From: Ken McKinley <locuswx@midcoast.com>

Subject: email update 12/19

Date: December 19, 2021 at 11:08:32 AM EST

To: xxxxxxxx

Hello all -

NE winds will back to N through this afternoon as the tow continues east through the lower St. Lawrence River. Wind speeds will run in the 10-15 knot range in general. Waves will run 2-3 feet most of the time. Tonight winds will back to NNW and speeds will increase to 13-17 knots after midnight. Winds for entering the Straits of Honguedo tomorrow morning will be NNW at 17-21 knots, but will back to NW by midday and drop off a bit. Tomorrow afternoon as the tow heads south to the east of the Gaspe peninsula in the northwestern Gulf of St. Lawrence winds will back to SW and drop back to less than 10 knots. Seas in the Straits tomorrow morning will be running 3-5 feet, but will subside in the afternoon as the winds become lighter.

Through tomorrow night heading south to the east of Chaleur Bay and into the northern New Brunswick coastal waters winds will increase to 21-25 knots from the SW but seas in the nearshore waters will remain manageable, generally 3-4 feet. On Tuesday SW winds at 23-27 knots in the morning will veer to WNW and increase to 27-31 knots in the afternoon over the Northumberland Strait. Seas in the morning will be running 2-4 feet, but will build to 5-7 feet over the eastern portion of the Strait in the afternoon with the stronger winds and the wind direction lining up with the Strait. Winds will drop off quickly later Tuesday night allowing seas to subside, and very quiet conditions are likely Wednesday morning before winds begin to pick up from the SE Wednesday afternoon.

Conditions will be generally favorable to continue along the route today and tomorrow, morning into the western Gulf of St. Lawrence. It may be worth considering delaying moving into the Northumberland Strait and remaining in the lee of the New Brunswick coast on Tuesday to avoid the period of stronger WNW winds and higher seas later Tuesday. Such a delay would likely be no more than a half a day or so.

Call or email with any questions.

Ken

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