

New York Harbor

Kayakers Guide 2024

Introduction

This document provides a brief introduction to all of the physical attributes of New York Harbor that are relevant to a kayaker. Note that it does not address how to kayak, where to go, what to bring, or the rules and regulations that pertain to boating. Instead it simply introduces the various physical components of New York Harbor that a kayaker might find relevant.

Disclaimer

This document is a work in progress:

- Do not use for navigation purposes.
- Do not assume that all of the data provided is correct or complete.

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File: Kayakers Guide

Date: 26-Jan-2024

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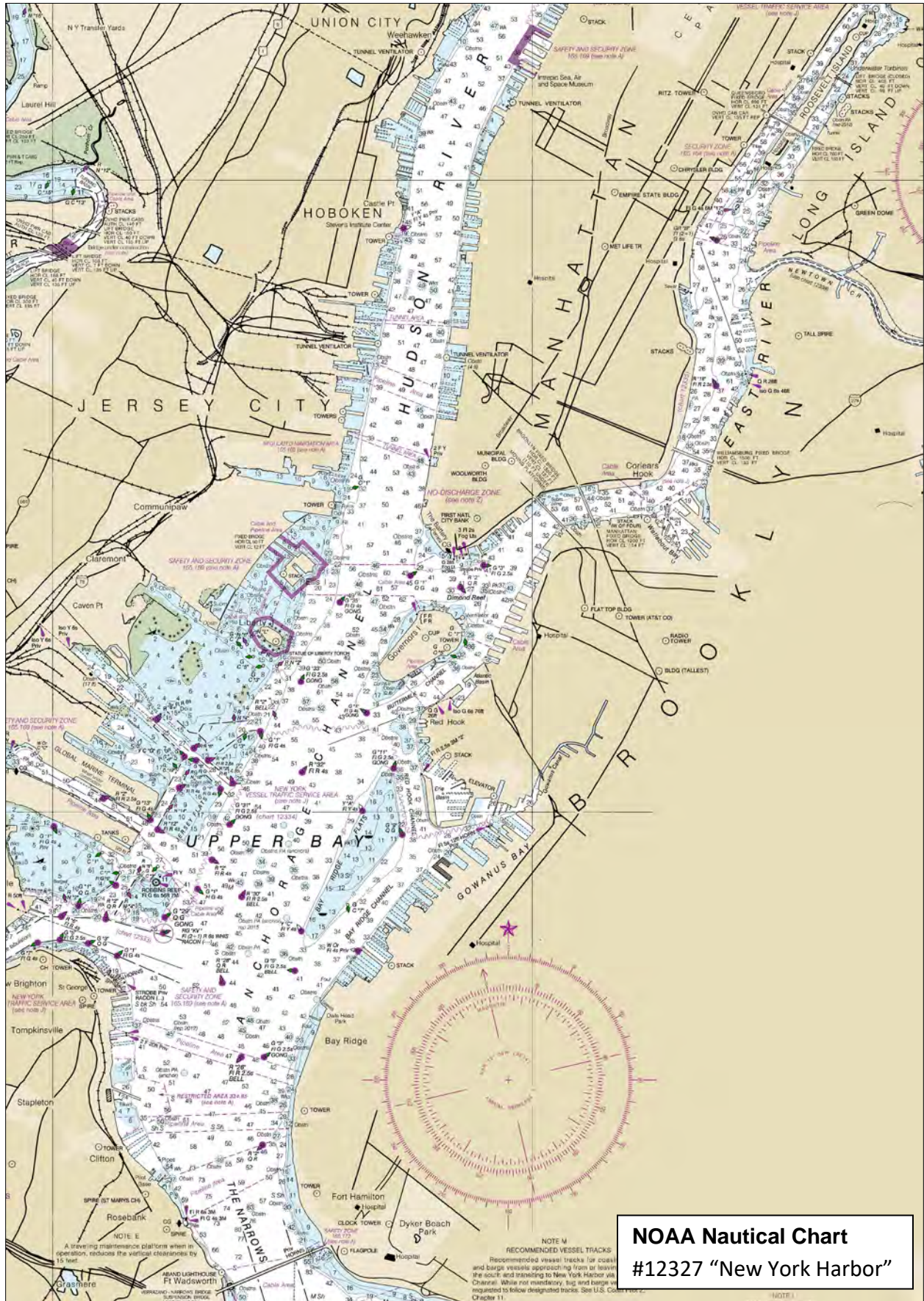
Number of Paddlers

More than 100,000 people went boating in human-powered boats (mostly in kayaks) on New York Harbor in 2018.

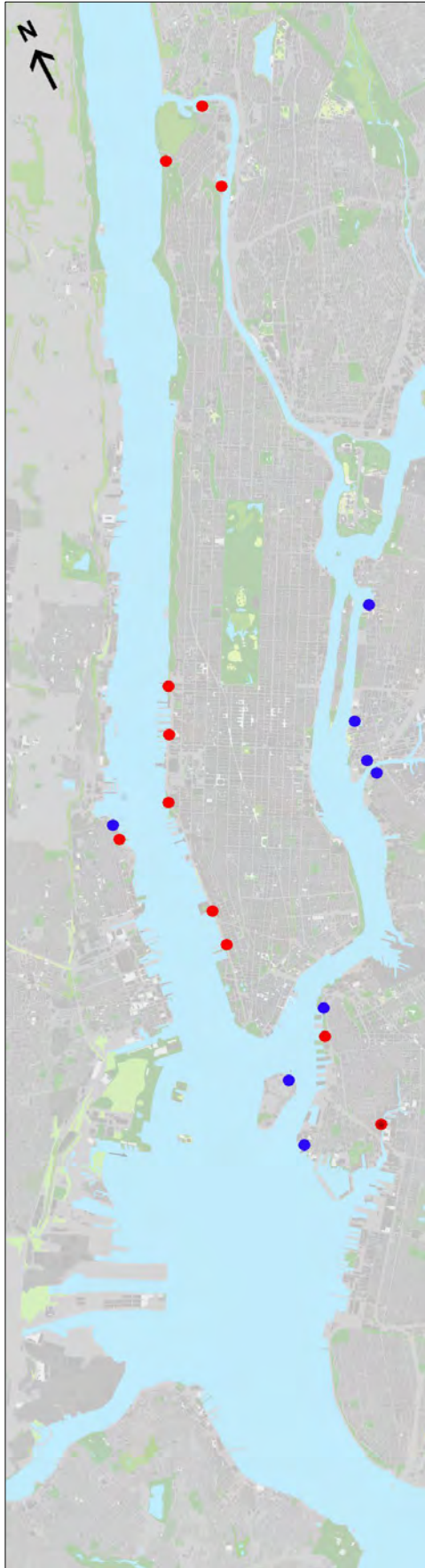
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Map, New York Harbor



Human-Powered Boating Organizations



New York Harbor

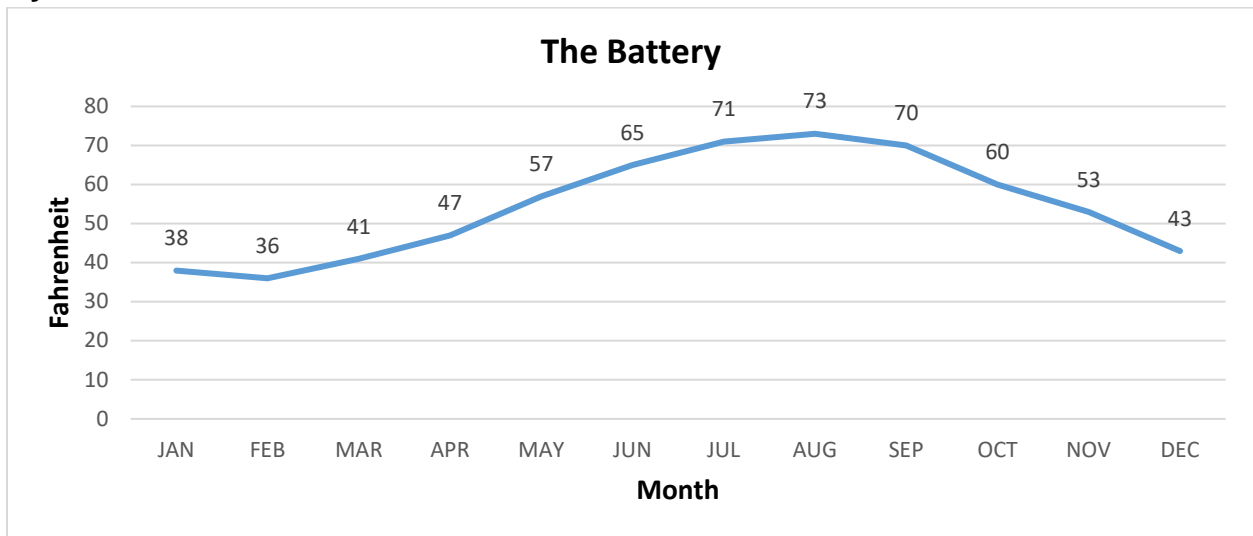
- Atlantic Kayak Tours
- Bronx River Alliance
- Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse
- Brooklyn Kayak Guides
- Columbia University Rowing
- Downtown Boathouse
- East River Crew
- Gateway Bike and Boathouse
- Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club
- HarborLAB
- Harlem River Community Rowing
- Hoboken Cove Community Boathouse
- Hoboken Kayak & Paddleboarding
- Inwood Canoe Club
- Kayak Staten Island
- Ke Aloha Outrigger at Hoboken Cove
- Long Island City Community Boathouse
- Manhattan Community Boathouse
- Manhattan Kayak Company
- Marine Park, Jamaica Bay
- National Park Service, Jamaica Bay
- New York Kayak Polo
- New York Outrigger
- North Brooklyn Boat Club
- Red Hook Boaters
- Rocking the Boat
- Row New York
- Sebago Canoe Club, Jamaica Bay
- Touring Kayak Club, City Island
- Village Community Boathouse
- Yonkers Paddling and Rowing Club

Points on Map

- **Red:** Boathouse
- **Blue:** Boating program

Water Temperature

By Month



Hypothermia and Cold Water

Water Temperature (Fahrenheit)	Exhaustion or Unconsciousness	Expected Time of Survival
32.5 degrees	Under 15 minutes	Under 15 to 45 minutes
32.5 to 40 degrees	15 to 30 minutes	30 to 90 minutes
40 to 50 degrees	30 to 60 minutes	1 to 3 hours
50 to 60 degrees	1 to 2 hours	1 to 6 hours
60 to 70 degrees	2 to 7 hours	2 to 4 hours
70 to 80 degrees	2 to 12 hours	3 hours to indefinite
Over 80 degrees	Indefinite	Indefinite

Water Temperature

Ice



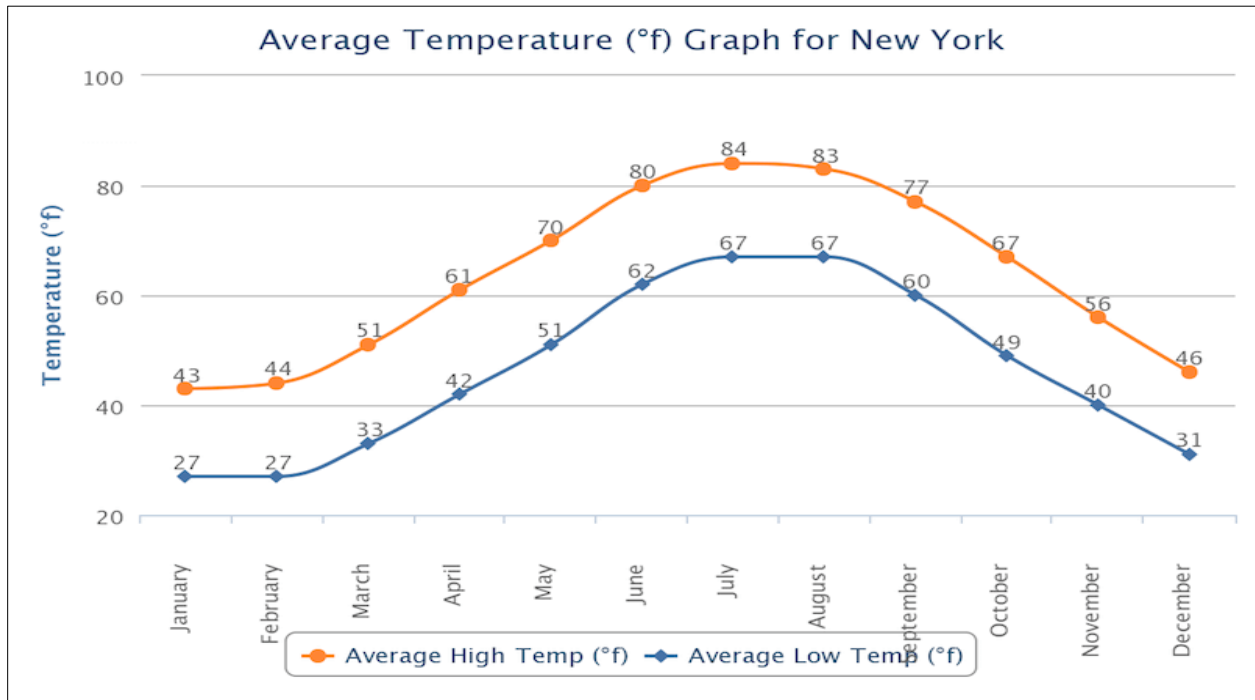
Lower Manhattan from Jersey City

Note

- New York Harbor water is usually too saline to freeze
- The ice is mostly frozen fresh water coming down from up river
- The ice tends to pile up on Manhattan shore – due to wind
- Location of ice changes rapidly with each tide

Air Temperature

By Month



Wind Chill

		Temperature (°F)																	
		40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45
Wind (mph)	Calm	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10	-15	-20	-25	-30	-35	-40	-45
	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22	-28	-34	-40	-46	-52	-57	-63
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28	-35	-41	-47	-53	-59	-66	-72
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32	-39	-45	-51	-58	-64	-71	-77
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35	-42	-48	-55	-61	-68	-74	-81
	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37	-44	-51	-58	-64	-71	-78	-84
	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39	-46	-53	-60	-67	-73	-80	-87
	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-82	-89
	40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43	-50	-57	-64	-71	-78	-84	-91
	45	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44	-51	-58	-65	-72	-79	-86	-93
	50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45	-52	-60	-67	-74	-81	-88	-95
	55	25	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46	-54	-61	-68	-75	-82	-89	-97
60	25	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48	-55	-62	-69	-76	-84	-91	-98	

Frostbite Times 30 minutes 10 minutes 5 minutes

Wind Chill (°F) = 35.74 + 0.6215T - 35.75(V^{0.16}) + 0.4275T(V^{0.16})
 Where, T= Air Temperature (°F) V= Wind Speed (mph) *Effective 11/01/01*

Air Temperature

Heat Index

The heat index (see chart below) is the "feels like", or apparent, temperature. As relative humidity increases, the air seems warmer than it actually is because the body is less able to cool itself via evaporation of perspiration.

As the heat index rises, so do health risks. When the heat index is 90°-105°F, heat exhaustion is possible. When it is above 105°F, it is probable. Heatstroke is possible when the heat index is above 105°F, and very likely when it is 130°F and above. Physical activity and prolonged exposure to the heat increase the risks.

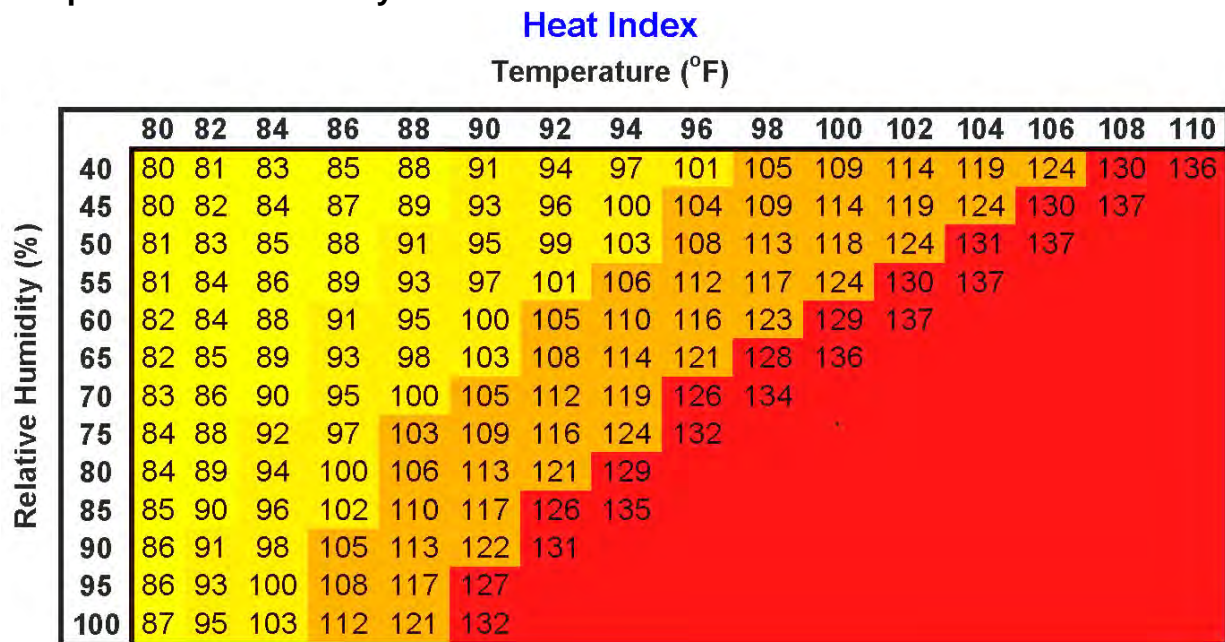
Heat Exhaustion occurs when the body is dehydrated.

- **Symptoms:** Headache, nausea, dizziness, cool and clammy skin, pale face, cramps, weakness, profuse perspiration
- **First aid:** Move to a cooler spot, drink water with a small amount of salt added (one teaspoon per quart)
- It can lead to collapse and heatstroke.

Heatstroke occurs when perspiration cannot occur and the body overheats.

- **Symptoms:** Headache, nausea, face flushed, hot and dry skin, no perspiration, body temperature over 101°F, chills, rapid pulse
- **First aid:** Cool person immediately, move to shade or indoors, wrap in a cool, wet sheet, get medical assistance
- It can lead to confusion, coma, and death.

Temperature vs. Humidity



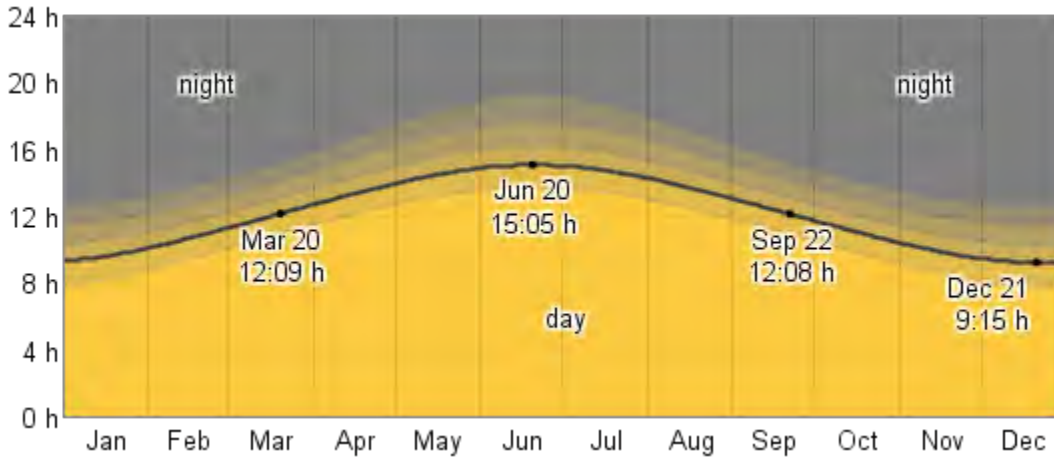
Likelihood of Heat Disorders with Prolonged Exposure or Strenuous Activity

- Caution
- Extreme Caution
- Danger
- Extreme Danger

Daylight Hours

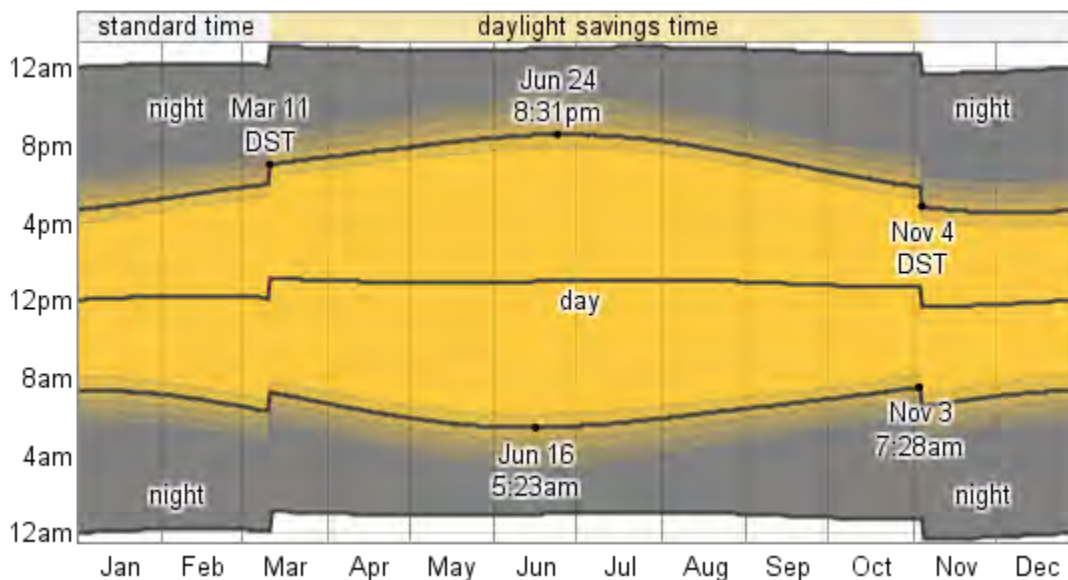
The shortest day is December 21 with 9:16 hours of daylight; the longest day is June 20 with 15:06 hours of daylight.

