

Utilization of the Point and Click Forecast for Mariners

The National Weather Service's Coastal Waters Forecast is an average of conditions over a zone. This is often not a problem for mariners, as conditions can be similar over large areas. However, when a slow moving frontal boundary slices through a zone, there can be large differences in winds, seas and weather. Conditions can also be vastly different when navigating in the Gulf Stream. That is why it is a good idea to utilize the "point & click" forecast, which will give you a forecast at the nearest grid box in our digital database. Here is a brief description on how to utilize this service:

1) From our [home page](#), click approximately where you want to go fishing.

The screenshot shows the National Weather Service website for Melbourne, FL. The page features a navigation bar with links for Home, Site Map, News, Organization, and a search bar. The main content area is titled 'NEWS' and 'Impact Weather Update'. Below this, there are 'Top News of the Day' items, including 'SKYWARN Recognition Day 2011 Results!', 'Melbourne WSR-88D Dual Polarization Upgrade', and '2012 Severe Weather Awareness Week Poster Contest'. A row of buttons provides access to 'Watches & Warnings', 'Observations', 'Forecast Graphics', 'Rivers & Lakes', 'Climate', and 'Impact Weather'. A map of the region is displayed, with a red square indicating a specific location. A legend on the right side of the map identifies various advisory zones: Small Craft Advisory (purple), Lake Wind Advisory (brown), Hazardous Weather Outlook (yellow), and Short Term Forecast (green). A red arrow points to the red square on the map with the text 'click here'. The map is dated 'Last map update: Tue, Dec. 27, 2011 at 4:55:47 pm EST'. A sidebar on the left contains various navigation options, including 'Local forecast by City, St or Zip Code', 'RSS Feeds', and 'Current Hazards'.

2) This will take you to a page which depicts our Coastal Waters (Zone) Forecast. Click within the large red box to get the "point forecast."

This is the Coastal Waters Forecast for the zone highlighted in red--an AVERAGED forecast across the whole zone

Marine Zone Forecast

Hazardous marine condition(s):

[Short Term Forecast](#)
[Small Craft Advisory](#)

Synopsis...GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS WILL PRECEDE AN APPROACHING COLD FRONT THIS EVENING. A FEW STRONG SHOWERS OR STORMS MAY MOVE OFFSHORE SOUTH OF THE CAPE THIS AFTERNOON. THERE WILL BE A BRIEF PERIOD OF POST FRONTAL GUSTY OFFSHORE WINDS INTO WEDNESDAY AS THE FRONT SWEEPS THROUGH THE FLORIDA PENINSULA. HIGH PRESSURE WILL BUILD ACROSS THE DEEP SOUTH AND GULF OF MEXICO THROUGH THE LATTER HALF OF THE WEEK...ALLOWING WINDS TO DIMINISH TO 10 KNOTS OR LESS AND SEAS TO 2 FEET OR LESS THROUGH LATE WEEK.

.GULF STREAM HAZARDS...GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS AROUND 20 KNOTS VEERING TO THE NORTHWEST 20 TO 25 KNOTS THIS EVENING. SEAS BUILDING TO 8 TO 9 FEET.

THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE WEST WALL OF THE GULF STREAM BASED ON THE REAL TIME OCEAN FORECAST SYSTEM DATA AS OF MONDAY DECEMBER 26TH AT 7 AM...

43 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF PONCE INLET. 33 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF PORT CANAVERAL. 26 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF SEBASTIAN INLET. 19 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF FORT PIERCE INLET. 12 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF SAINT LUCIE INLET.

Tonight...Southwest winds 20 knots becoming northwest after midnight. Seas building to 5 to 6 feet with a dominant period 8 seconds. Choppy on the intracoastal waters. Slight chance of showers and thunderstorms early in the evening.

Wednesday...Northwest winds 15 to 20 knots becoming north 10 to 15 knots in the afternoon. Seas 3 to 5 feet with a dominant period 7 seconds. Choppy on the intracoastal waters.

Wednesday Night...North winds 5 to 10 knots. Seas 3 to 5 feet with a dominant period 8 seconds. Mostly smooth on the intracoastal waters.

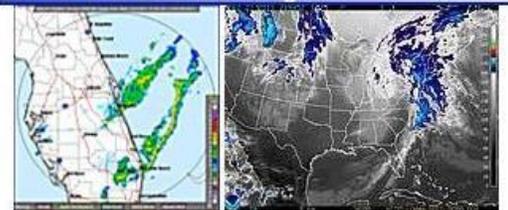
Thursday...Northeast winds 5 to 10 knots. Seas 3 to 4 feet. A

Current Conditions [Move Down]

41114 Fort Pierce, FL (134)
 Lat: 27.55°N Lon: 80.23°W Elev: 0
 Last Update on Dec 27, 3:46 pm EST

Wind:	NA
Pressure:	NA
Air Temperature:	NA
Water Temperature:	76 °F (24 °C)
Dewpoint:	NA
Wave Hgt/Dir:	3.6 ft/SE
Dominant Wave Period:	5 sec
Visibility:	NA

Radar and Satellite Images



Detailed Point Forecast [Move Up]

Click for Point Specific Forecast

Disclaimer



3) This is the “point forecast.” Note that in the browser address bar, there is a lat/lon (latitude, longitude). If you know the lat/lon of your favorite fishing spot, edit the numbers in the browser address bar and hit enter.

