

Handling Guidelines for Vessel Movement

Tampa Bay Main Channel

Draft of 39 feet plus tide at any time, to maximum of 41 feet.

- Drafts of over 39 feet must be started in at least 4 hours before appropriate tide window.
- Maximum draft vessels should transit with less than 6 foot seas. If seas are greater than 6 feet, apply formula for increased draft due to heel or proceed at appropriate reduced speed.

Southwest Channel

Maximum draft of 14 feet plus tide.

Port Manatee

Draft and Current Restrictions

- Draft of 38'-01" plus tide to a maximum of 41 feet.

To or From Sea

- Less than 30 foot draft; anytime.
- Draft between 30 and 35 feet; current 0.5 kt or less.
- Greater than 35 foot draft; current 0.3 kt or less.

Shifts to or From the North:

- Less than 27 foot draft; anytime.
- Draft between 27 and 33 feet; current 0.3 kt or less.
- Greater than 33 foot draft; slack water.

Vessel Length Restrictions

- LOA between 700 and 800 feet; 0.5 kt of current or less.
- LOA 800 and greater; Slack Water for all drafts.
- Maximum LOA; 900 feet.

Vessel Movement Restrictions

- Maximum two vessel movements per slack water.
- Only one vessel with draft greater than 36 feet per slack water.
- LOA over 700' and draft over 34' requires 2 class A tugs for turnaround.

Handling Guidelines for Vessel Movement

Old Port Tampa

Draft Restriction

- Maximum draft of 33'-00" plus tide to a maximum of 35'00" due to G-Cut restriction.
- Maximum 2 moves per tide.

Current Restrictions

Outbound

- Draft of less than 25 feet, current less than 1 kt.
- Draft 25 feet or greater, head out, current less than 0.5 kt.
- Draft of 25 feet or greater, head in, slack water.

Inbound

- Draft of less than 25 feet; current 1.0 kt or less.
- Tank vessel with draft less than 25 feet requires current less than 1.0 kt flood or 0.5 kt ebb.
- Draft of 25 feet or greater; slack water. 1 Class-A tug required.

Vessel Length Restrictions

- LOA of 700 feet or greater; current less than 0.5 kt. inbound or outbound.
- Maximum LOA of 750 feet.

Additional Restrictions

- One way traffic in G-Cut for drafts greater than 27 feet.
- Maximum combined beam of 196 feet for meeting in Old Tampa Bay.
- No passing in Old Port Tampa.
 1. A vessel can be brought to Motiva with a vessel at Tampa Bulk. The vessel at Tampa Bulk should be positioned at extreme East end.
 2. With a vessel at Motiva, vessels may not berth or unberth at Tampa Bulk.
 3. With a vessel at Chevron, no vessels may pass in or out of Old Port Tampa.

Handling Guidelines for Vessel Movement

Weedon Island

Draft Restrictions

- Maximum draft of 29'-09" plus tide.
- Maximum draft of 24'-00" plus tide for turn around.

Current Restrictions

- Draft of less than 28 feet at any time.
- Draft 28 feet or greater; slack water.

Vessel Length Restrictions

- Maximum LOA of 675 feet.

Additional Restrictions

- Single Hull vessels; daylight only.

Bayboro

Draft Restriction

- Maximum draft of 23 feet plus tide.

Point Pinellas Channel

Draft Restriction

- Maximum draft of 19 feet plus tide.

Rattlesnake

Draft Restrictions

- Maximum draft of 12 feet plus tide.
- Maximum draft of 14 feet plus tide to Misener berth.

Big Bend

Draft Restriction

- Maximum Draft of 33'-06" plus tide in East/West Entrance Channel.
- Maximum Draft of 33'-09" plus tide in North/South Channel.
- Maximum LOA 700' in turning basin.

Handling Guidelines for Vessel Movement

East Tampa

Draft Restriction

- Maximum draft of 30'-06" plus tide in entrance channel and turning basin.

Vessel Length and Beam Restrictions

- Maximum LOA of 675'.
- LOA of 650 or greater; daylight and high water slack only.
- Combination of LOA of phosphate vessel and beam of sulphur vessel not to exceed 650 feet for phosphate vessel to sail.
- Maximum LOA for OUTBOUND turnaround is 475' with a vessel at the sulphur berth.
- LOA Greater than 600'; Maximum Draft of 29'-00" for turnaround.

Port Sutton Entrance Channel and Port Sutton to Berth 31

Maximum Draft 39'-00" plus tide.

Maximum draft of 41'-00" plus tide in Port Sutton Turning Basin.

Port Sutton

Maximum Draft of 34'-00" plus tide East of Berth #3.

Gadsden Anchorage

Draft Restrictions

- Maximum draft of 27 feet.

Vessel Length Restriction

- Maximum LOA of 675 feet or up to 685 feet with 1 stand-by tug.

Handling Guidelines for Vessel Movement

East Bay Channel - Northeast Channel - East Bay Channel to Berth #211

Maximum draft of 39'00" feet plus tide.

East Bay - Upper Basin Channel

Maximum draft of 35'-06" plus tide to Berth #210.

Maximum draft of 34'-10" plus tide to Berth #209.

Maximum draft of 34'-00" plus tide to Berth #208.

East Bay - Upper Basin Channel North of Berth #208 and Upper Turning Basin

Maximum draft of 33'-00" plus tide.

East Bay Anchorage

Maximum draft 30'-00" plus tide.

Anchorage not for general purpose, contact Tampa Port Authority.

Hillsborough D Cut to Sta 60-00

Maximum draft of 39'-00" plus tide.

One way traffic for vessels with a draft greater than 36'-00".

Hillsborough D Cut, Sparkman Channel and Ybor Channel

Maximum Draft of 35'-06", any vessel with draft over 34'-06" must have at least 1' positive tide.