Daily Hours of Daylight and Twilight



The number of hours during which the Sun is visible (black line), with various degrees of daylight, twilight, and night, indicated by the color bands. From bottom (most yellow) to top (most gray): full daylight, solar twilight (Sun is visible but less than 6° from the horizon), civil twilight (Sun is not visible but is less than 6° below the horizon), nautical twilight (Sun is between 6° and 12° below the horizon), astronomical twilight (Sun is between 12° and 18° below the horizon), and full night.

Daily Sunrise & Sunset with Twilight and Daylight Savings Time



The solar day over the course of the year 2012. From bottom to top, the black lines are the previous solar midnight, sunrise, solar noon, sunset, and the next solar midnight. The day, twilights (solar, civil, nautical, and astronomical), and night are indicated by the color bands from yellow to gray. The transitions to and from daylight savings time are indicated by the "DST" labels.

Wind Speed & Direction

Wind Speed vs. Energy vs. Power

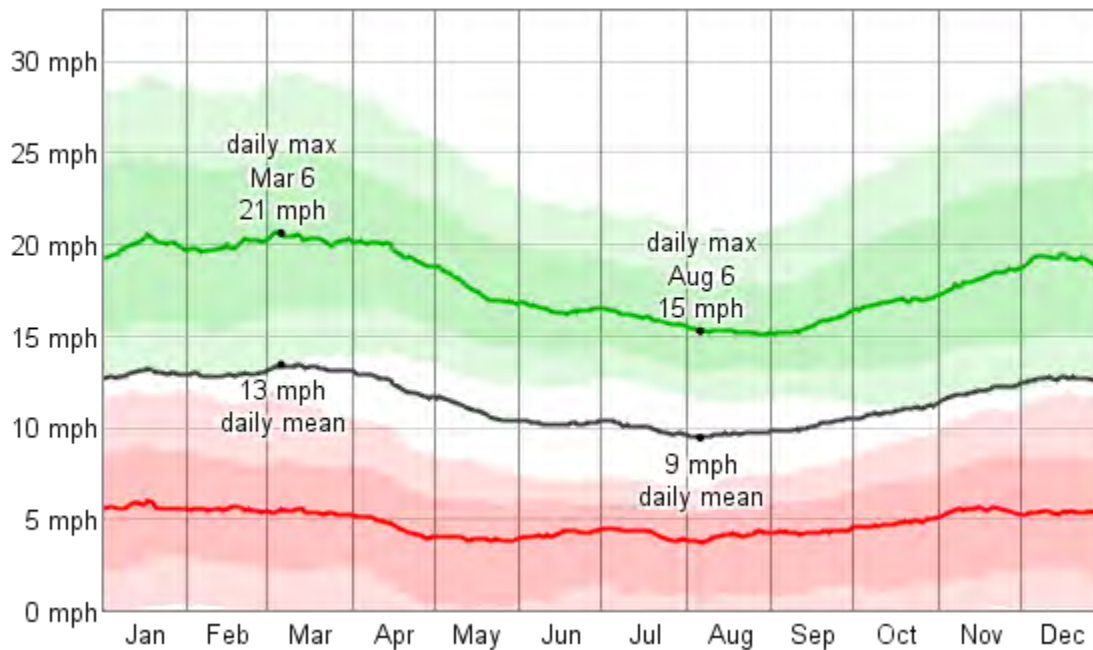
When the wind speed doubles:

- The wind energy increases four times.
- The wind power increases eight times.

High winds have vastly more power than a gentle breeze.

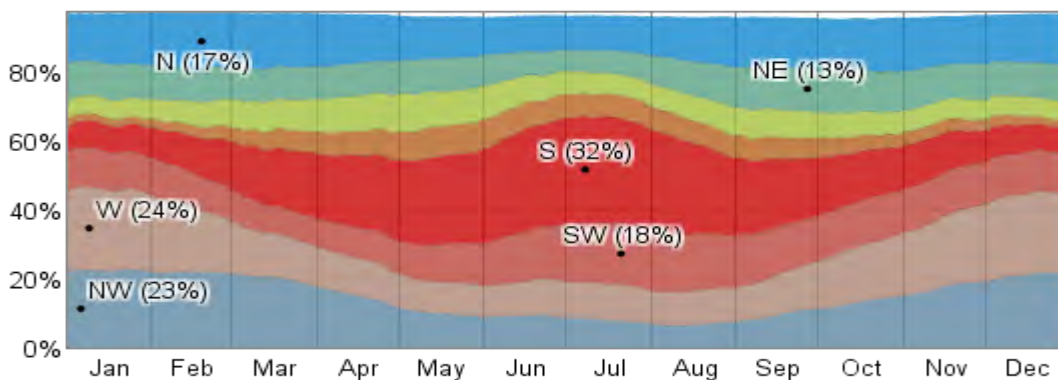
Wind Speed by Month

The table below shows the average daily minimum (red), maximum (green), and average (black) wind speed in New York City with percentile bands (inner band from 25th to 75th percentile, outer band from 10th to 90th percentile).



Fraction of Time Spent with Various Wind Directions

The fraction of time spent with the wind blowing from the various directions on a daily basis.



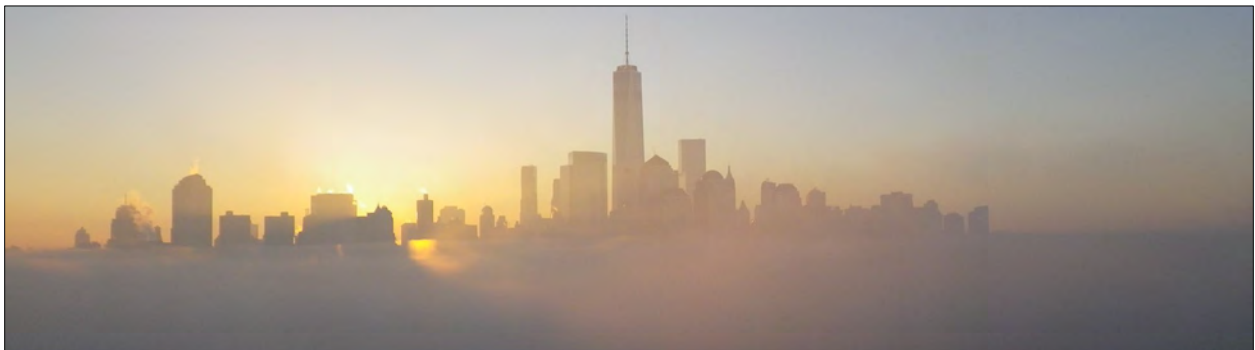
Fog

After Storm



Lower Manhattan from Jersey City

Early Morning



Lower Manhattan from Jersey City

NY Harbor

In winter advection fog is common in the harbor on clear, calm mornings. During the spring and early summer the harbor as well as its approaches are susceptible to advection fog, riding in on east through south winds. A morning peak exists in the harbor, while the approaches exhibit an afternoon maximum. Steam fog is encountered on the harbor in the fall.

Fog Types

- **Advection Fog** occurs when moist air passes over a cool surface by advection (wind) and is cooled.
- **Evaporation Fog** forms over bodies of water overlain by much colder air. It can be quite denser, deep, and looks fluffy from above.
- **Steam Fog** form during the fall when cold air moves over a warm body of water.
- **Precipitation Fog** forms as precipitation falls into drier air below the cloud, the liquid droplets evaporate into water vapor. The water vapor cools and at the dewpoint it condenses and fog forms.

There are two ferries in this picture



Low Light Conditions

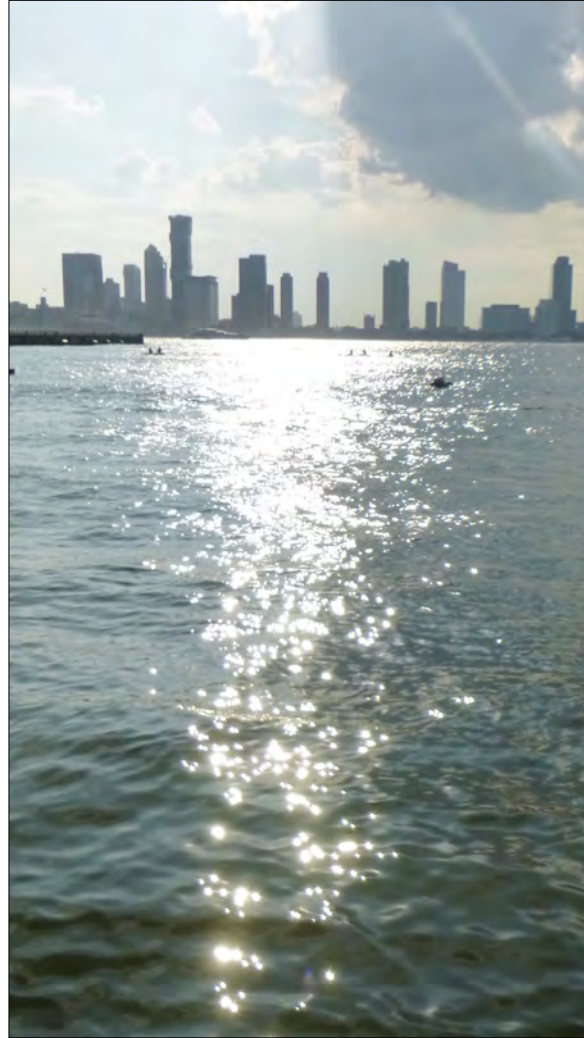
When the sun is low to the horizon, it creates a zone of glare on the water that makes a kayak largely invisible to a boat travelling into the sun. Note that the sun does not create a bright spot on the water. Instead, because every individual wave acts a separate reflector, it create a large zone of bright water that extends all of the way across the harbor.

The shape and size of this zone of brightness depends on the wave conditions and the height of the sun in the sky. As a general rule, if the surface of the water is wavy, the bright light zone will widen in the far distance.

Examples



View from Jersey City, early morning



View from Lower Manhattan, early evening

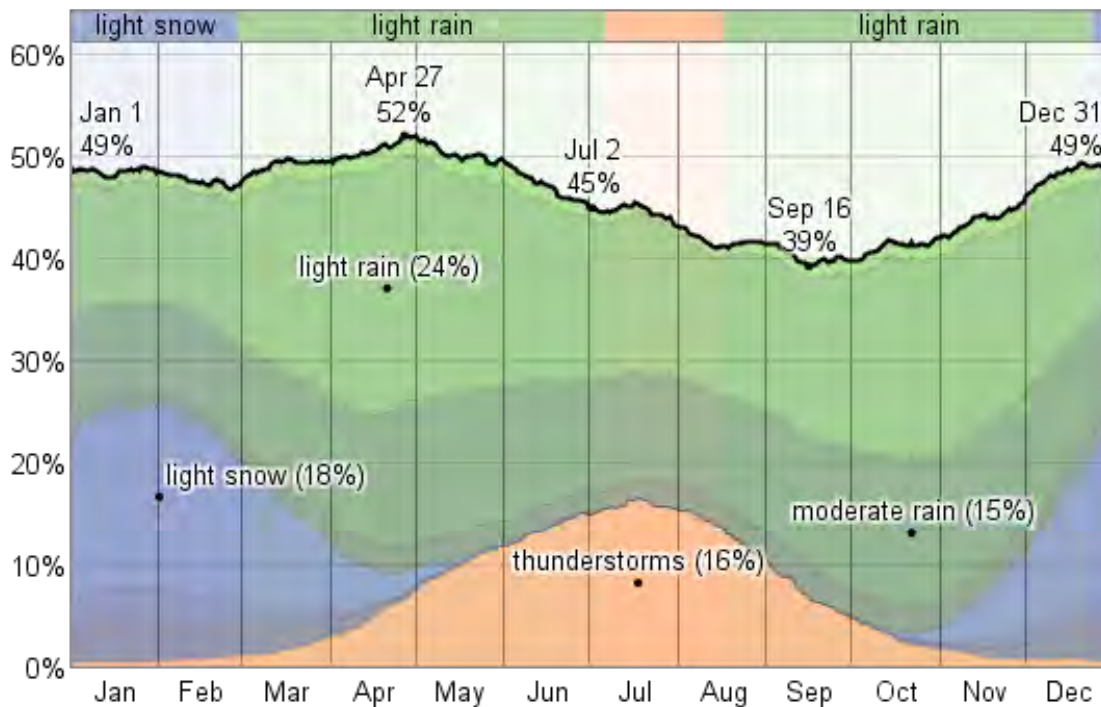
Warning

The radar on commercial vessels cannot detect kayakers.

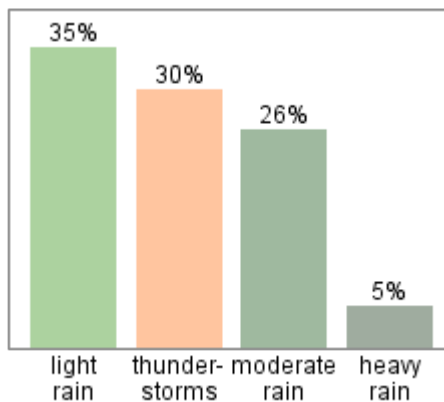
Precipitation

Probability of Precipitation at Some Point in the Day

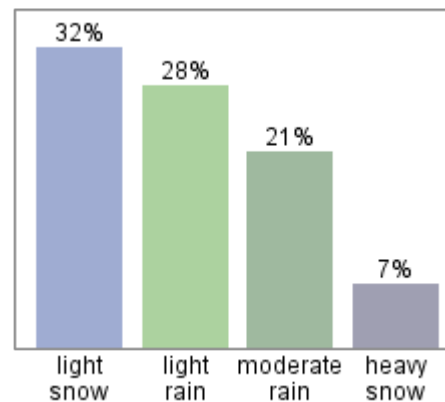
The fraction of days in which various types of precipitation are observed in New York City. If more than one type of precipitation is reported in a given day, the more severe precipitation is counted. For example, if light rain is observed in the same day as a thunderstorm, that day counts towards the thunderstorm totals. The order of severity is from the top down in this graph, with the most severe at the bottom.



Warm Season Precipitation



Cold Season Precipitation



Rain and Water Pollution

Heavy rain can result in the sewers opening up – see page 34.

Magnetic Field

Terminology

- **Magnetic Declination** is the angle on the horizontal plane between magnetic north (i.e. the direction that the north end of a compass needle points) and true north (i.e. the point about which the Earth rotates).
- **Magnetic Inclination** is the vertical angle that the Earth's magnetic field lines make (either into or out of the Earth) relative to the local horizontal plane.
- **Magnetic Deviation** refers to the error in a compass reading induced by nearby metallic objects. It is very common in urban environments where many structures (e.g. bridges and piers) have a high iron content.

Note

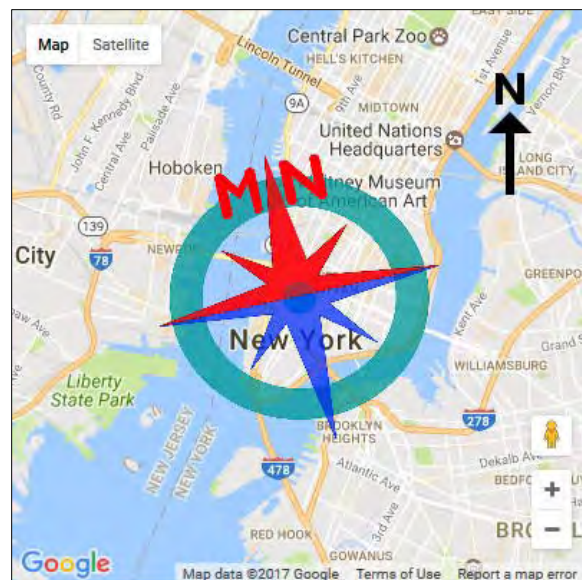
- Both the magnetic declination and the inclination vary depending on one's position on the Earth's surface, and over time.
- By convention, the declination is positive when magnetic north is east of true north, and negative when it is to the west, as it is in New York City.

New York Harbor

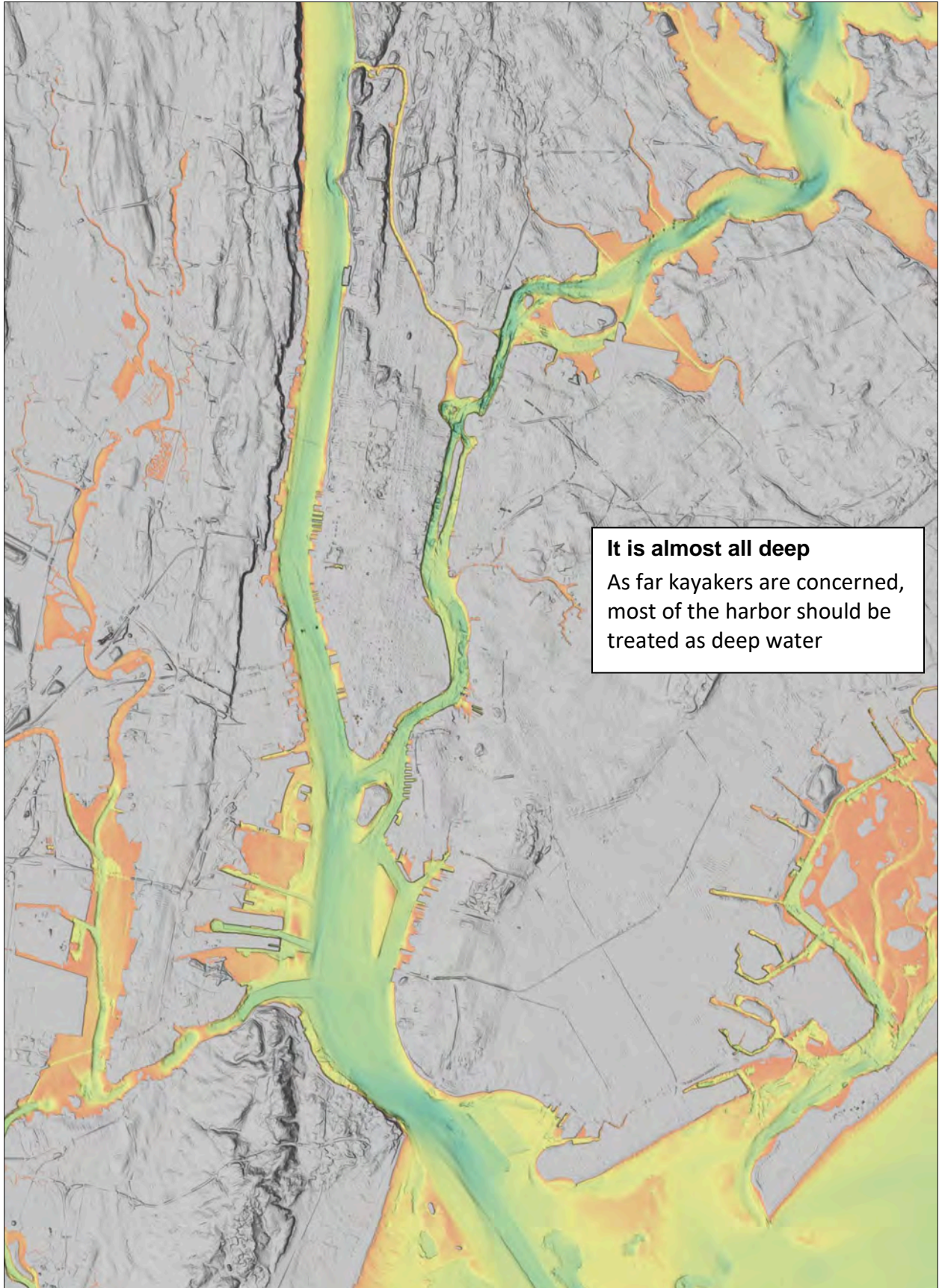
	Magnetic Declination	Magnetic Inclination
Current Value	-12° 55' 26"	66° 33' 11"
Change per Year	0° 1' 36"	-0° 5' 47"

Local Magnetic Disturbance

Differences of as much as 5° from the normal variation have been reported in Lower Bay in the vicinity of 40°29.6'N., 74°04.2'W.



