



## MARINE WARNINGS

Marine warnings are issued whenever the winds are expected to rise into the following wind speed categories:

Small Craft Warning	20 - 33 knots
Gale Warning	34 - 47 knots
Storm Warning	48 - 63 knots
Hurricane Force Wind Warning	64 knots or more

Small Craft Warnings are issued for the southern inner coastal waters beginning in April and continuing until November 11. This warning is **not** based on the size of the vessel but only on the strength of the wind.

The Hurricane Force Wind Warning does **not** imply the presence of a hurricane but only refers to winds of 64 knots or higher.

The text of the wind warning describes the weather systems responsible for the strong winds, the maximum winds expected and when they are likely to diminish.

The warnings are "flagged" in the actual forecast by a statement such as "Gale warning issued". No special message is issued when a warning is canceled but a statement such as "Storm Warning ended" is included in the forecast.

## OBTAINING FORECASTS

Free Recordings	(telephone)	(radio)
<b>Vancouver</b> <i>(Haro Strait, Strait of Georgia, Haro Strait, Juan de Fuca Strait)</i>	<b>604-664-9810</b>	
Victoria	250-363-6717	162.4 MHz
Nanaimo	250-245-8899	
Comox	250-339-9861	
Campbell River	250-286-3575	
Port Alberni	250-724-1333	
Port Hardy	250-949-7148	103.7 MHz
Prince Rupert	250-627-1155	
Sechelt	604-885-4100	
Ucluelet (Pac Rim)	250-726-6648	1260 KHz

For a Fee

### WHEN ONSHORE CALL:

Marine Weather 1-900-565-6565 or  
1-866-640-6369 (Visa/MasterCard or on account)

To talk to a marine forecaster (fees apply)

### WHEN ON or OFFSHORE CALL: WeatherCall

Speak directly to a marine forecaster  
Access phone number provided upon registration,  
to register phone 604-664-9033 or fax 604-664-9081



Environment Canada  
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# MARINER'S GUIDE



For Weather on the Web:



weatheroffice  
météo

www.weatheroffice.pyr.ec.gc.ca

# West Coast Marine Weather Forecast Areas and Observation Sites



## MAP KEY

- Marine Weather Reporting Station
- ▲ Marine Weather Buoy
- MAREP Station
- ✱ WX1 162.55 MHz
- ✱ WX2 162.40 MHz
- ✱ WX3 162.475 MHz
- ✱ 21B 161.65 MHz
- Weatheradio Canada 162.40 MHz
- ◆ Weatheradio Canada 1260 KHz (am band)
- Weatheradio Canada 103.70 MHz
- Forecast Area Boundary
- - - International Boundary

## MARINE FORECAST ISSUE TIMES

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 0400 | } Issue times remain the same throughout the year. |
| 1030 |  |
| 1600 |  |
| 2130 |  |

Marine warnings and amendments are issued as required.

## MARINE FORECAST CONTENT

Marine forecasts are valid for 24 hours with an outlook for a further 24 hours.

## Synopsis

The Synopsis is located at the beginning of the marine forecast. It describes the location and intensity of the weather systems which will affect the B.C. coastal waters and indicates what their movements will be during the forecast period. In addition, a general description of the present and forecast winds is included.

## Wind Speed

The winds in the marine forecast are the average winds that are expected over the open water.

## The wind speeds are given in knots.

Gusts or squalls are only mentioned when they are expected to be much higher than the average winds. It should be noted that with the rugged coastline of B.C., considerable local variations from the forecast winds are possible.

## Wind Direction

Wind directions refer to the direction from which the wind is blowing and these are based on true north and not on magnetic bearings.

## Weather and Visibility

A brief description is given of the sky condition and weather, for example, sunny, cloudy, rain, drizzle, or fog. This is followed by a statement about the visibility if it is expected to be reduced below 1 nautical mile.

## Outlook

The outlook describes the winds during the 24 hour period following the main forecast.

Environment Canada's West Coast marine weather books

### LIVING WITH WEATHER ALONG THE BC COAST

Marine weather in the Georgia Basin:  
**THE WIND CAME ALL WAYS**

"...highly recommended" as reviewed in *The West coast Fisherman*.

the ever popular

### WEST COAST MARINE WEATHER HAZARDS MANUAL

To order books please phone (604) 664-9067

For information on these or other weather services,  
contact: **Client Services**

Ph.(604) 664-9033 Fax(604) 664-9081



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