



FGPC Weather Monitoring Procedure

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Basic Weather Monitoring

[Environment Canada \(Victoria Harbour\)](#) - Wind, temperature, special weather alerts

[SailFlow \(Victoria Harbour\)](#) - Wind, temperature

There are three major weather conditions to look at (Environment Canada is most useful here):

1. **Wind speed** - paddling restricted between Johnson and Tillicum Bridges if sustained winds reach 35km/h; docks closed if sustained winds exceed 40km/h; high wind gusts (50km/h+) and local conditions may require exceptions at the discretion of the dock commander on shift.
2. **Temperature** (wind chill to be taken into account, see chart below).
3. **Special weather alerts** (gale warning, thunderstorm, snow, hail etc.).

[FGPC Policies and Procedures:](#)

No boat will leave the dock when:

- There is ice on the waterway
- The air temperature is 1°C or lower (or wind chill: <-1°C, see chart below)
- Environment Canada has issued a wind and/or weather warning
- There is a lightning storm or indication that this weather system may soon develop
- Permission from the club manager or acting manager is required to make exceptions

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Wind Chill Calculations and Relative Dock Status

See chart below for wind chill calculations and relative dock status:

	Air Temperature (°C)				
	Key:	Closed	Restrictions	Open	
Wind Speed (km/h)	0	2	4	6	8
5	-1.59	0.68	2.95	5.22	7.49
10	-3.31	-0.93	1.46	3.85	6.24
15	-4.42	-1.95	0.52	2.98	5.45
20	-5.24	-2.72	-0.19	2.33	4.85
25	-5.91	-3.34	-0.77	1.8	4.37
30	-6.47	-3.86	-1.25	1.36	3.97
35	-6.96	-4.32	-1.67	0.97	3.61
40	-7.4	-4.72	-2.05	0.63	3.3
45	-7.79	-5.09	-2.38	0.32	3.02
50	-8.14	-5.42	-2.69	0.04	2.76
55	-8.47	-5.72	-2.97	-0.22	2.53

Weather Forecasts

Weather forecasts are important to determine upcoming conditions. Make sure that you look at multiple forecasts to help with your decision making.

Here are some helpful links to be used in your decision as dock commander. Use the data from the top two marked with an asterisk for decisions, 0 with the others as resources.

[*Environment Canada \(Victoria Harbour\)](#)



[*SailFlow \(Victoria Harbour\)](#)

[Windy.com](#)

[SMUS Weather Charts](#)

[BigWaveDave](#)

Summary

1. If sustained winds reach 35km/h:
Paddling RESTRICTED between bridges.
2. If sustained winds exceed 40km/h:
Docks CLOSED.
3. If sustained winds are less than 35km/h but gusts exceed 50km/h:
Docks are RESTRICTED OR CLOSED at the discretion of the dock commander.
4. If gusts exceed 60km/h:
Docks CLOSED.
5. If the actual or forecast temperature is 1°C or colder:
Docks CLOSED.
6. If wind chill is colder than -1°C
Docks CLOSED.
7. If temperature is warmer than 1°C but wind chill is colder than -1°C:
Docks CLOSED.
8. If temperature is warmer than 1°C but wind chill is colder than 1°C (but >-1°C):
Paddling is RESTRICTED to between the bridges.

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Other Weather Conditions (Special Weather Alerts)

Other weather conditions that may affect paddling are:

- Fog
- Electrical Storm/Thunder
- Cold Weather/Ice/Snow/Hail

****Keep in mind that for these special weather conditions, dock status will be at the discretion of the dock commander on shift.****

Fog/Limited Visibility

No boats are allowed out on the water when fog impedes visibility. Once fog has engulfed the Bay Street Bridge closedown will be considered. Once the Selkirk Trestle is engulfed by fog, no boats may leave the docks. If caught in fog, paddle as close to the shoreline and keep the shore in sight at all times. Use a whistle to warn others of your location. For light fog, bring boat lights.

Electrical Storm / Thunder

No boats may go on the water during electrical storms. An electrical storm constitutes any form of thunder and/or lightning. If caught in an electrical storm, paddle to the closest landmass and beach the boat. Find shelter and remain there until the storm has passed. After the final thunderclap of an electrical storm, all crews must wait a minimum of 30 minutes before going out on the docks or water.

Cold Weather/Ice/Snow/Hail

If ice is present on the waterway, paddling may be restricted to clear areas provided the temperature is above 1°C. If snow or ice is present on the docks and deemed a safety hazard by FGPC staff, the docks will be closed.