Water Depth



Waves

New York Harbor

- Often get higher waves in afternoon
- Often get higher waves on eastern shores
- Longer stretches of open water create higher waves
- Typical wave/wake takes approximately two minutes to cross Hudson
- Harbor waves can get to be very high in certain conditions & locations. Check marine weather forecast for “small craft advisory”

Standing Wave near 59th Street Bridge

- Forms at certain times of the tide
- To avoid, take channel on the East side of Roosevelt Island



East River and 59th Street Bridge, West Channel

Speed of Waves

- Bigger waves travel faster
- Waves travel faster in deeper water
- Typical 8 second trade wind wave moves at 12.4 m/sec = 28 mph

Breaking Waves

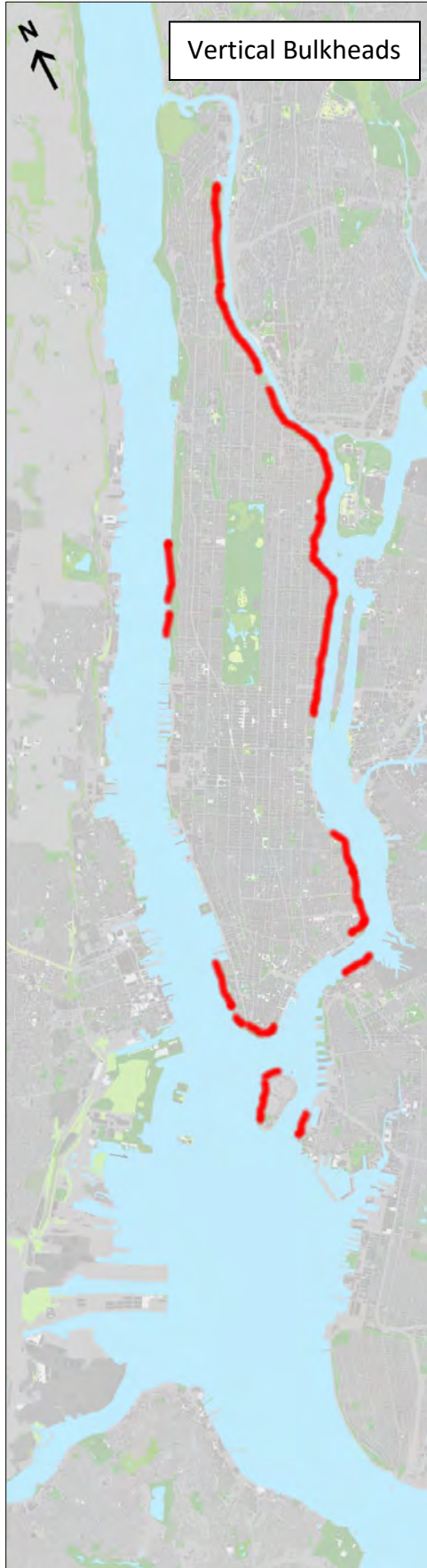
The type of wave break depends on the shape of the bottom:

- Steeply sloping bottoms cause plunging waves
- Gentle slopes cause spilling waves
- Abrupt slope change cause water to surges on to beach

Standing Wave

In physics, a standing wave, also known as a stationary wave, is a wave which oscillates in time but whose peak amplitude profile does not move in space. They occur on the harbor when moving water flows over an obstruction on the seafloor.

Wakes



Wakes are waves caused by passing motorboats.

Reflecting Waves

Wakes are especially problematic in those parts of New York Harbor that have frequent motorboat traffic and where the bulkhead is nearby (i.e. no piers) and is a solid vertical wall (as opposed to loose rock which absorbs waves) as the wall causes the wakes to reflect back.

No Wake Zones

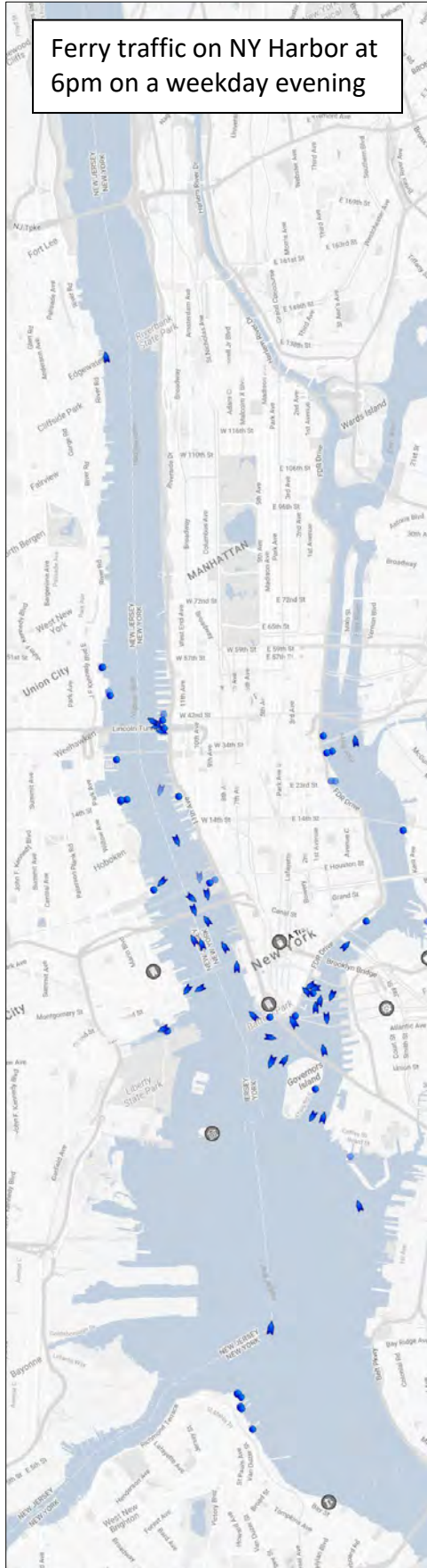
There are No Wake Zones defined on the Harlem River (does not apply to commercial vessels) and 200' off New Jersey pier heads and 100' off New York pier heads.

Never assume that there will be no wakes in a no-wake zone!



Wakes

Ferry traffic on NY Harbor at 6pm on a weekday evening



Ferries and Wakes

There are more than 2,000 wake-producing boat trips on NY Harbor every business day, the majority of which are by ferries.

In general, older ferries create larger wakes than newer ones. Mono-hull ferries produce large wakes, especially when transitioning from low speed (i.e. displacement mode) to high speed (i.e. planning mode). The newest catamaran ferries produce smaller wake at all speeds.

Mono-hull – Larger Wake



View From south end of Roosevelt Island

Catamaran – Smaller Wake



View from Red Hook, Brooklyn

Points on Map

- [Blue dots](#) show ferry in terminal
- [Blue arrows](#) show direction of moving ferry

Maritime Security Zones



Maritime Security Zones

Ellis Island Bridge



Ellis Island Bridge, from Liberty State Park

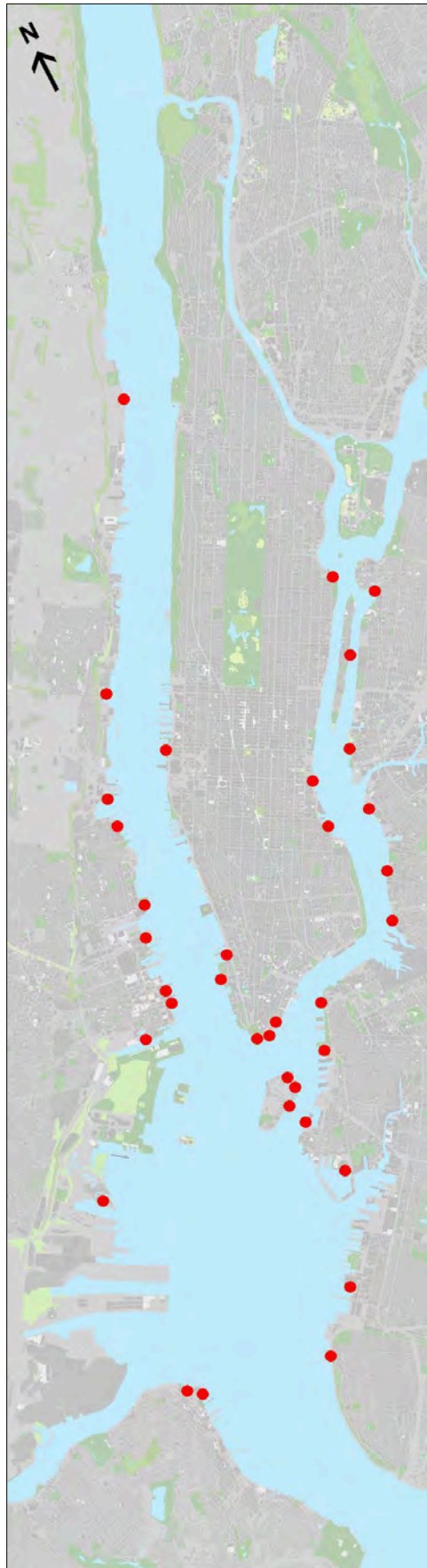
All waters within 150 yards of Liberty and Ellis Island are a security zone and so should not be entered. So is the Ellis Island Bridge, but human-powered vessels may transit underneath the bridge subject to the following conditions:

- **Dates/Times:** On weekends only, to include Federally Observed Holidays on a Friday or Monday, from Memorial Day Weekend through October 1 each year, between one hour after sunrise and one hour before sunset.
- **Vessel types:** Human powered vessels equal to or less than twenty five feet. Human powered vessels must be able to safely navigate under the bridge.
- **Notification:** Human powered vessels desiring to transit shall contact the United States Park Police Command Center at 212-363-3260 or VHF CH 13 regarding intentions of passage prior to entering the safety and security zone and transiting under the Ellis Island Bridge.
- **Route:** Transits through the safety and security zone and under the bridge shall occur only at the designated route marked with lights and signage.
- **Passage:** Vessels transiting under the Ellis Island Bridge shall make expeditious passage and not stop or loiter within the safety and security zone.



Ellis Island Bridge

Ferry Terminals



Ferry Terminal Activity

Location	Arrivals & Departures per Hour			
	Weekday 8am	Weekday noon	Weekday 5pm	Weekend noon
W 39 th St.	34	18	36	18
WFC	38	20	38	8
Wall St.	36	10	42	2
Whitehall	8	4	8	4

Warning

- Above activity rates are approximate
- Activity may be much higher for short periods.
- Some terminals are most active on weekends and on holidays (e.g. on Governors Island).

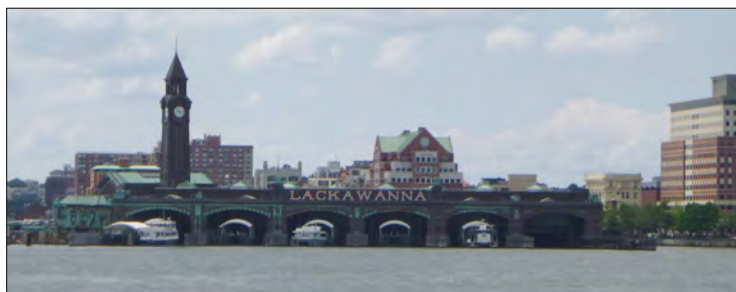
Terminals



WFC (World Financial Center) Terminal, Lower Manhattan

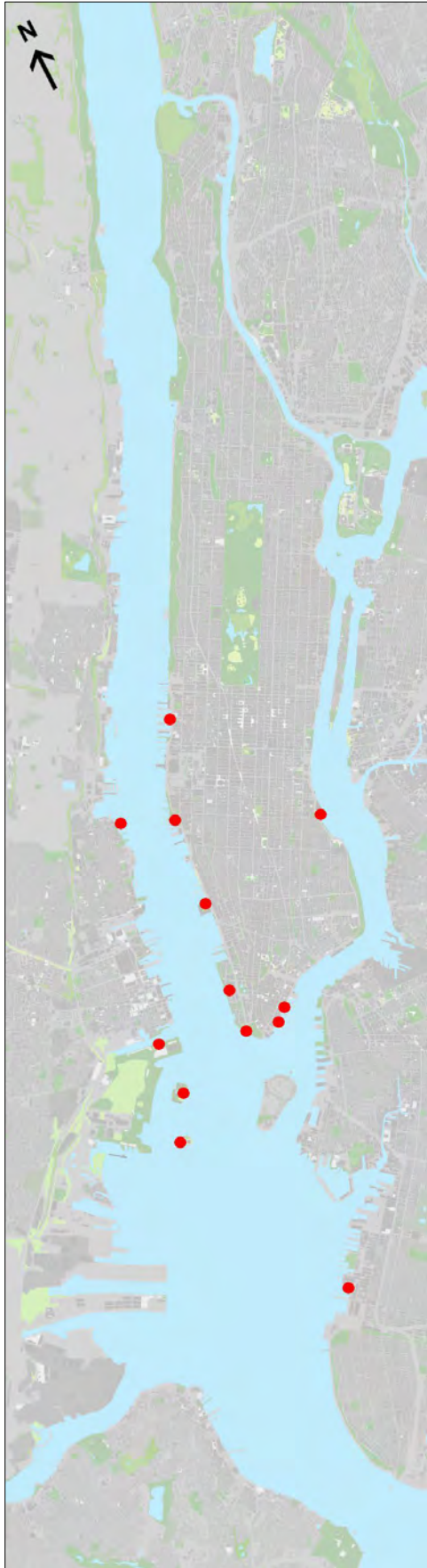


Whitehall (Staten Island Ferry Terminal), Lower Manhattan



Hoboken

Tourist & Party Boat Terminals



Hudson River, Manhattan

- Pier 82, 42nd Street
- Pier 64, Chelsea Piers
- Pier 40, Houston Street
- World Trade Center
- Battery Park

Hudson River, New Jersey

- Weehawken
- North Hoboken
- Morris Canal Basin, Jersey City

East River, Manhattan

- Wall Street
- South Street Seaport
- East 23rd Street

Other

- Ellis Island
- Liberty Island

Tourist Boats

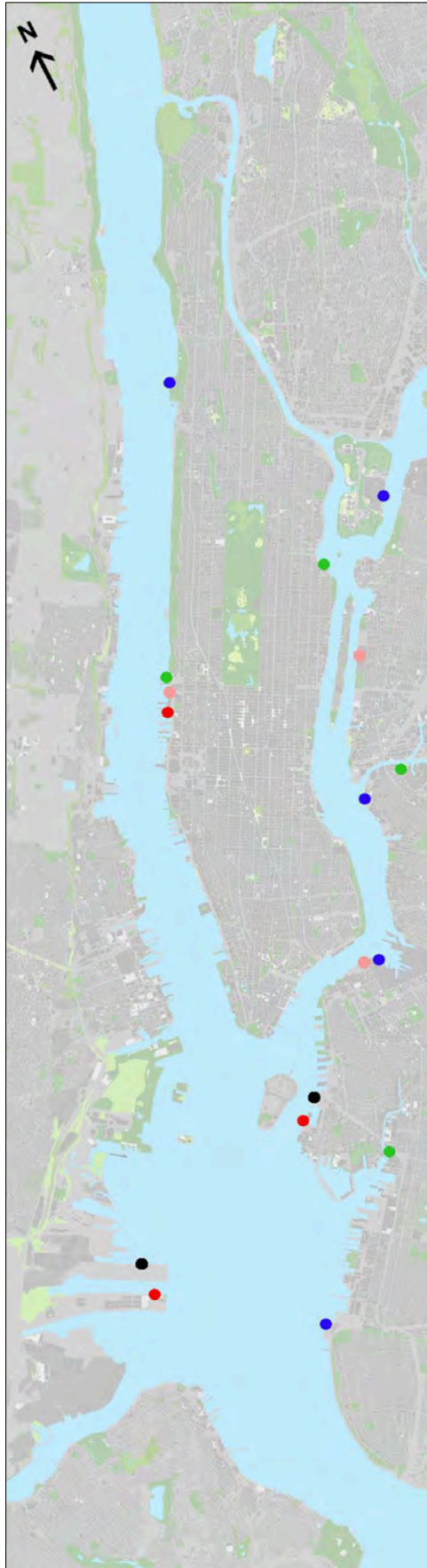


Near Governors Island



Near Hoboken

Large Ship Terminals



Colors

- Black: Container ship terminal
- Blue: Sewer sludge ship terminal
- Green: Waste transfer terminal
- Pink: Power station
- Red: Cruise boat terminal

Cruise Ship Departure Times

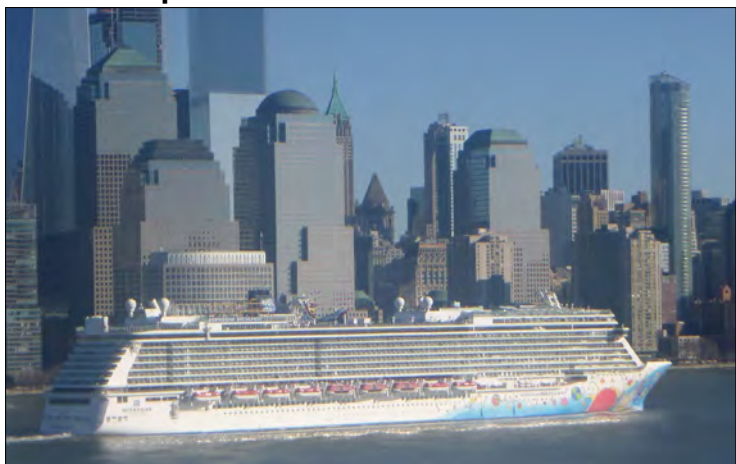
The Queen Mary II has to leave the pier where it docks (in Red Hook) precisely at high tide in order to have deep water in the Buttermilk Channel. It cannot wait.

The large cruise ships that use the Overseas Terminal in Midtown Manhattan almost invariably depart between 3:30pm and 4:30pm on weekends.

