

## FORECAST OFFICE

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Date: Monday, 18th March 2024.

## SEVEN DAY FORECAST FOR THE BAHAMAS from 18th to 24th March 2024

General Situation: High Pressure across the Bahamas will shift further eastwards into the Atlantic ahead of a cold front that is expected to move into the Northwest Bahamas tonight and early Tuesday. Showers and breezy conditions will accompany the front as it pushes southeastwards through the islands into Wednesday. High Pressure will then build from the west across the area through the remainder of the week. Breezy to windy conditions will affect the islands Thursday and into the weekend as a low pressure system moves from the Gulf of Mexico across Florida dragging another front across the Bahamas by Saturday. This system will produce unsettled weather and hazardous boating and beaching conditions across the islands through the weekend and into early next week.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Partly sunny, warm and a bit breezy with the slight chance of a brief isolated shower or two during the day. Expect partly cloudy skies with a few showers across the Northwest Bahamas to fair and warm across the remainder of the islands tonight with a stray shower or two possible. Maximum temperature 85°F and minimum temperature 73°F. A small craft caution is in effect for the SE Bahamas and Atlantic exposures. Beachgoers should also exercise caution along Atlantic exposures due to the risk of rip currents. Winds S to SW at 10 to 15 knots in the NW Bahamas...SE to S at 10 to 15 knots in the Cntrl Bahamas and E to SE at 15 to 20 knots in the SE Bahamas. Seas 2 to 4 feet over open waters in the NW and Cntrl Bahamas and 4 to 6 feet in the SE Bahamas.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>** – Partly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers across the NW and Cntrl Bahamas to partly sunny and warm across the SE Bahamas with an isolated shower or two possible. Variably cloudy at night with isolated showers possible mainly across the Cntrl and SE Bahamas. Maximum temperature 82°F and minimum temperature 70°F. **A small craft caution will be in effect across the NW and Cntrl Bahamas. Beachgoers should exercise caution due to the risk of rip currents along north and east coast beaches and Atlantic exposed shorelines.** Winds N'ly at 15 to 20 knots and gusty at times in the NW and Cntrl Bahamas and variable at 10 knots or less in the SE Bahamas. Seas 4 to 6 feet over open waters in the NW and Cntrl Bahamas and 1 to 3 feet in the SE Bahamas.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Partly sunny and pleasant across the NW and Cntrl Bahamas to partly cloudy with a few isolated showers across the SE Bahamas during the day. Mainly fair across the islands with a stray shower or two mainly across the SE Bahamas at night. Maximum temperature 78°F and minimum temperature 68°F. <u>A small craft caution will be in effect along Atlantic exposures due to swells. Beachgoers should exercise caution due to the risk of rip currents along east coast beaches and Atlantic exposed shorelines.</u> Winds N to NE at 10 to 15 knots. Seas 2 to 4 feet over open waters and up to 6 feet along Atlantic exposures in NE'ly swells.

**Thursday 21**<sup>st</sup> – Partly sunny and breezy with the chance of a brief passing shower or two during the day. Mostly fair and breezy at night. Maximum temperature 78°F and minimum temperature 67°F. <u>A small craft caution will be in effect. Beachgoers should exercise caution due to the risk of rip currents along east coast beaches and Atlantic exposed shorelines.</u> Winds NE to E at 15 to 20 knots and gusty at times. Seas 4 to 6 feet over open waters in NE to E'ly swells mainly in Atlantic waters.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Partly cloudy to cloudy and windy with scattered showers and possible isolated thunderstorms across the NW Bahamas with isolated showers elsewhere across the islands. Maximum temperature 81°F and minimum temperature 71°F. A small craft advisory will be in effect. Small craft operators should not venture far from port. Beachgoers should refrain from entering the waters. Winds SE'ly 20 to 25 knots in the NW Bahamas and E to SE at 15 to 25 knots in the Cntrl and SE Bahamas. Seas 6 to 9 feet over open waters in the NW Bahamas and 5 to 8 feet in the Cntrl and SE Bahamas in E'ly swells mainly in Atlantic waters.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Partly cloudy to cloudy with scattered showers and possible isolated thunderstorms gradually clearing across the NW Bahamas by evening/nighttime hours. Maximum temperature 78°F and minimum temperature 68°F. A small craft caution will be in effect due to swells. Beachgoers should exercise caution due to the risk of dangerous rip currents along east and south coast beaches and Atlantic exposed shorelines. Winds SW'ly at 15 knots in the NW Bahamas ahead of the front shifting NW to N at 15 knots behind the front...and E to SE at 15 knots in the Cntrl and SE Bahamas. Seas 3 to 5 feet over open waters building up to 6 feet in NE to E'ly swells mainly in Atlantic waters.

**Sunday 24**<sup>th</sup> – Partly sunny and breezy across the NW Bahamas to variably cloudy and breezy across the Cntrl and SE Bahamas with the chance of a brief shower or two. Fair and breezy with a quick passing shower or two possible at night. Maximum temperature 77°F and minimum temperature 67°F. A small craft caution will be in effect. Beachgoers should exercise caution due to the risk of rip currents along east coast beaches and Atlantic exposed shorelines. Winds NE'ly at 15 to 20 knots and gusty at times in the NW Bahamas and N to NE at 15 to 20 knots and gust at times in the Cntrl and SE Bahamas. Seas 4 to 7 feet over open in NE to E'ly swells mainly in Atlantic waters.

Beachgoers and mariners should be extremely vigilant due to rough surf and the high risk of dangerous rip currents during stated advisories. Mariners should heed warnings due to strong gusty winds and rough seas, along with possible localized waterspout activity.

Gregory D Thompson (CCO) For (Director)