE QUADRANT. SEAS 12
FT OR GREATER WITHIN 400 NM NE QUADRANT...150 NM SE
QUADRANT...120 NM SW QUADRANT...AND 300 NM NW QUADRANT WITH SEAS
TO 39 FT. ELSEWHERE S OF 28N BETWEEN 70W AND 75W WINDS 20 TO 33
KT. SEAS 9 TO 12 FT. N OF 28N BETWEEN 70W AND 75W E WINDS 20 TO
25 KT SEAS 8 TO 10 FT. REMAINDER OF AREA N OF 21N BETWEEN 65W
AND 78W AND OUTSIDE OF THE BAHAMAS WINDS 20 KT OR LESS. SEAS 8
TO 11 FT IN MIXED SWELL.
Marine Composite Page – Winds, Waves, Warnings, and Features

https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/marine/forecast/enhanced_atlcfull.php

Red: Gale Warning
Orange: Winds > 23 kt  Blue: Seas ≥ 8 ft

Colors: Seas (in feet)
Flags: Wind barbs (in knots)
EL FARO
33 fatalities when it sank in Hurricane Joaquin (2015)

BOURBON RHODE
11 fatalities when it sank in Hurricane Lorenzo (2019)

BOUNTY
2 fatalities when it sank in Hurricane Sandy (2012)

FANTOMÉ
31 fatalities when it sank in Hurricane Mitch (1998)
Hurricane Delta - 2020  October 6th, 2pm EDT  Weather Avoidance by Ships

marinetraffic.com
MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
AND
THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
REGARDING
THE MANAGEMENT OF MARINE
WEATHER INFORMATION

APPROVED: 03/30/2020

Louis W. Uccellini
NOAA Assistant Administrator
for Weather Services

APPROVED: 3/31/20

Richard V. Timme
Rear Admiral, USCG
Assistant Commandant for
Prevention Policy

"The Spot Forecast is a huge tool year-round for us during search-and-rescue. Likewise, I really want to thank all those responsible for creating the Coast Guard weather webpage, which is extremely valuable to us. It has so many of the products that we use on a daily basis, so I thank you and the entire team for that.”

USCG District 7 Commandant
RADM Eric Jones

"You [NHC/TAFB] are a crucial and critical partner to us. On behalf of all of District 8 with 4,000 men and women that serve here in uniform, we are very, very grateful for the support you have given us. We consider you one of our key partners to ensure that the American public is served well across all of District 8. We’re very proud of the relationship that we enjoy with you all."

USCG District 8 Commandant
RADM John Nadeau