Warning

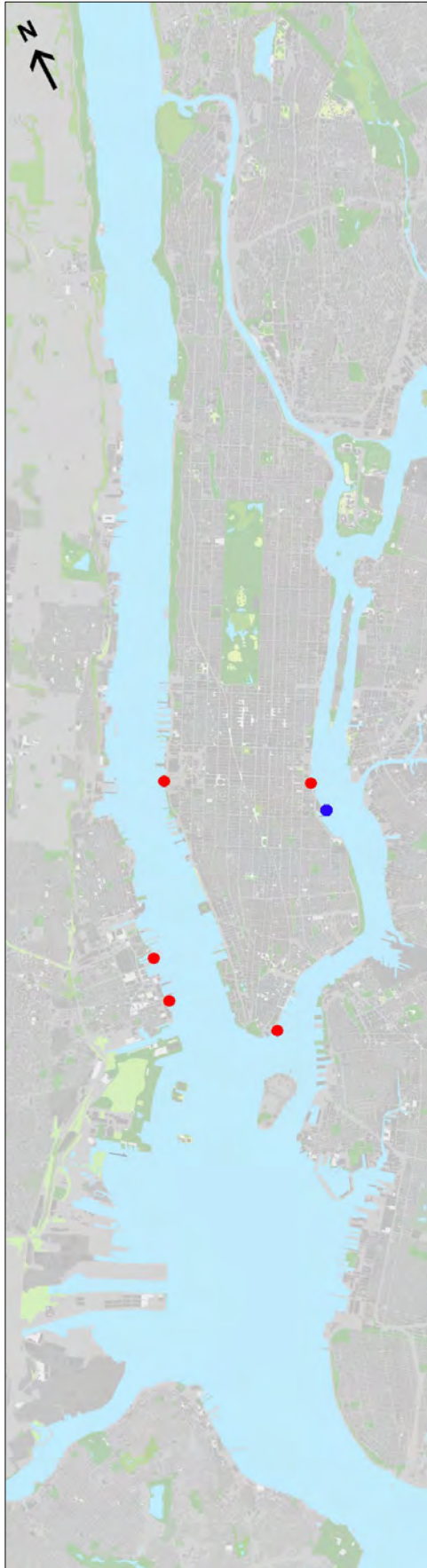
- Large vessels cannot easily stop, slow down, or turn. Stay out of their way.
- If a large ship is delayed for some reason, it may impact multiple other large ships in the channel behind it, all of which have to maintain a certain spacing between each other for safety.
- Cruise ships have bow thrusters (i.e. side facing propellers at the front of the boat) that are as powerful as the main propellers on many smaller ships. Keep well away.

Cruise Ship



Cruise ship passing Lower Manhattan

Helicopter & Seaplane Terminals



Colors

- Red: Helicopter terminal
- Blue: Seaplane terminal

Seaplanes



East River, 23rd Street



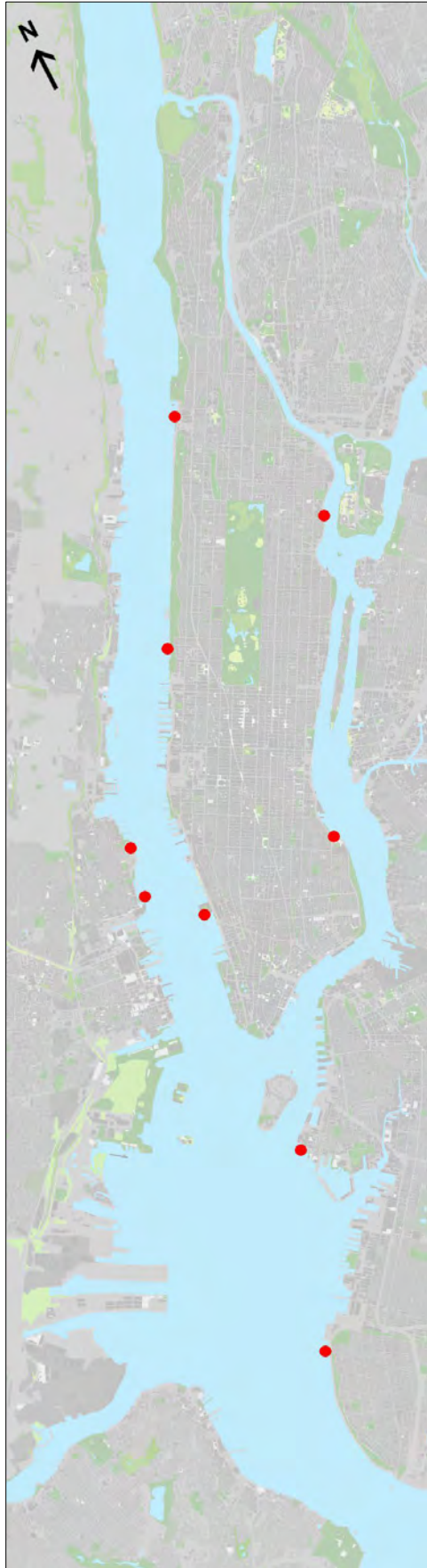
East River Seaplane Anchorage and Runway

Helicopters



Hudson River, 28th Street

Fishing Piers



Notes

The most popular fishing locations in NY Harbor tend to be where the current flows strongly through the pier or along the waterfront.

Hudson River

- Harlem Piers, 125th St.
- Pier I, Riverside Park, 70th St.
- South side of Pier 40, Houston St.
- Hoboken, Pier A, near train station.
- Hoboken, Castle Point.

East River

- FDR Drive, East 18th St.
- FDR Drive, East 107th St.

Buttermilk Channel

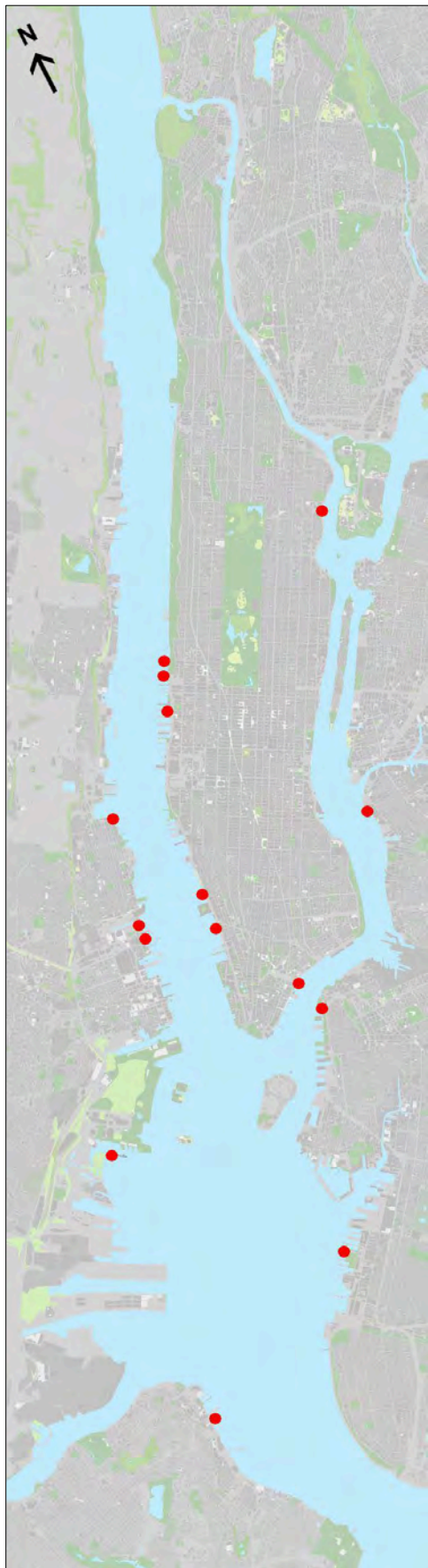
- Louis Valentino, Jr. Pier, Red Hook, Brooklyn

Warning

- Keep >100 feet away from fishing piers.
- Keep further away on downstream side.
- Fishing lines are often impossible to see.



Pile Fields



Hazards

- Numerous sharp objects (e.g. shellfish)
- Underwater hazards that can tip boat
- Acts as a strainer on an outgoing tide
- Problematic in wave conditions
- Often results in kayak tipping

Instructions

- Look for current heading through piles
- Keep well away from upstream side

New Piers and Piles

Many new piers are built on top of existing pile fields. There are often a lot more piles under the pier than what is obvious from the outside.



Harlem River, 110th Street



Hoboken, South End

Low Bridges



Spuyten Duyvil Rail Bridge



- Bridge too low at high tide for kayakers to go under.
- Swings open for boats except when train passing.
- Approximately 30 trains per day during summer.
- Schedule is not posted on web.

Other



Brooklyn Bridge Park



Carroll Street Bridge, Gowanus Canal

Tidal Eddies



Notes

An eddy is the swirling of a fluid and the reverse current that is created when the fluid flows past an obstacle. In extreme cases there can be a whirlpool in the center of, or underneath, the eddy.

Hell Gate

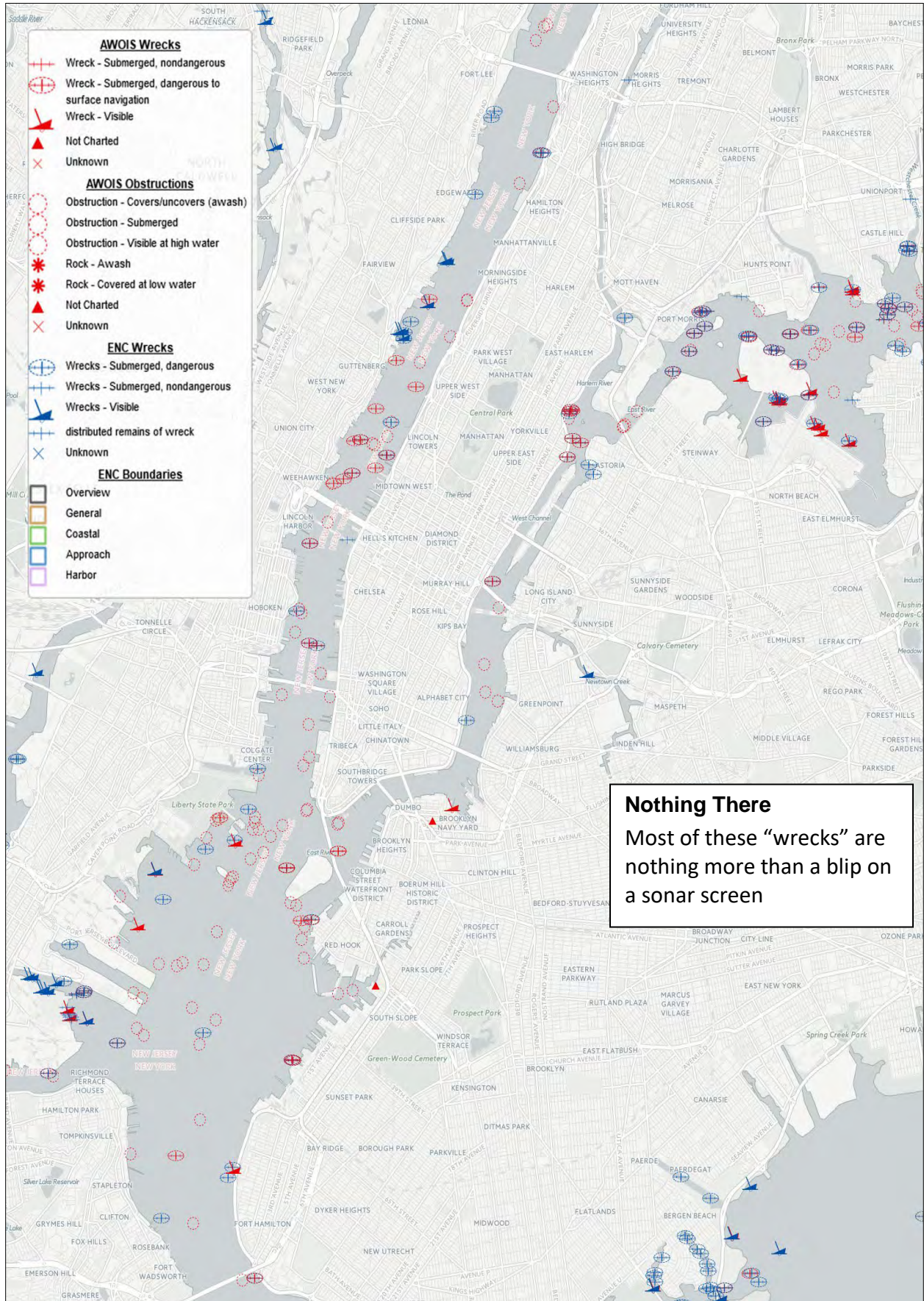
They are especially common in the Hell Gate area, but their location and strength depends on the time of the tide:

- South of Randal's Island, near Hog Back (during northbound tide)
- Near Gracie Mansion
- North tip of Roosevelt Island

The Battery

The phenomena known as the "Spider" is a swirl off the Battery that results from the confluence of the Hudson's volume and the East River's flow within 1.5 to 2 hours before and after the change of current.

Shipwrecks



Whales

They're Back



East River, near Gracie Mansion, Dec/31 2016



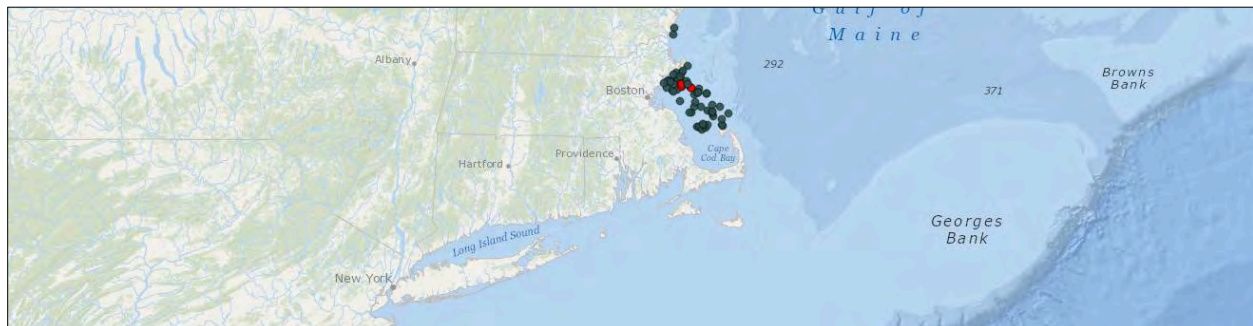
Frequency

There were 20 individual whales documented in New York Harbor in 2016.

Right Whale Migration Season

Mandatory speed restrictions of 10 knots or less are required in Seasonal Management Areas along the U.S. East Coast (note: but not inside New York Harbor) during those times of the year when right whales are migrating. For the entrance to New York Harbor, speed restrictions apply between Nov/1 through Apr/30.

Right Whale Location Map



For May/2022. Red dot = acoustic sighting. Black dot = visual sighting.

NOAA Whale Watching Guidelines

- Do not approach any whale within 100ft
- Do not approach any North Atlantic Right Whale within 1500ft
- Do not travel behind or in front of whales
- Get out of the way if one comes up behind you
- Do not interrupt any marine mammal's natural behavior
- Always approach from the side – moving parallel with the animal's direction of travel

Events



Tugboat Race, from Pier 96, Manhattan



Fireworks, Lower Manhattan, from Jersey City

NY Harbor Events

- Fireworks
- Fleet Week
- Kayaking – Manhattan Circumnavigation
- Paddleboard Race – around Manhattan
- Parade of Ships
- Powerboat Races
- Sailing Races
- Swim Races
- Tugboat Race

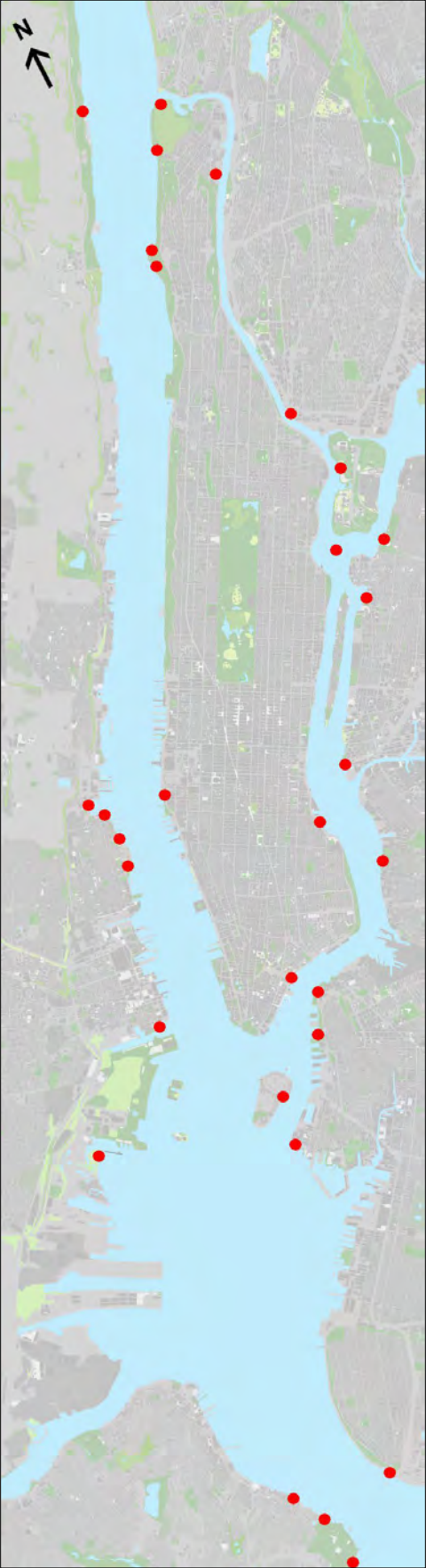
On Land Events

- Beach closures
- Dock repairs

Notice to Mariners

The US Coast Guard, First District, publishes a monthly and weekly “[Notice to Mariners](#)” (PDF) that lists all events on NY Harbor that will affect mariners.

Beaches



Public Access

Many beaches on New York Harbor are closed to the public. See page 33 for a list of legal launch sites.

Beaches



Brooklyn Bridge Park Cove



Maxwell House Cove, Hoboken

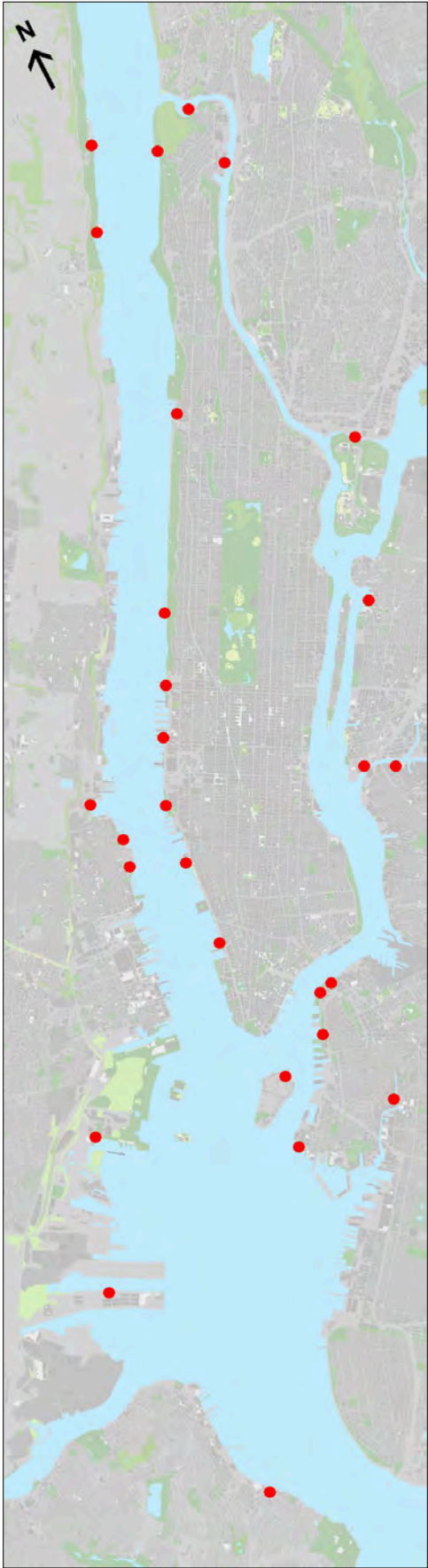


Halletts Cove, Astoria, Queens



Spuyten Duyvil, Manhattan

Kayak Launch Sites



Safe Capacity

The safe capacity of a highly developed body of water like New York Harbor for human-powered recreational boating is constrained by the number of people that can get off the water in five minutes at a given location, as might need to occur if the weather suddenly changes for the worse, or there is a police emergency.

Unfortunately, with the notable exception of the few public beaches, most launch sites on New York Harbor are not designed to handle large numbers of kayakers. Plan your trip accordingly.

Hudson River Park

The launch sites in Hudson River Park are open when the adjacent boathouse is also open

Governors Island

Kayakers visiting Governors Island must land at the Pier 101 kayak dock (in NE Corner of island). They can come from 7:00am and must depart by 6:00pm Mon thru Sun. If the Pier 101 gate is locked, which it should be, call the Security Desk at 212-809-3299 to get the gate opened (there is sign on the Pier gate to call security). Kayaks should be left on the Pershing Hall hill adjacent from the pier. To depart the island, call Security to have the gate opened.