Marine Forecast for Latitude 27.19°N and Longitude 80.01°W - Windows Internet Explorer

http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=27.196014383173306&lon=-80.00244140625&site=mlb&unit=0&lg=en

Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Favorites | FB | Lantern | NWS | MHC | SPC | Favorites | Buoy | Climate | mail | MOS | MTR | R

Marine Forecast for Latitude 27.19°N and Longitude 80.01°W

Marine Point Forecast *

Hazardous marine condition(s):

Small Craft Advisory
Short Term Forecast

Synopsis...GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS WILL PRECEDE AN APPROACHING COLD FRONT THIS EVENING. A FEW STRONG SHOWERS OR STORMS MAY MOVE OFFSHORE SOUTH OF THE CAPE THIS AFTERNOON. THERE WILL BE A BRIEF PERIOD OF POST FRONTAL GUSTY OFFSHORE WINDS INTO WEDNESDAY AS THE FRONT SWEEPS THROUGH THE FLORIDA PENINSULA. HIGH PRESSURE WILL BUILD ACROSS THE DEEP SOUTH AND GULF OF MEXICO THROUGH THE LATTER HALF OF THE WEEK...ALLOWING WINDS TO DIMINISH TO 10 KNOTS OR LESS AND SEAS TO 2 FEET OR LESS THROUGH LATE WEEK.

...GULF STREAM HAZARDS... GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS AROUND 20 KNOTS VEERING TO THE NORTHWEST 20 TO 25 KNOTS THIS EVENING. SEAS BUILDING TO 8 TO 9 FEET.

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Tonight: SW wind 14 to 18 kt becoming NW after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 25 kt. A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 7pm, then a slight chance of showers between 7pm and 1am. Seas 4 to 5 ft.

Wednesday: N wind 9 to 18 kt, with gusts as high as 25 kt. Sunny. Seas around 4 ft.

Wednesday Night: N wind 6 to 9 kt. Mostly clear. Seas 3 to 4 ft.

Thursday: N wind 5 to 7 kt becoming variable and less than 5 kt. Sunny. Seas around 2 ft.

Current Conditions

41114 Fort Pierce,
Lat: 27.55°N Lon: 80.23°W
Last Update on Dec 27, 2010

Wind:	
Pressure:	
Air Temperature:	
Water Temperature:	
Dewpoint:	
Wave Hgt/Dir:	
Dominant Wave:	
Visibility:	

Nearby Observations

Past Observations

Radar and Satellite Image

Select Another Point

Click Map for Forecast

Map | Satellite

Requested Location
Lat/lon: 27.19°N 80.01°W

note the lat and lon points, change them to your favorite fishing spot and hit "enter"

This is the "point" forecast

4) You will then have the point forecast for your favorite fishing spot! Bookmark it! Note that in this case the wind forecast changes from 14-18 knots to 13-16 knots with gusts decreasing from 25 knots to 20 knots, which is typical for an offshore (west) wind.

WEEK...ALLOWING WINDS TO DIMINISH TO 10 KNOTS OR LESS AND SEAS TO 2 FEET OR LESS THROUGH LATE WEEK.

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Tonight: SW wind 13 to 16 kt becoming NW after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 kt. A chance of showers and thunderstorms before 7pm, then a slight chance of showers between 7pm and 1am. Seas 3 to 5 ft.

Wednesday: N wind 8 to 16 kt. Sunny. Seas 3 to 4 ft.

Wednesday Night: N wind 6 to 8 kt. Mostly clear. Seas 2 to 3 ft.

Thursday: N wind around 6 kt becoming variable and less than 5 kt. Sunny. Seas around 2 ft.

Thursday Night: NE wind around 6 kt becoming variable and less than 5 kt after midnight. Mostly clear. Seas around 2 ft.

Friday: Variable winds less than 5 kt becoming ENE around 6 kt in the morning. Sunny. Seas around 1 ft.

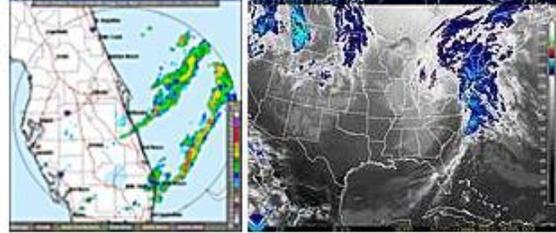
Friday Night: NE wind around 6 kt. Mostly clear. Seas around 1 ft.

Saturday: ENE wind 6 to 10 kt. Sunny. Seas around 1 ft.

Saturday Night: E wind 7 to 10 kt. Partly cloudy. Seas around 2 ft.

***Notices:** (1) This forecast is for a single location. For safety concerns, mariners should be aware of the weather over a larger area. Forecast information for a larger area can be found within the [zone forecast](#) and the [NDFD graphics](#).

Radars and Satellite Images



Select Another Point

[Move Up]

Click Map for Forecast

Disclaimer



Requested Location Forecast Area
Lat/Lon: 27.25°N 80.16°W Elevation:0 ft