With Nearby Restrooms

Hudson River

- Dyckman St.
- Frank Sinatra Park, Hoboken
- Gansevoort Peninsula, Hudson River Park
- Liberty State Park, Jersey City
- Pier 26, Harrison St. Hudson River Park
- Riverside Park Boat Basin, 79th St.

East River

- Halletts Cove, Astoria, Queens
- Brooklyn Bridge Park, Dumbo, Brooklyn
- Governors Island

Free Kayaking

New York Harbor is unique worldwide in that the vast majority of the 50,000 people who go kayaking on the harbor do every year so for free – thanks to volunteer-run and community-supported free public kayaking programs. Below is just a sample.

Brooklyn Bridge Park Boathouse



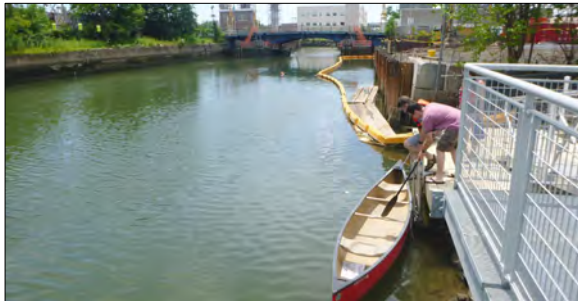
Brooklyn Bridge Park

Downtown Boathouse



Pier 26, Lower Manhattan

Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club



Gowanus Canal, Brooklyn

Hoboken Cove Community Boathouse



Maxwell House Cove, North Hoboken

Kayak Staten Island



Conference House Park, Staten Island

Long Island City Community Boathouse



Halletts Cove, Astoria, Queens

Manhattan Community Boathouse



Pier 96, Midtown Manhattan

Red Hook Boaters



Valentino Park, Red Hook, Brooklyn

NYC Parks Boating Regulations

Kayaks and Canoes

- A permit allows a permittee and his or her guests to use the City's access facilities for a kayak or canoe. A permittee may have more than one boat listed on his or her permit, but each kayak or canoe on the water must carry a permittee.
- The permittee is responsible for the safety of all those in his or her craft. Operation of the kayak or canoe under a permit is solely at the operator's own risk.
- Permittees and guests should be strong, experienced swimmers. It is recommended that permittees be able to sustain themselves fully clothed for ten minutes in deep water; swim two body-lengths underwater at a depth of six feet; and tow a "victim" fifteen feet.
- Permittees must be familiar with and obey all federal, state and local boating rules and regulations.
- Permittees must be aware that environmental conditions such as rip tides and other strong currents can overwhelm even the most adept swimmers. They should know the water and weather conditions before going out.
- Because the waters can be polluted, boaters should avoid water contact to the greatest degree possible.
- Swimming, water skiing, windsurfing, scuba diving or practicing immersion escape techniques in the waters to which the launch site give access are prohibited.
- No wildlife or natural land features may be disturbed.
- Kayaks and/or canoes may be launched only at launch sites designated for this purpose. No person shall launch any boat or water vehicle that requires the use of a boat trailer or other such trailer for its land transportation. A person shall not launch a motor powered vessel, or use either an inboard or outboard motor on any vessel once underway. No person shall launch rafts or other inflatables, sailboats, rowboats, "wind surfers" or sailboats of any kind.
- All persons using a kayak or canoe must wear a Personal Flotation Device.
- No person launching a boat from a kayak and/or canoe launch may begin a boating trip before sunrise or complete a boating trip after sunset. The launch sites will be open from April 1 to December 1
- No person shall enter a launch site, or operate or ride as a passenger in a canoe or kayak, under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- No person shall use any boat-launching site or any adjacent waters within 100 feet from the shore of a launch area, including offshore and inshore approaches, for any purpose other than launching boats or removing boats from the water, unless a written permit is obtained from the department.

Buy a Permit

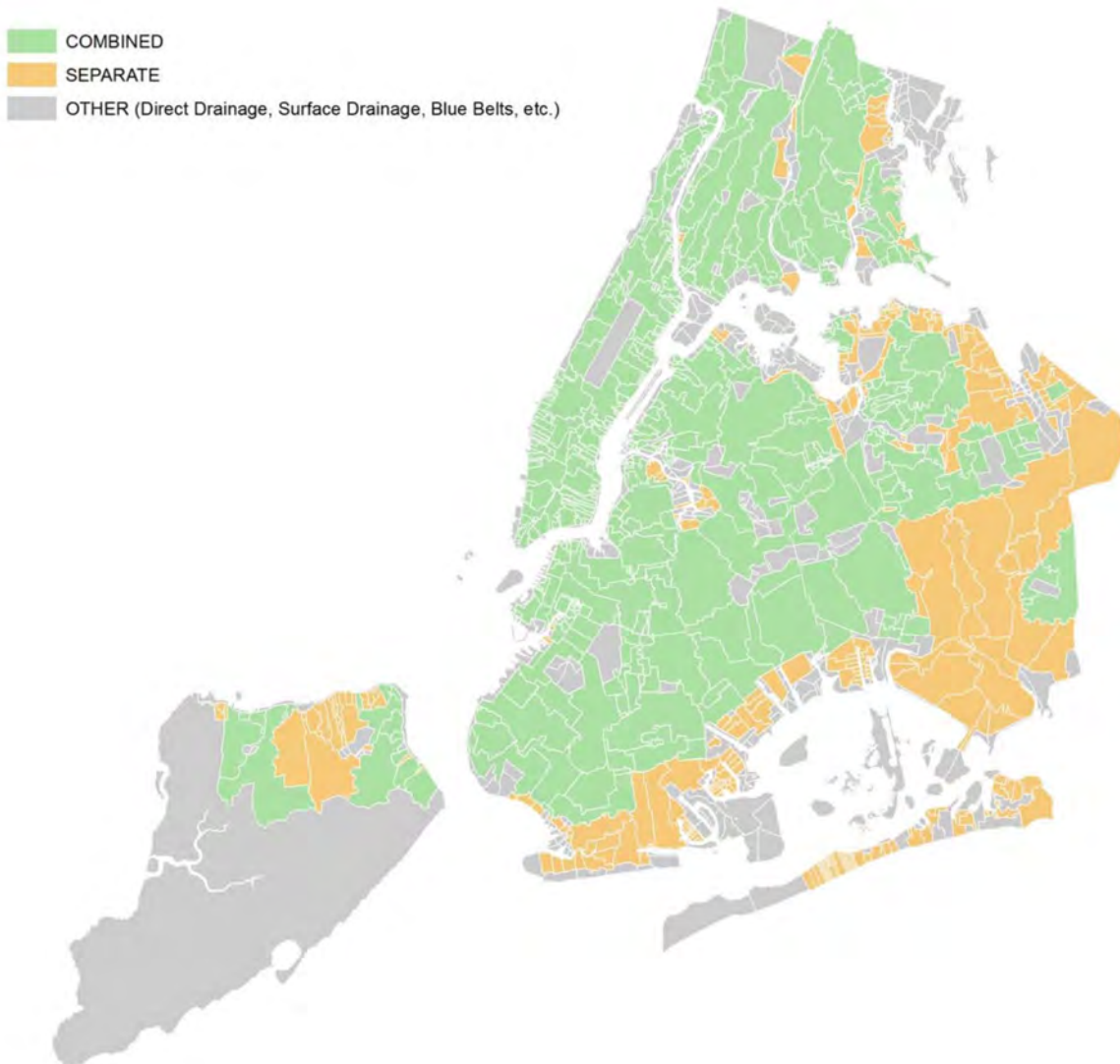
It is cheap – only \$15 per year. It is easy to get (by mail). It is required by law if you launch in New York City. And it helps the city know how many people go kayaking.

NYC Stormwater Drainage and Sewers

In New York City, stormwater is conveyed through combined sewers or separate sewer systems. In unsewered areas, water flows directly over the ground into waterways.

- **Combined Sewer Areas:** In most areas of the City, sanitary and industrial wastewater, rainwater and street runoff are collected in the same sewers and then conveyed together to the City's treatment plants. This is known as a combined sewer system. Approximately 60 percent of the City sewers are combined.
- **Separate Sewer Areas:** In some New York City neighborhoods, sanitary waste and stormwater runoff are channeled in separate sewer systems: sanitary waste is carried to wastewater treatment plants while stormwater is channeled directly to local streams, rivers, and bays.

Map



NYC Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)

Sometimes, during heavy rain and snow storms, combined sewers receive higher than normal flows. Treatment plants are unable to handle flows that are more than twice design capacity and when this occurs, a mix of excess stormwater and untreated wastewater discharges directly into the City's waterways at certain outfalls. This is called a combined sewer overflow (CSO).

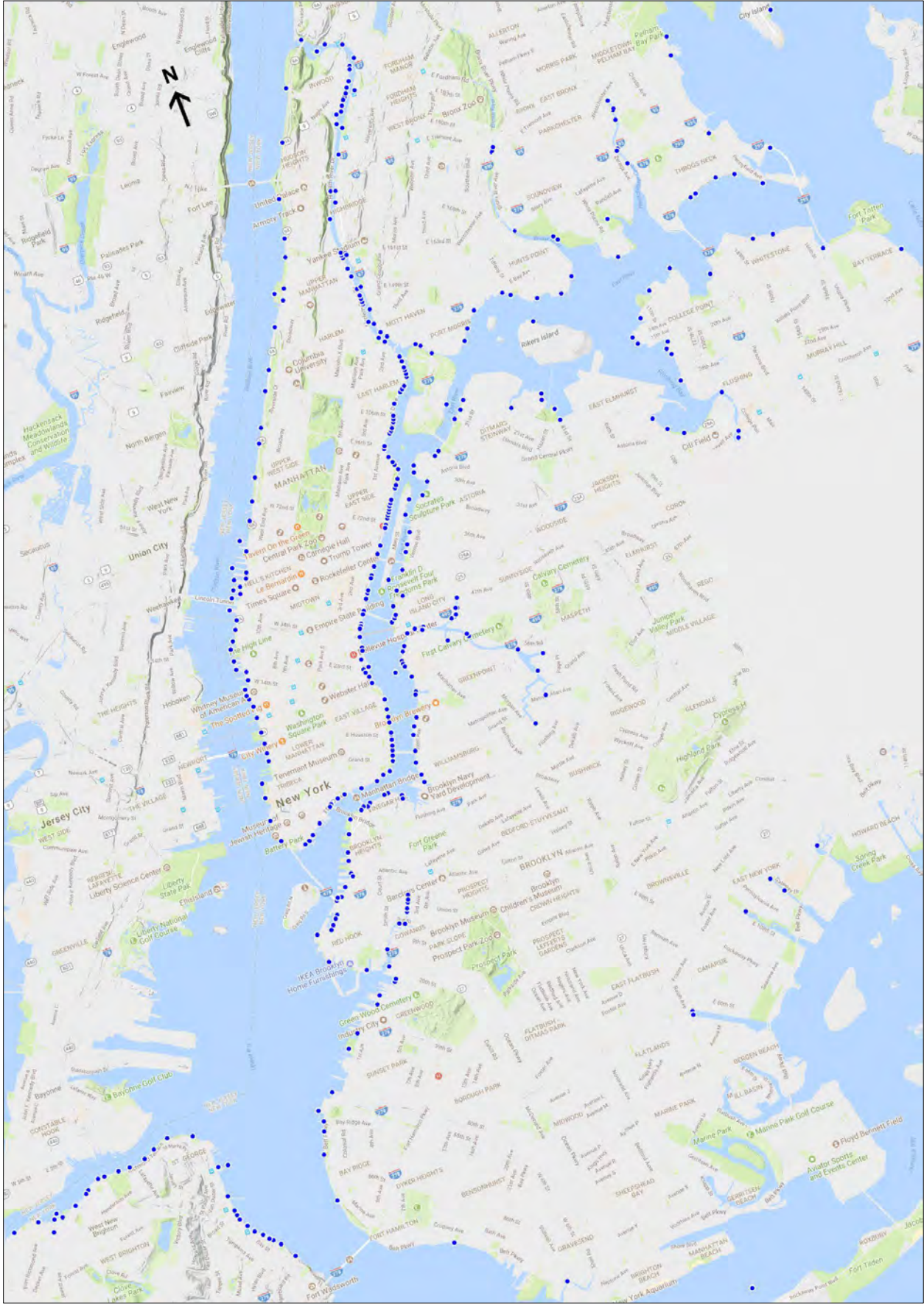
Map



Outfall Tiers

- Tier 1 outfalls discharge over 500 MGY (i.e. million gallons per year) and comprise roughly 50% of all CSO volume.
- Tier 2 outfalls discharge between 250 and 500 MGY, which is 20% of CSO volume.
- Tier 3 outfalls discharge between 50 and 250 MGY, which is 10% of CSO volume.

NYC Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs)



Water Quality

Water Quality Standards

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation uses two metrics as indicators of ecosystem health and degradation:

- Dissolved oxygen
- Fecal coliform bacteria

State standards reflect a range of acceptable water quality conditions corresponding to state designated “best usage” of the water body. In addition, the Environmental Protection Agency recommends a standard for enterococci in marine recreational waters. The standards for these three indicators are listed in the table below:

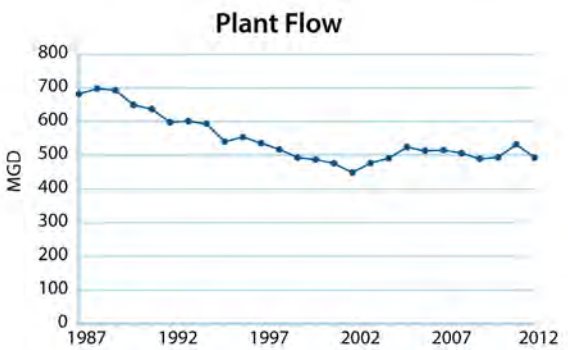
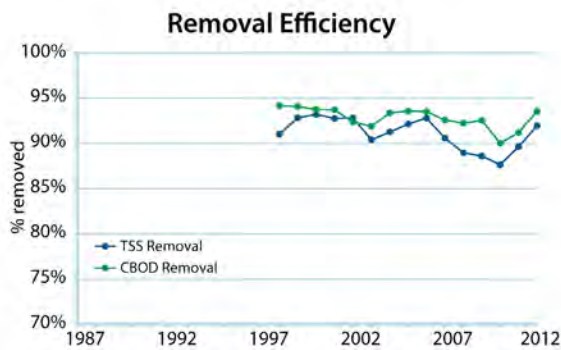
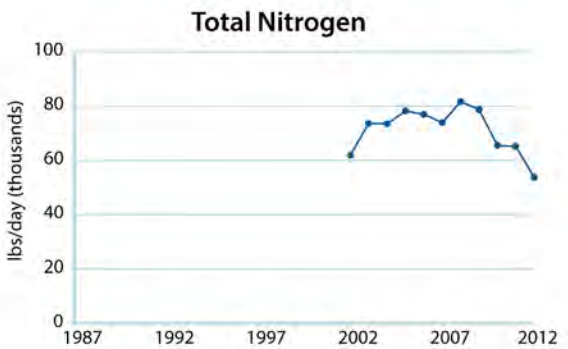
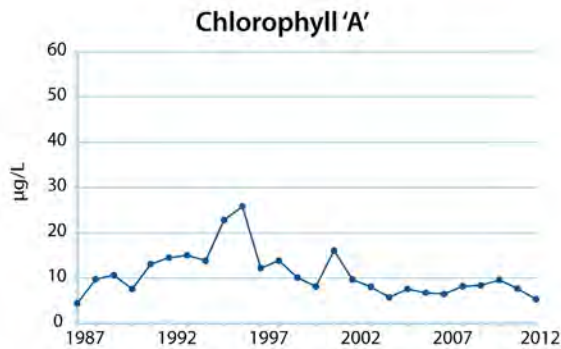
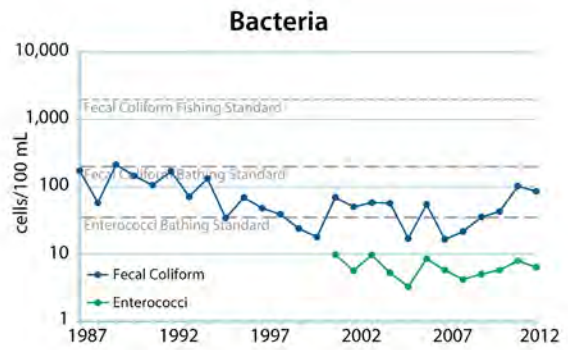
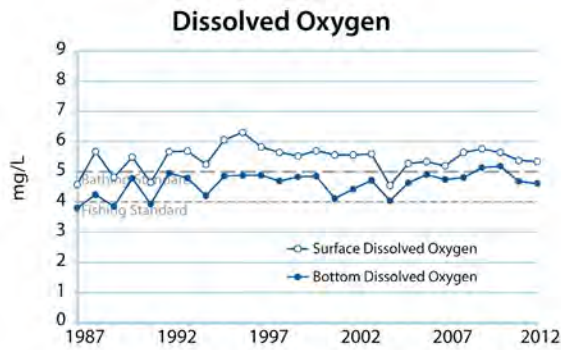
Best Usage	Dissolved Oxygen	Fecal Coliform (geometric mean)	Enterococci (geometric mean)
Bathing and other recreational uses	Never less than 5.0mg/L	Less than 200 cells/100 mL	Less than 35 cells/100 mL
Fishing or boating	Never less than 4.0 mg/L	Less than 2,000 cells/100 mL	No standard
Fish survival	Never less than 3.0 mg/L	No standard	No standard

Other Metrics

- **Secchi Transparency** is used to estimate the clarity of surface waters. Secchi disks are lowered into the water. High Secchi transparency (greater than 5.0 feet) indicates clear water. Reduced transparency is often due to high suspended solids concentrations or plankton blooms.
- **Total Suspended Solids (TSS)** include all particles suspended in water that will not pass through a filter. As TSS levels increase, a water body may lose its ability to sustain a healthy ecosystem. Suspended solids absorb sunlight, increase water temperature and decrease dissolved oxygen.
- **Chlorophyll ‘A’** is a green pigment found in most plants, algae, and phytoplankton. It is vital for photosynthesis and can be used as an indicator of the health of an aquatic ecosystem’s primary producers, which are the base of the food chain. Overgrowth of primary producers can indicate eutrophication.
- **Total Nitrogen:** Nitrogen-based molecules are important nutrients for plant growth. But excess nitrogen can cause eutrophication. The city’s wastewater treatment plants measure the total amount of nitrogen in plant effluent in order to monitor nutrient loading in receiving waters.
- **Removal Efficiency:** The primary indicator of wastewater treatment plant performance is the removal efficiency, the percent of certain pollutants that are removed during the treatment process. All 14 wastewater treatment plants measure the removal of TSS, and carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD), a measure of the organic content present in a sample. Measurements for raw wastewater are compared to the plant’s effluent to determine the percent of the pollutant removed.
- **Plant Flow:** Each of the city’s 14 wastewater treatment plants have both automatic and manual systems for measuring the amount of wastewater that flows through the plant.

Water Quality

The State of the Harbor 2012 Report



Water Pollution Events

When

- After a major rainstorm

Where

- All over the harbor after a major rainstorm
- In areas with limited tidal flow much more frequently

What

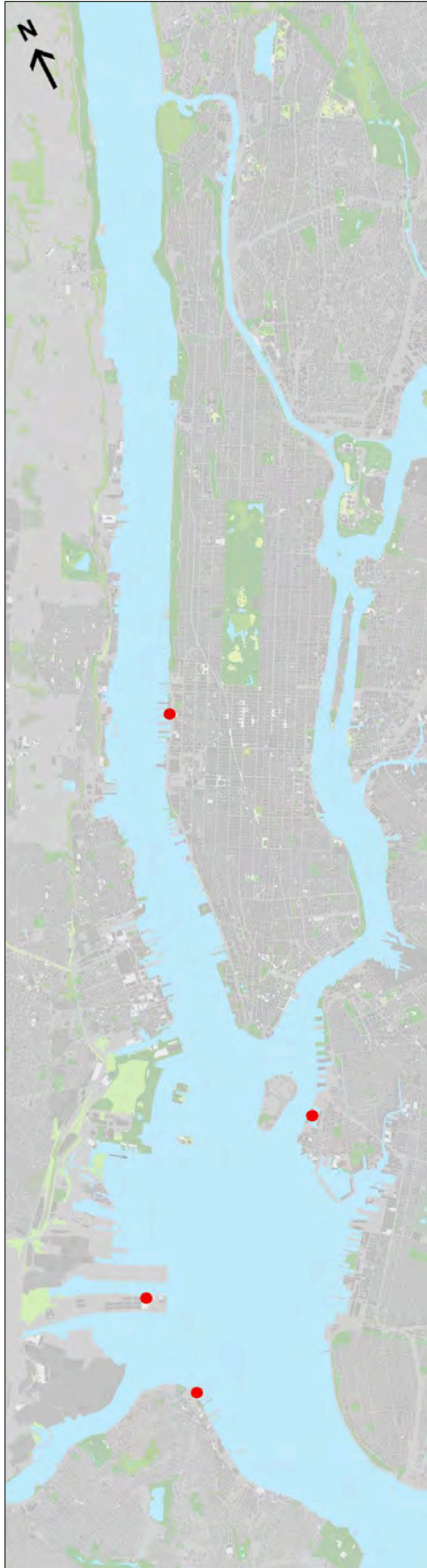
- Raw sewerage, if CSOs open up
- Road trash from storm drains

Locations

Waterbody	Rainfall* Triggers (inches) and Durations For Waterbody CSO Advisories			
	12 Hrs	24 Hrs	36 Hrs	48 Hrs
Bergen Basin	0.10	0.25	2.50	N/A
Bronx River	0.60	N/A	N/A	N/A
East River	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Flushing Bay	0.80	1.30	N/A	N/A
Flushing Creek	0.40	1.00	1.25	1.50
Fresh Creek	0.75	1.25	2.50	N/A
Gowanus Canal	0.15	0.40	0.45	0.60
Harlem River	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Head of Bay	1.00	1.40	2.50	N/A
Hendrix Creek	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hudson River	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hutchinson River	0.70	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jamaica Bay	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kills	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Little Neck Bay	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lower Bay	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mill Basin	2.50	N/A	N/A	N/A
Newtown Creek	0.10	0.20	0.80	1.30
North Jamaica Bay	2.00	2.50	N/A	N/A
Paerdegat Basin	0.10	0.15	0.25	0.75
Sheepshead Bay	1.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shellbank Basin	1.40	2.50	N/A	N/A
Shellbank Creek	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring Creek	1.40	2.50	N/A	N/A
Thurston Basin	0.10	0.30	1.00	N/A
Upper Bay	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Westchester Creek	0.25	0.60	N/A	N/A
Western Long Island Sound	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Values shown correspond to storm sizes required to cause a Waterbody Advisory for secondary-contact recreation as a result of CSO discharges. Storms are defined as periods with fewer than 12 consecutive rainless hours. "N/A" means that no analyzed storm condition caused an advisory. Insufficient information is available for storms in excess of 3.5 inches.

Sulfuric Acid Discharges



The Problem

Effective Jan/1, 2020 the International Maritime Organization reduced the maximum sulfur content for marine fuels from 3.5% to 0.5%, except for ships that have an exhaust gas cleaning system, also known as a scrubber. Most large ships now use 0.5% sulfur fuel, but some ship owners have installed scrubbers rather than use the more expensive low-sulfur fuel.

A scrubber sprays the exhaust gas with sea water and then (in most cases) discharges the resultant diluted sulfuric acid directly into the ocean. Approximately 34% of all cruise ships use scrubbers

The Volume

In a typical year, more than four million tons of diluted sulfuric acid is discharged into NY Harbor. The largest single source seems to be cruise ships docking at the Overseas Terminal in Midtown Manhattan, which discharge more than one million tons per year.

Other Ports

More diluted sulfuric acid is discharged into New York Harbor in a normal year than into every harbor in China, or in Japan, or France, or Germany.

Shipboard scrubbers are banned in Hawaii, California, and Connecticut. Ships visiting these states have to burn low-sulfur fuel. No such restrictions apply in New York State. Nor is there any monitoring.

Tides and Currents

Two Hours after High Tide at the Battery



Observe Above

- Water level is dropping at the Battery.
- Current is still going in on the Hudson River.
- Current is going out on the East River and at the Verrazano Narrows.

Tides vs. Currents

- Tides refer to the rise and the fall of the water.
- Currents refer to the inflow and outflow of the water.
- The two features are not synchronized in NY Harbor.
- Different parts of the harbor change at different times.
- Tides and currents follow an approximately 12½ hour cycle.

Impact of Moon

- Tides are higher/lower during full or new moon (see page 55).
- Tides are higher/lower when moon is closer to earth (see page 55).

Impact of Wind

- An Easterly wind pattern will increase tidal ranges with Southeast winds being responsible for the highest tidal levels. It will also cause tidal changes to occur later than expected.
- Extended periods of west-north-westerly weather will hold levels below normal and cause tidal changes to occur earlier and with less velocity.

Tides and Kayak Trip Planning

Manhattan Circumnavigation – Counter Clockwise from Pier 26

- Takes 12 hours
- Steady pace, not fast
- Depart two hours after low tide
- Wait for tide changes in Astoria and Inwood

Other Start Points

Those start points that are where one channel meets another (e.g. Northern Manhattan) may enable one to circumnavigate the island with only one wait for a tide change.

Choke Points

Some places can only be passed on the tide:

- Southern Tip of Manhattan
- Most of East River
- Hell Gate

Things to Know

Besides knowing how to use a kayak and the rules of the road, when kayaking on New York Harbor one should also know about:

- Tide Tables (see page 51)
- Current patterns (see page 44)
- Security zones (see page 19)
- Ferry terminals (see page 19)
- Water pollution (see page 41)
- Launch sites (see page 33)



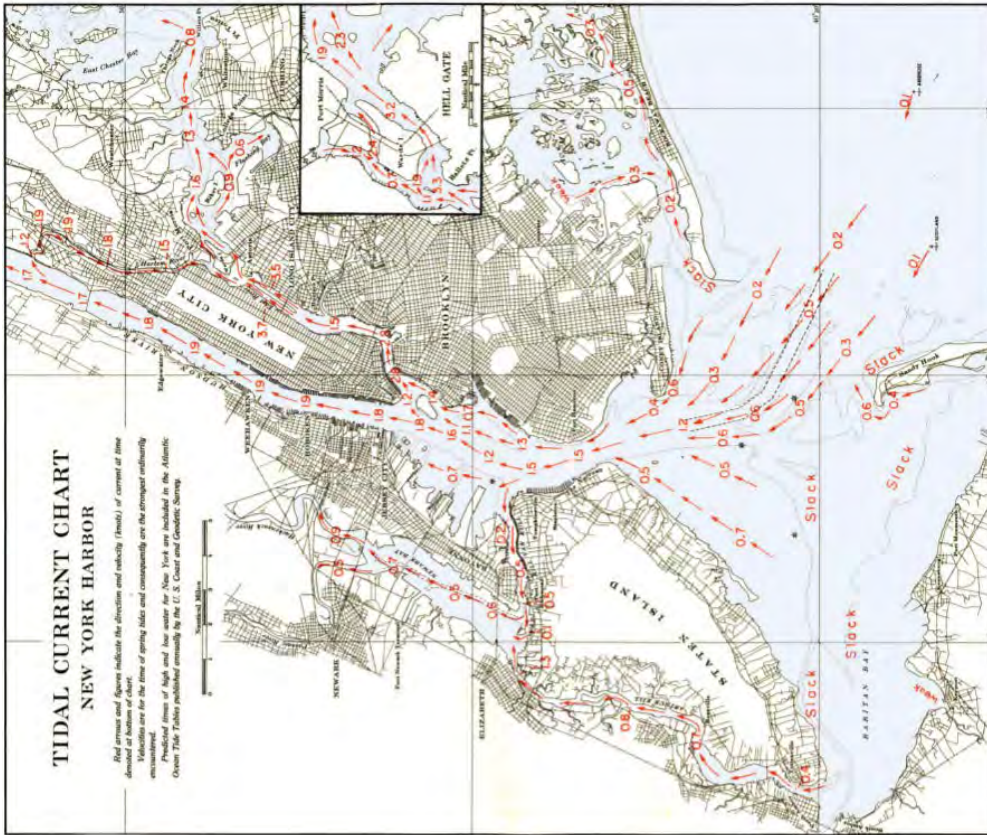
Hudson River, 46th Street



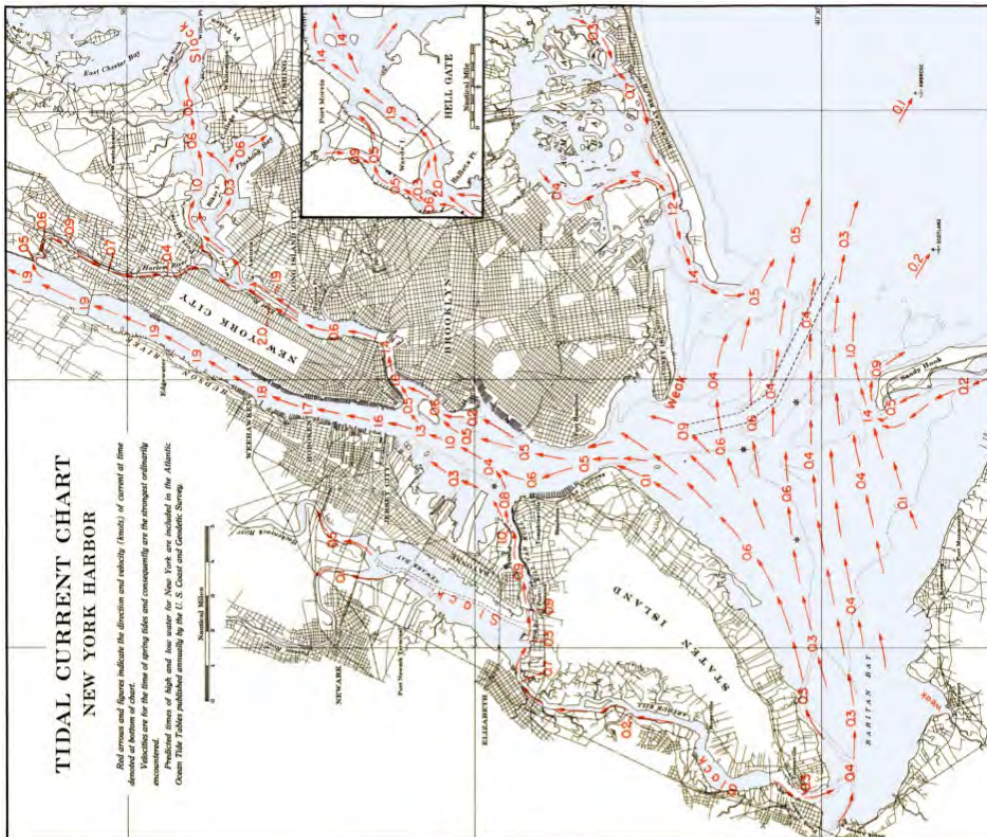
Hudson River, 28th Street

Tidal Current Charts

High Tide at the Battery

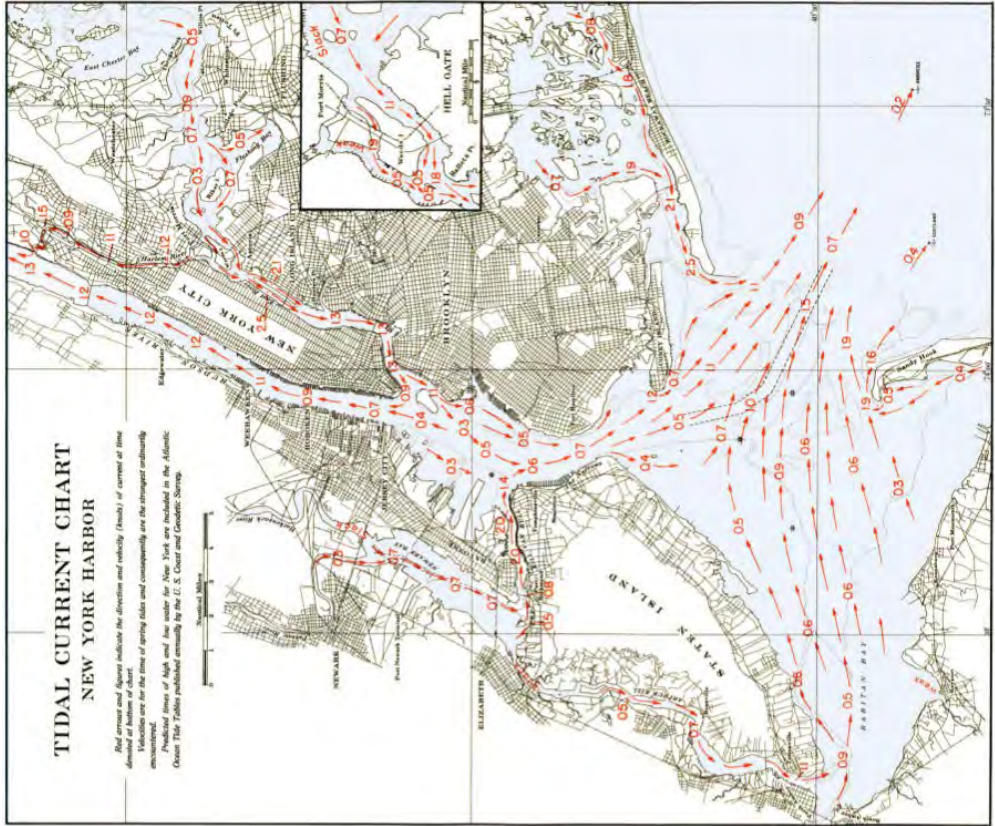


One Hour after High Tide

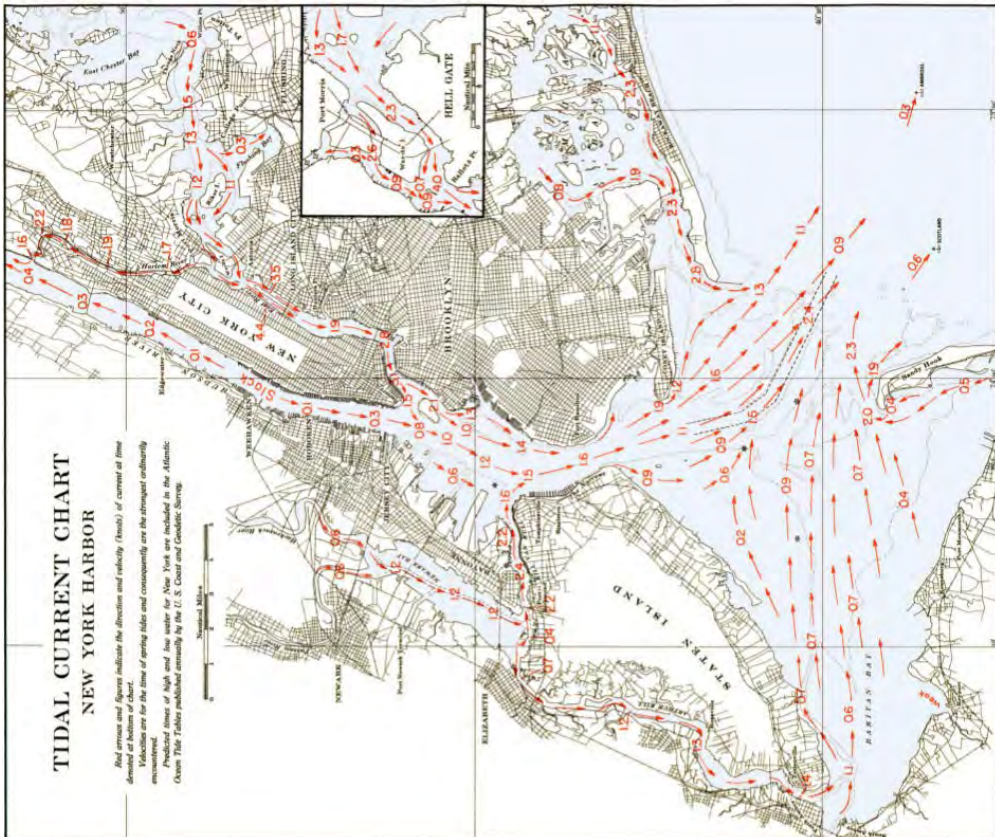


Tidal Current Charts

Two Hours after High Tide

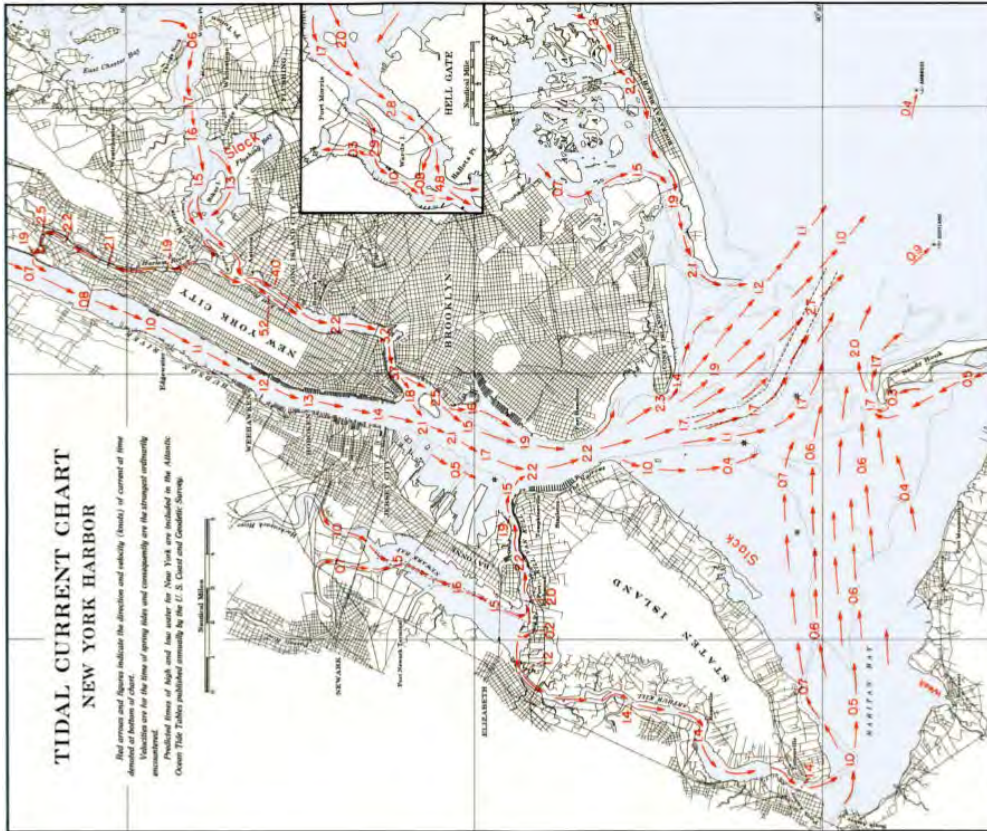


Three Hours after High Tide

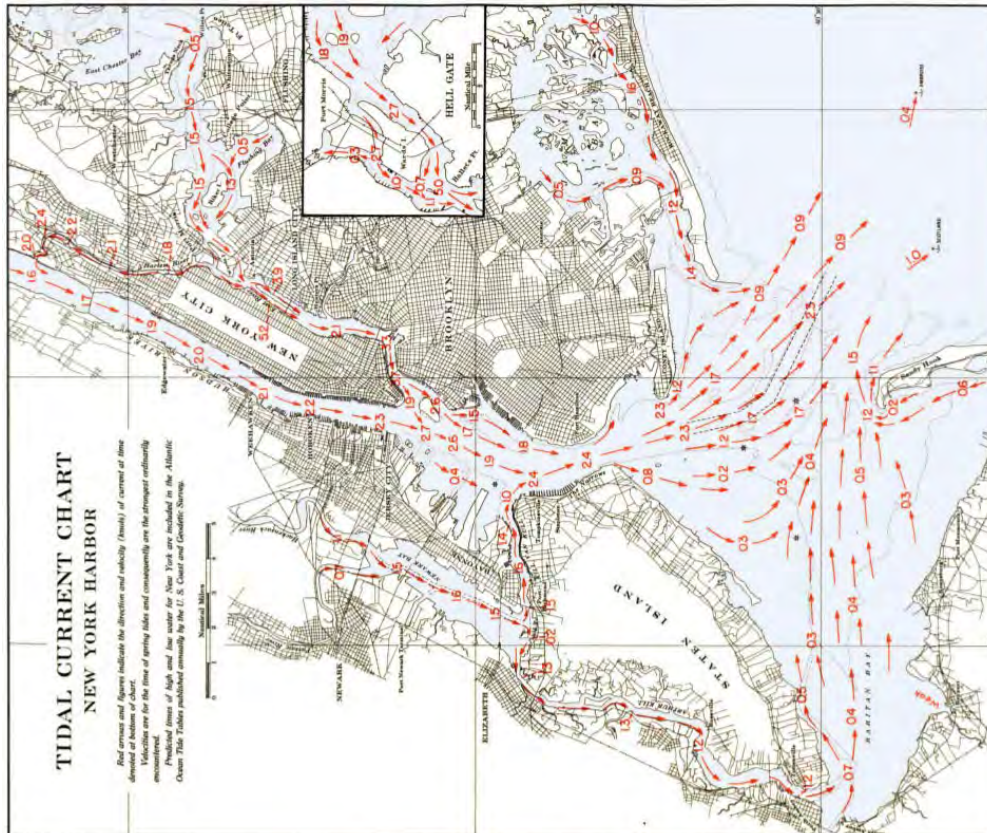


Tidal Current Charts

Four Hours after High Tide

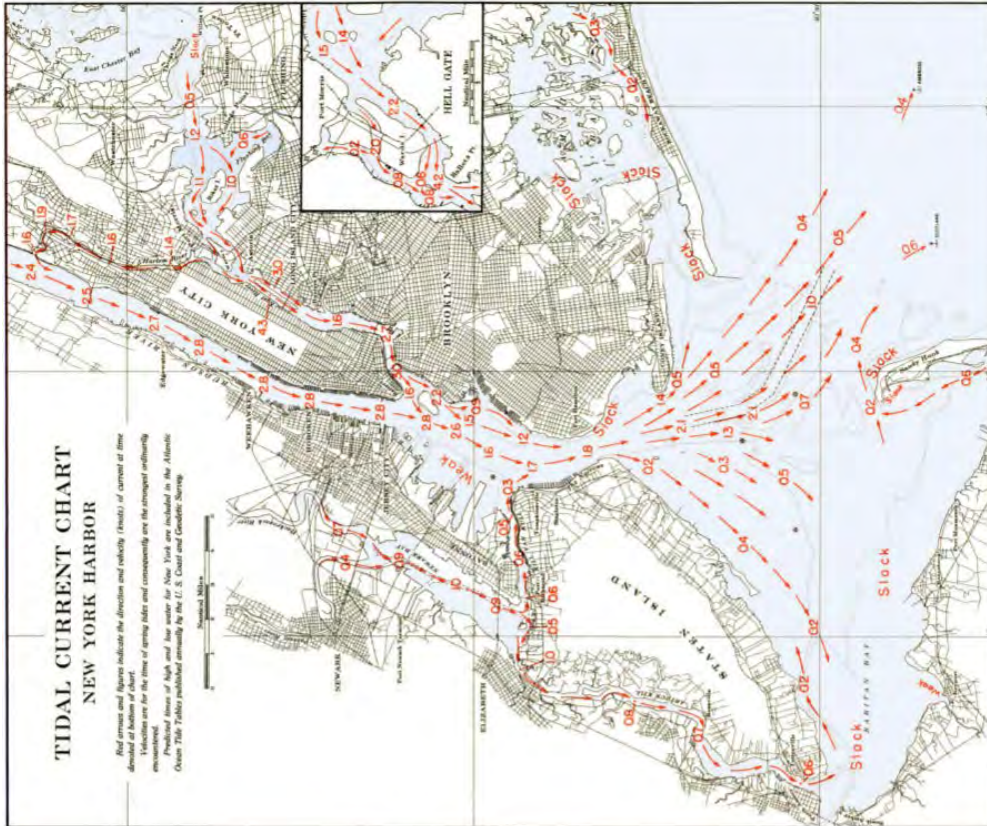


Five Hours after High Tide

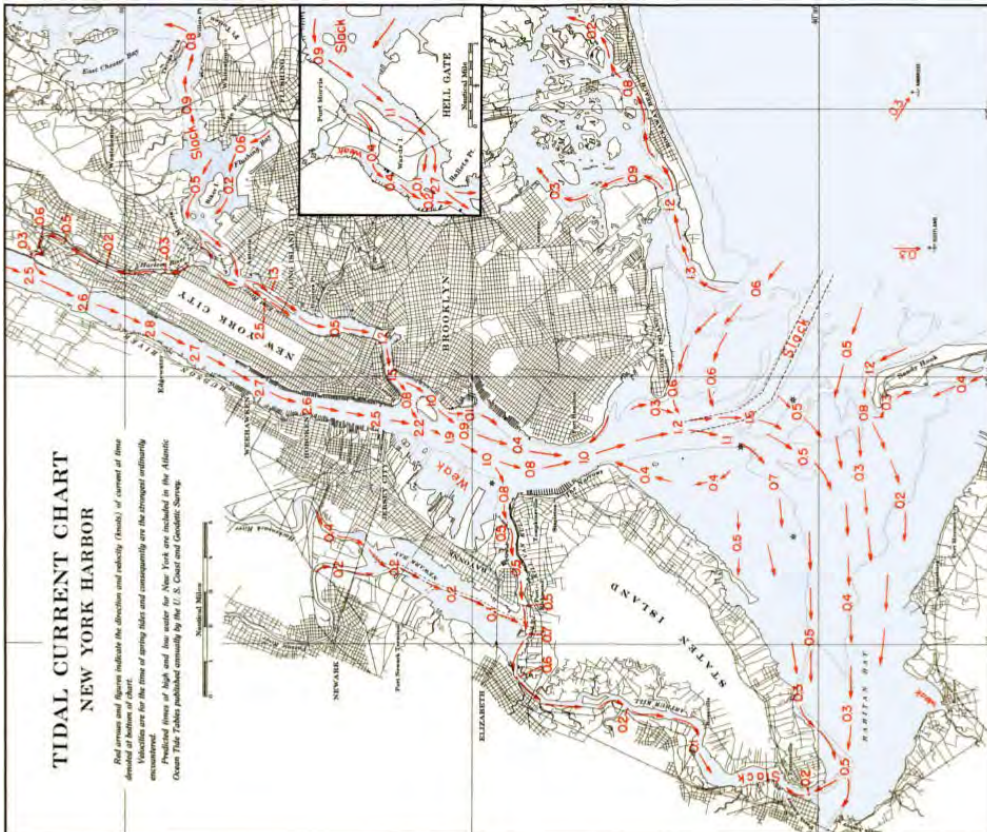


Tidal Current Charts

Low Tide at the Battery

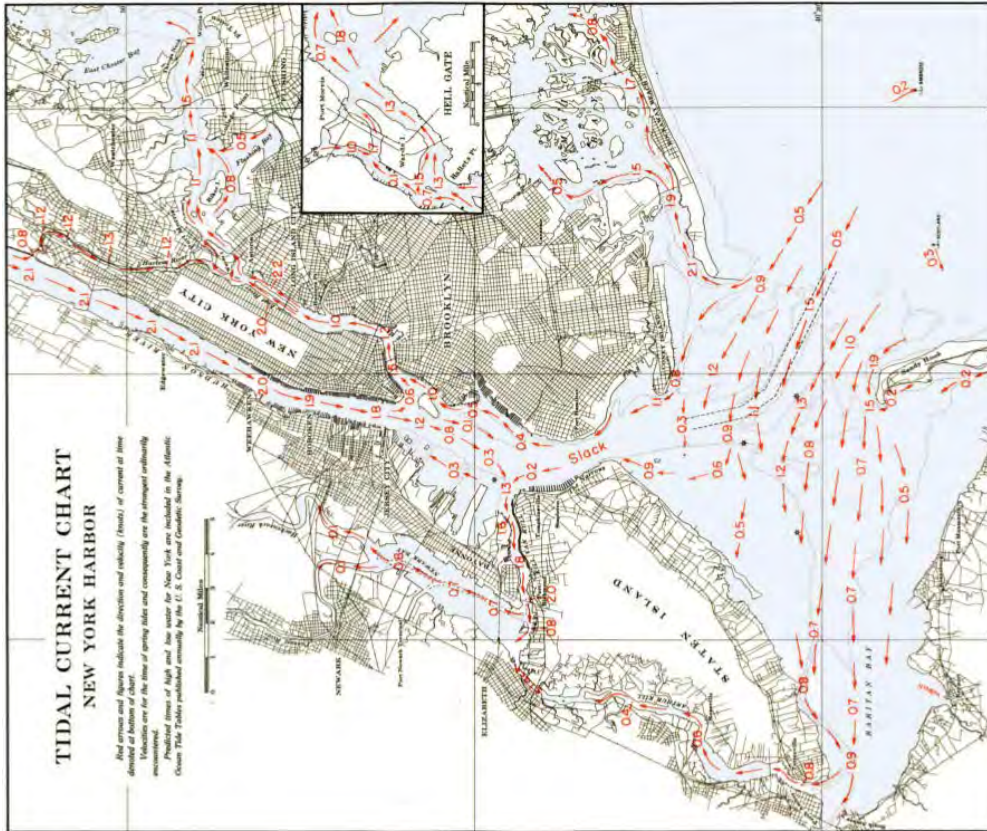


One Hour after Low Tide

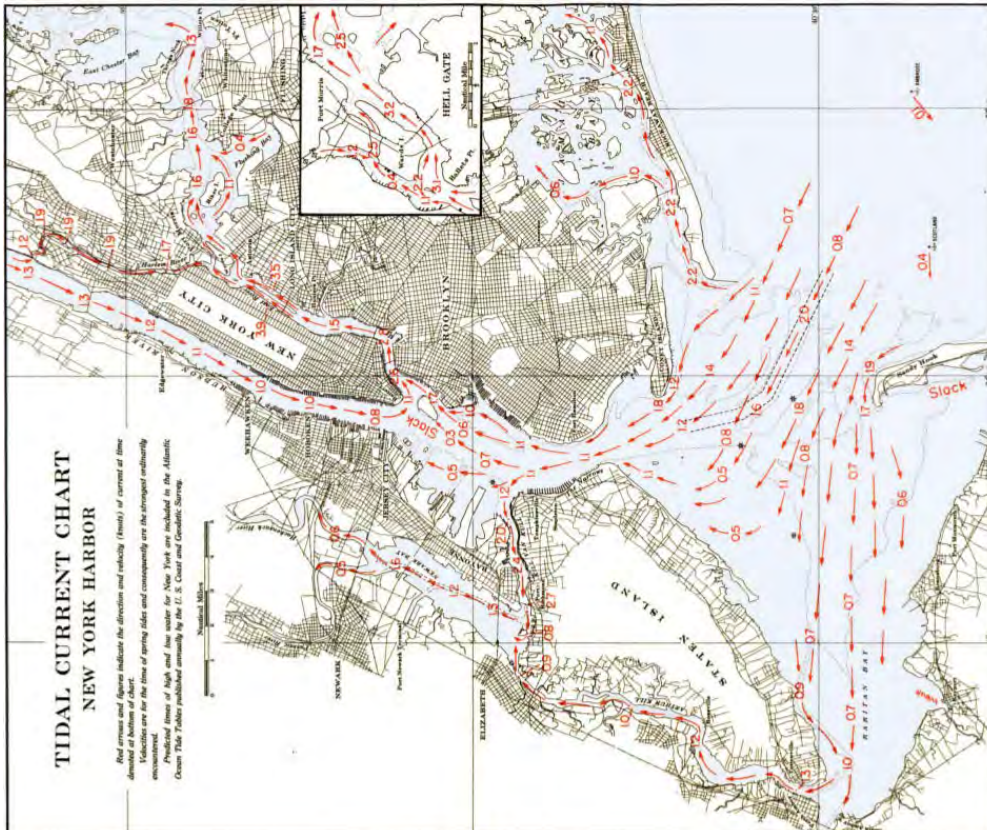


Tidal Current Charts

Two Hours after Low Tide

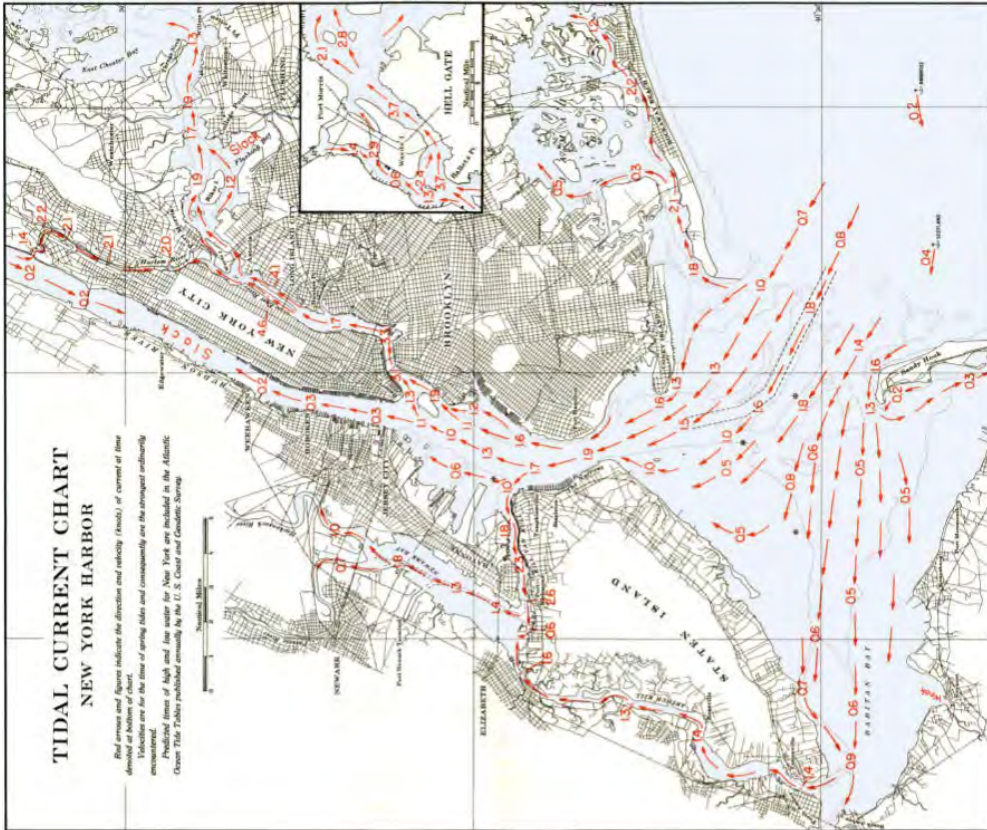


Three Hours after Low Tide



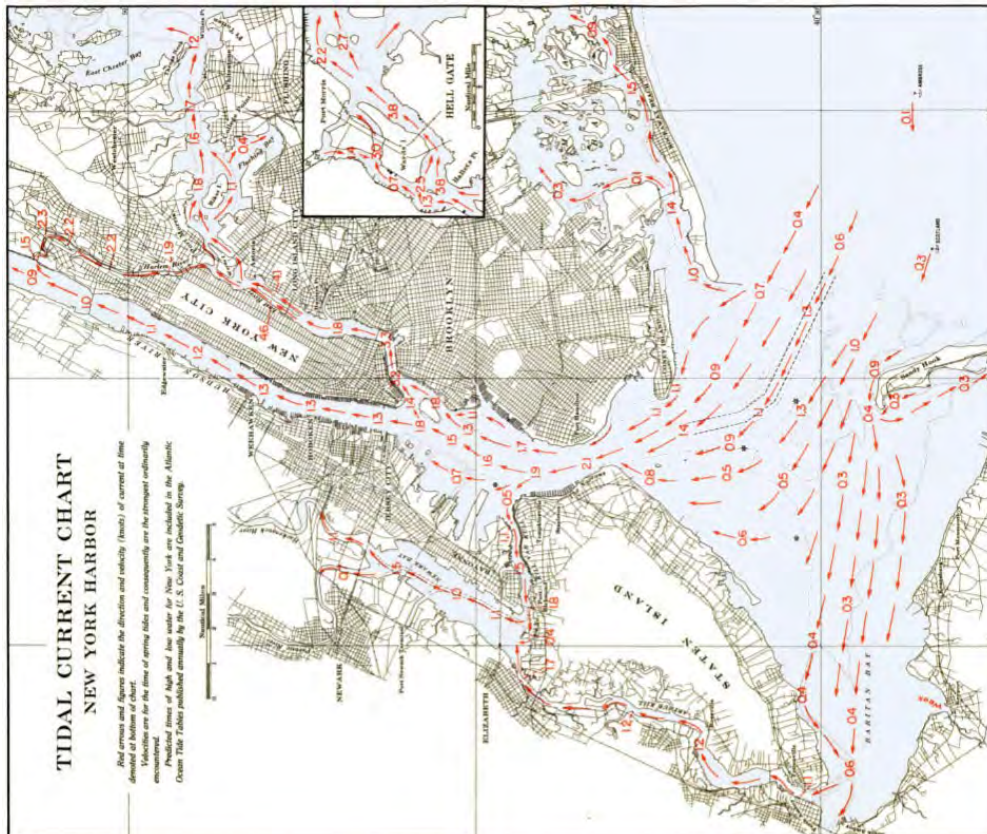
Tidal Current Charts

Four Hours after Low Tide



FOUR HOURS AFTER LOW WATER AT NEW YORK

Five Hours after Low Tide



FIVE HOURS AFTER LOW WATER AT NEW YORK

Tide Tables

Tides at the Battery, 2024

January				February				March			
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
h	m	ft	cm	h	m	ft	cm	h	m	ft	cm
1	05:24 AM	0.7	21	16	05:57 AM	-0.2	-6	1	05:37 AM	0.6	18
	11:44 AM	4.1	125		12:03 PM	4.8	146		11:32 AM	3.7	113
M	06:11 PM	0.4	12	Tu	06:27 PM	-0.5	-15	F	05:23 PM	0.7	21
									11:54 PM	4.3	131
2	12:34 AM	3.7	113	17	12:42 AM	4.7	143	2	06:27 AM	0.8	24
	06:11 AM	0.9	27		07:03 AM	0.1	3		12:18 PM	3.6	110
Tu	12:25 PM	-3.9	-119	W	12:59 PM	4.5	137	Sa	06:04 PM	0.8	24
	06:55 PM	0.6	18		07:24 PM	-0.3	-9				
3	01:16 AM	3.8	116	18	01:37 AM	4.7	143	3	12:42 AM	4.3	131
	07:12 AM	1.1	34		08:12 AM	0.2	6		07:50 AM	0.9	27
W	01:06 PM	-3.7	-113	Th	01:57 PM	4.1	125	Su	01:13 PM	3.5	107
	07:44 PM	0.7	21		08:25 PM	-0.1	-3		07:12 PM	1.0	30
4	01:58 AM	3.8	116	19	02:34 AM	4.6	140	4	01:39 AM	4.3	131
	08:21 AM	1.1	34		09:19 AM	0.2	6		09:08 AM	0.8	24
Th	01:51 PM	-3.5	-107	F	02:59 PM	3.9	119	M	02:20 PM	3.4	104
	08:36 PM	0.7	21		09:25 PM	0.0	0		09:01 PM	0.9	27
5	02:41 AM	3.9	119	20	03:35 AM	4.6	140	5	02:50 AM	4.4	134
	09:22 AM	0.9	27		10:20 AM	0.1	3		10:11 AM	0.6	18
F	02:42 PM	3.4	104	Sa	04:05 PM	3.7	113	Tu	03:38 PM	3.6	110
	09:26 PM	0.6	18		10:21 PM	0.1	3		10:12 PM	0.6	18
6	03:29 AM	4.1	125	21	04:38 AM	4.6	140	6	04:09 AM	4.6	140
	10:17 AM	0.7	21		11:16 AM	0.0	0		11:07 AM	0.2	6
Sa	03:44 PM	3.4	104	Su	05:10 PM	3.7	113	W	04:52 PM	3.9	119
	10:15 PM	0.5	15		11:14 PM	0.1	3		11:13 PM	0.2	6
7	04:22 AM	4.3	131	22	05:37 AM	4.7	143	7	05:19 AM	5.0	152
	11:08 AM	0.4	12		12:08 PM	-0.1	-3		11:59 AM	-0.2	-6
Su	04:47 PM	3.4	104	M	06:07 PM	3.9	119	Th	05:53 PM	4.4	134
	11:03 PM	0.3	9								
8	05:14 AM	4.6	140	23	12:05 AM	0.1	3	8	12:09 AM	-0.2	-6
	11:59 AM	0.1	3		06:28 AM	4.8	146		06:16 AM	5.3	162
M	05:44 PM	3.6	110	Tu	12:57 PM	-0.2	-6		12:49 PM	-0.5	-15
	11:53 PM	0.1	3		06:56 PM	4.0	122		06:45 PM	4.8	146
9	06:04 AM	4.9	149	24	12:54 AM	0.0	0	9	01:04 AM	-0.6	-18
	12:49 PM	-0.2	-6		07:13 AM	4.8	146		07:06 AM	5.6	171
Tu	06:34 PM	3.9	119	W	01:43 PM	-0.3	-9	Sa	01:38 PM	-0.9	-27
					07:40 PM	4.1	125		07:33 PM	5.2	158
10	12:44 AM	-0.1	-3	25	01:40 AM	0.0	0	10	01:57 AM	-0.8	-24
	06:51 AM	5.2	158		07:54 AM	4.8	146		08:55 AM	5.7	174
W	01:38 PM	-0.5	-15	Th	02:26 PM	-0.3	-9	Su	03:24 PM	-1.1	-34
	07:21 PM	4.1	125		08:23 PM	4.1	125		09:20 PM	5.5	168
11	01:36 AM	-0.4	-12	26	02:24 AM	0.0	0	11	03:48 AM	-1.0	-30
	07:38 AM	5.4	165		08:33 AM	4.8	146		09:43 AM	5.6	171
Th	02:26 PM	-0.7	-21	F	03:06 PM	-0.3	-9	M	04:09 PM	-1.1	-34
	08:08 PM	4.3	131		09:04 PM	4.1	125		10:08 PM	5.7	174
12	02:26 AM	-0.6	-16	27	03:04 AM	0.0	0	12	04:38 AM	-0.9	-27
	08:26 AM	5.5	168		09:11 AM	4.7	143		10:34 AM	5.4	165
F	03:13 PM	-0.9	-27	Sa	03:43 PM	-0.2	-6	Tu	04:53 PM	-0.9	-27
	08:58 PM	4.4	134		09:46 PM	4.1	125		10:58 PM	5.6	171
13	03:16 AM	-0.7	-21	28	03:42 AM	0.1	3	13	05:28 AM	-0.7	-21
	09:17 AM	5.5	168		09:48 AM	4.5	137		11:27 AM	5.0	152
Sa	03:59 PM	-1.0	-30	Su	04:18 PM	-0.1	-3	W	05:38 PM	-0.6	-18
	09:52 PM	4.5	137		10:27 PM	4.1	125		11:51 PM	5.5	168
14	04:06 AM	-0.6	-18	29	04:18 AM	0.3	9	14	06:20 AM	-0.4	-12
	10:11 AM	5.4	165		10:24 AM	4.3	131		12:23 PM	4.7	143
Su	04:46 PM	-0.9	-27	M	04:50 PM	0.0	0	Th	06:26 PM	-0.2	-6
	10:49 PM	4.6	140		11:06 PM	4.0	122				
15	04:59 AM	-0.4	-12	30	04:53 AM	0.4	12	15	12:45 AM	5.2	158
	11:07 AM	5.1	155		11:00 AM	4.1	125		07:18 AM	0.0	0
M	05:34 PM	-0.8	-24	Tu	05:19 PM	0.2	6	F	01:21 PM	4.3	131
	11:46 PM	4.7	143		11:43 PM	4.0	122		07:20 PM	0.3	9
				31	05:30 AM	0.6	18	31	12:17 AM	4.7	143
					11:35 AM	3.9	119		07:06 AM	0.8	24
					05:45 PM	0.4	12		12:59 PM	3.7	113
								06:41 PM	1.0	30	

Tide Tables

Tides at the Battery, 2024

July					August					September															
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height												
h m	ft	h m	ft	h m	ft	h m	ft	h m	ft	h m	ft	h m	ft												
1 04:43 AM 4.4	134	16 04:24 AM 3.6	110	1 12:42 AM 0.3	9	16 12:12 AM 0.8	24	1 01:57 AM 0.3	9	16 01:22 AM -0.1	-3	11:08 AM 0.1	3	Tu 04:59 PM 4.7	143	Th 12:38 PM 0.5	15	F 05:55 AM 3.9	119	Su 08:01 AM 4.7	143	M 07:18 AM 5.0	152		
M 05:20 PM 5.4	165	Tu 04:59 PM 4.7	143	Th 07:00 PM 5.3	162	F 12:06 PM 0.9	27	Su 08:13 PM 5.2	158	M 01:35 PM 0.0	0	06:51 AM 4.4	131	W 05:52 PM 1.0	30	F 07:33 AM 4.4	134	Sa 01:00 PM 0.5	15	M 02:00 PM 0.6	18	M 07:36 PM 5.8	177		
2 12:03 AM 0.2	6	17 05:29 AM 3.7	113	2 01:34 AM 0.2	6	17 01:02 AM 0.4	12	2 02:39 AM 0.2	6	17 02:09 AM -0.4	-12	05:49 AM 4.3	131	W 05:52 PM 1.0	30	F 07:07 AM 5.4	165	Sa 06:52 AM 4.2	128	M 08:41 AM 4.9	149	Tu 08:05 AM 5.5	168		
Tu 12:01 PM 0.2	6	W 05:52 PM 1.0	149	F 07:49 PM 5.4	165	Sa 07:09 PM 5.5	168	M 08:50 PM 5.2	158	Tu 02:44 PM 0.5	-9	06:18 PM 5.5	168	W 06:43 PM 5.2	158	Sa 08:33 PM 5.4	165	Su 07:09 PM 5.5	168	W 02:44 PM 0.5	15	Tu 08:23 PM 5.9	180		
3 12:58 AM 0.1	3	18 12:40 AM 0.7	21	3 02:22 AM 0.1	3	18 01:51 AM 0.1	3	3 03:18 AM 0.1	3	18 02:55 AM -0.6	-18	06:51 AM 4.4	134	Th 12:30 PM 0.8	24	4 03:07 AM 0.1	3	19 02:39 AM -0.2	-6	4 03:53 AM 0.2	6	19 03:41 AM -0.7	-21		
W 12:54 PM 0.2	6	Th 12:30 PM 0.8	24	Sa 08:33 PM 5.4	165	Su 08:21 AM 4.6	140	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	07:12 PM 5.6	171	W 06:43 PM 5.2	158	● 09:14 PM 5.3	162	M 02:46 PM -0.1	-3	W 04:04 PM 0.5	15	W 03:20 PM -0.4	-12		
4 01:51 AM 0.0	0	19 01:30 AM 0.4	12	4 03:07 AM 0.1	3	4 03:49 AM 0.0	0	5 03:49 AM 0.0	0	20 03:25 AM -0.5	-15	07:46 AM 4.5	137	F 01:22 PM 0.6	18	● 09:14 PM 5.3	162	M 09:48 AM 4.7	143	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	5 04:27 AM 0.3	9	20 04:25 AM -0.7	-21
Th 01:46 PM 0.2	6	F 01:22 PM 0.6	18	● 09:14 PM 5.3	162	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	M 09:54 PM 5.2	158	Tu 09:15 AM 5.3	162	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	W 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
5 02:42 AM -0.1	-3	20 02:18 AM 0.2	6	5 03:49 AM 0.0	0	5 09:48 AM 4.7	143	6 04:27 AM 0.1	3	20 09:15 AM 5.3	162	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
08:36 AM 4.5	137	Sa 02:13 PM 0.4	12	M 09:48 AM 4.7	143	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 10:31 AM 4.7	143	Tu 09:37 PM 0.6	183	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
F 02:37 PM 0.3	9	Sa 02:13 PM 0.4	12	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	M 09:54 PM 5.2	158	Tu 10:32 PM 5.0	152	W 04:28 PM -0.3	-9	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	Sa 02:13 PM 0.4	12	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	M 09:54 PM 5.2	158	W 04:30 PM 0.6	18	W 04:28 PM -0.3	-9	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
6 03:30 AM -0.1	-3	21 03:05 AM -0.1	-3	6 04:27 AM 0.1	3	6 11:55 AM 4.6	140	7 05:03 AM 0.2	6	21 04:09 AM -0.7	-21	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
09:25 AM 4.6	140	Su 08:50 AM 4.5	137	Tu 10:31 AM 4.7	143	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:13 AM 4.7	143	21 10:03 AM 5.5	168	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
Sa 03:25 PM 0.4	12	Su 08:50 AM 4.5	137	Tu 10:32 PM 5.0	152	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:11 PM 4.8	146	W 10:21 PM 5.8	177	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
09:33 PM 5.4	165	Su 08:50 AM 4.5	137	Tu 10:32 PM 5.0	152	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:11 PM 4.8	146	W 10:21 PM 5.8	177	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12		
7 04:14 AM -0.1	-3	22 03:51 AM -0.3	-9	7 05:03 AM 0.2	6	8 05:37 AM 0.4	12	7 11:13 AM 4.7	143	22 04:53 AM -0.7	-21	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
10:13 AM 4.5	137	M 03:54 PM 0.0	0	W 05:09 PM 0.7	21	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:13 AM 4.7	143	22 10:55 AM 5.6	171	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
Su 04:11 PM 0.5	15	M 03:54 PM 0.0	0	W 05:09 PM 0.7	21	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:11 PM 4.8	146	Th 05:19 PM -0.2	-6	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
10:18 PM 5.3	162	M 03:54 PM 0.0	0	W 05:09 PM 0.7	21	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	W 11:11 PM 4.8	146	Th 05:19 PM -0.2	-6	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
8 04:57 AM 0.0	0	23 04:36 AM -0.5	-15	8 05:37 AM 0.4	12	9 06:08 AM 0.6	18	8 11:55 AM 4.6	140	23 05:38 AM -0.5	-15	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
11:02 AM 4.5	137	Tu 04:43 PM 0.0	0	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	Th 11:50 PM 4.5	137	23 06:12 PM 0.0	0	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
M 04:54 PM 0.6	18	Tu 04:43 PM 0.0	0	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	Th 11:50 PM 4.5	137	23 11:49 AM 5.6	171	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
11:03 PM 5.1	155	Tu 04:43 PM 0.0	0	Th 05:47 PM 0.9	27	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	Th 11:50 PM 4.5	137	23 06:12 PM 0.0	0	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
9 05:37 AM 0.2	6	24 05:20 AM -0.5	-15	9 06:08 AM 0.6	18	10 12:30 AM 4.3	131	9 06:08 AM 0.6	18	24 12:11 AM 5.2	158	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
11:50 AM 4.5	137	W 05:34 PM 0.1	3	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	Tu 12:35 PM 4.6	140	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	24 06:25 AM -0.2	-6	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
Tu 05:36 PM 0.8	24	W 05:34 PM 0.1	3	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	24 12:45 PM 5.6	171	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
11:49 PM 4.8	146	W 05:34 PM 0.1	3	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	F 06:26 PM 1.1	34	24 07:12 PM 0.3	9	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
10 06:17 AM 0.4	12	25 06:06 AM -0.4	-12	10 12:30 AM 4.3	131	11 01:09 AM 4.0	122	10 12:30 AM 4.3	131	25 01:10 AM 4.9	149	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
12:37 PM 4.4	134	Th 06:28 PM 0.2	6	Tu 06:36 AM 0.8	24	Th 07:02 AM 1.0	30	Sa 01:12 PM 4.5	137	25 07:18 AM 0.2	6	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
W 06:19 PM 1.0	30	Th 06:28 PM 0.2	6	Sa 01:12 PM 4.5	137	Th 07:02 AM 1.0	30	Sa 01:12 PM 4.5	137	25 08:18 PM 0.6	18	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
11 12:33 AM 4.6	140	26 12:31 AM 5.3	162	11 01:09 AM 4.0	122	12 01:51 AM 3.8	116	11 01:09 AM 4.0	122	26 02:09 AM 4.5	137	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
06:56 AM 0.6	18	M 06:54 AM -0.2	-6	Th 07:02 AM 1.0	30	Th 07:38 AM 1.2	37	Th 07:02 AM 1.0	30	26 08:20 AM 0.5	15	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
Th 01:22 PM 4.4	134	F 01:11 PM 5.3	162	Th 07:38 AM 1.2	37	M 02:26 PM 4.5	137	Su 01:48 PM 4.5	137	26 02:37 PM 5.3	162	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
07:05 PM 1.2	37	F 01:11 PM 5.3	162	Th 07:38 AM 1.2	37	● 09:20 PM 1.4	43	Su 01:48 PM 4.5	137	● 09:28 PM 0.7	21	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
12 01:15 AM 4.3	131	27 01:27 AM 5.0	152	12 01:51 AM 3.8	116	13 02:39 AM 3.7	113	12 01:51 AM 3.8	116	27 03:11 AM 4.3	131	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
07:37 AM 0.8	24	Sa 07:48 AM 0.0	0	Th 07:38 AM 1.2	37	Tu 08:48 AM 1.3	40	Th 07:38 AM 1.2	37	27 09:27 AM 0.8	24	04:54 PM 0.6	18	● 08:48 PM 5.6	171	● 09:26 PM 5.1	155	M 03:49 AM 0.5	15	Tu 03:37 PM -0.2	-6	Th 04:42 PM 0.6	18	F 05:02 PM -0.4	-12
F 02:03 PM 4.4	134	Sa 07:48 AM 0.0	0	M 02:26 PM 4.5	137	Tu 10:23 PM 1.3	40	M 02:26 PM 4.5	137</																

Lunar Phases

Lunar Phases, 2024

Lunation	New Moon		First Quarter		Full Moon		Third Quarter		Duration
1237					Jan 6	6:07 pm	Jan 14	9:10 pm	29d 10h 36m
1238	Jan 21	3:53 pm	Jan 28	10:18 am	Feb 5	1:28 pm	Feb 13	11:00 am	29d 10h 13m
1239	Feb 20	2:05 am	Feb 27	3:05 am	Mar 7	7:40 am	Mar 14	10:08 pm	29d 10h 17m
1240	Mar 21	1:23 pm	Mar 28	10:32 pm	Apr 6	12:34 am	Apr 13	5:11 am	29d 10h 49m
1241	Apr 20	12:12 am	Apr 27	5:19 pm	May 5	1:34 pm	May 12	10:28 am	29d 11h 41m
1242	May 19	11:53 am	May 27	11:22 am	Jun 3	11:41 pm	Jun 10	3:31 pm	29d 12h 44m
1243	Jun 18	12:37 am	Jun 26	3:49 am	Jul 3	7:38 am	Jul 9	9:47 pm	29d 13h 55m
1244	Jul 17	2:31 pm	Jul 25	6:06 pm	Aug 1	2:31 pm	Aug 8	6:28 am	29d 15h 06m
1245	Aug 16	5:38 am	Aug 24	5:57 am	Aug 30	9:35 pm	Sep 6	6:21 pm	29d 16h 02m
1246	Sep 14	9:39 pm	Sep 22	3:31 pm	Sep 29	5:57 am	Oct 6	9:47 am	29d 16h 15m
1247	Oct 14	1:55 pm	Oct 21	11:29 pm	Oct 28	4:24 pm	Nov 5	3:36 am	29d 15h 32m
1248	Nov 13	4:27 am	Nov 20	5:49 am	Nov 27	4:16 am	Dec 5	12:49 am	29d 14h 05m
1249	Dec 12	6:32 pm	Dec 19	1:39 pm	Dec 26	7:33 pm			29d 12h 25m

All times are local time for New York. Times is adjusted for DST when applicable.

Lunar Perigee & Apogee, 2024

The Lunar Perigee is when the Moon is closest to the Earth during its monthly orbit. The Lunar Apogee is when the Moon is furthest from Earth. Generally, the Moon looks about 14% larger and 30% brighter at its perigee compared to its apogee.

Closest Approach (Perigee)				Furthest Apart (Apogee)			
Date	Local Time	Distance In km	Distance In miles	Date	Local Time	Distance In km	Distance In miles
Jan 13	5:34 am	362,267 km	225,102 mi	Jan 1	10:28 am	404,909 km	251,599 mi
Feb 10	1:52 pm	358,088 km	222,506 mi	Jan 29	3:14 am	405,777 km	252,138 mi
Mar 10	3:04 am	356,895 km	221,764 mi	Feb 25	9:59 am	406,312 km	252,470 mi
Apr 7	1:50 pm	358,850 km	222,979 mi	Mar 23	11:45 am	406,294 km	252,460 mi
May 5	6:04 pm	363,163 km	225,659 mi	Apr 19	10:10 pm	405,623 km	252,043 mi
Jun 2	3:16 am	368,102 km	228,728 mi	May 17	2:58 pm	404,640 km	251,432 mi
Jun 27	7:30 am	369,286 km	229,464 mi	Jun 14	9:35 am	404,077 km	251,082 mi
Jul 24	1:41 am	364,917 km	226,749 mi	Jul 12	4:11 am	404,362 km	251,259 mi
Aug 21	1:02 am	360,196 km	223,815 mi	Aug 8	9:31 pm	405,297 km	251,840 mi
Sep 18	9:23 am	357,286 km	222,007 mi	Sep 5	10:53 am	406,211 km	252,408 mi
Oct 16	8:51 pm	357,175 km	221,938 mi	Oct 2	3:39 pm	406,516 km	252,597 mi
Nov 14	6:14 am	360,109 km	223,762 mi	Oct 29	6:50 pm	406,161 km	252,377 mi
Dec 12	8:20 am	365,361 km	227,025 mi	Nov 26	6:55 am	405,314 km	251,850 mi
* Distances are approximate. Closest Approach (Perigee) is highlighted.				Dec 24	2:24 am	404,485 km	251,335 mi
				* Distances are approximate. Furthest Apart (Apogee) is highlighted.			

Impact on Tides

- Tides are higher/lower during full or new moon (by about two inches).
- Tides are higher/lower when Moon is closer to Earth.

Sources

- Air Temperature:
<http://www.thither.com/nyc-packing-list>
- Bathymetry:
<https://maps.ngdc.noaa.gov/viewers/bathymetry/>
- Beaches:
<http://www.newyorkharborbeaches.org/main.htm>
- Boating Groups:
http://www.nycwatertrail.org/boating_groups.html
- CSOs:
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/cso-sewer-maps.htm>
<https://data.ny.gov/Energy-Environment/Combined-Sewer-Overflows-CSOs-Map/i8hd-rmbi/data>
- Current Tables:
<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaacurrents/Stations?q=458>
- Daylight:
<https://weatherspark.com/averages/30639/New-York-United-States>
- Eddies:
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eddy_\(fluid_dynamics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eddy_(fluid_dynamics))
- Events:
<http://www.iboatnyharbor.com/Harbor%20Events.htm>
- Ferry NYC Routes:
<https://www.ferry.nyc/routes-and-schedules/>
- Ferry Terminals:
<http://www.iboatnyharbor.com/Wakes-sensitive%20Areas.htm#FerryTerminals>
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Terminology

Names

- The *Hudson River* is also called the *North River*.
- The *Harbor* between the Narrows and the Battery is also called *Upper New York Bay*.
- The *Lower New York Bay* is on the ocean side of the Verrazano Narrows.
- The *Harlem River* is not a river. It is a tidal estuary.
- The *East River* is not a river. It is a tidal estuary.

Tides

- A *spring tide* occurs on a new moon or a full moon.
- A *neap tide* occurs halfway between a full and a new moon.
- A *rip tide* is not a tide. It is a current going out from a beach.
- A *flood tide* is coming in from the ocean.
- An *ebb tide* is flowing out to the ocean.
- A *slack tide* or *slack current* is when the tidal current is changing direction.
- In New York Harbor, *high tide* does not correspond to *slack current*.

Directions

- The *wind direction* is where wind is coming from.
- The *current direction* is where it is going to.

Distances and Speed

- One *nautical mile* equals 1.15 land-measured (or statute) miles.
- One *knot* equals one nautical mile per hour
- One *knot* equals 0.51 meters per second.
- A *fathom* is a nautical unit of measurement and is equal to six feet.

Nautical Depths

- *Mean low water* is the average low water over a tide cycle.
- *Mean high water* is the average high water over a tide cycle.
- *Mean range of tide* is difference in height between mean high water and mean low water.

Nautical Speeds

- Current *velocities* are for surface currents.
- Current *velocities* are for spring tides.

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