



# NOAA Tide Predictions Going All Digital in 2021

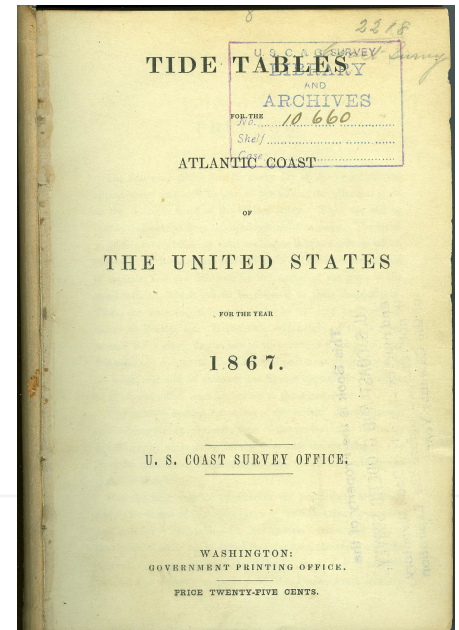
The last hard copy edition of NOAA's Tide Tables and Tidal Current Tables publications were issued in October 2019, providing predictions for the calendar year 2020. For 2021 and beyond, predictions will be available digitally via the CO-OPS Tides & Currents website (<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov>). The change allows us to modernize this long-standing product by bringing it into the digital age, providing greater accessibility and an improved product to all stakeholders.

**Tide Predictions:** [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide\\_predictions.html](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/tide_predictions.html))

**Tidal Current Predictions:** <https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaacurrents/Regions>

## History of NOAA's Tide and Tidal Current Predictions

CO-OPS and its predecessor agencies have produced and distributed predictions of high and low tides at ports along the U.S. coastline since 1867, and times/speeds of tidal currents since 1920. These predictions are produced in the form of six annual publications that cover discrete domestic and international regions, and were required by mariners to meet the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) requirements for 33 CFR 164.33 Charts and Publications and 46 CFR 28.225 Navigational Information. These publications have been printed and distributed by licensed commercial publishers, a practice started in 1996 to eliminate costly printing and distribution costs by the government.



## Benefits of Going Digital

Since 2008, CO-OPS has been able to provide more accurate, up-to-date, and location-specific tide and tidal current predictions via its website than can be provided in the printed documents. In consultation with CO-OPS, the USCG has recently updated its interpretation of its CFR requirements to accept digital tide and current predictions from the CO-OPS website to be used by mariners to meet carriage requirements. This follows similar updates that allow Electronic Navigational Charts to be used in lieu of paper charts, and electronic copies of Coast Pilot and other navigational publications to be used instead of printed copies. All of our tide and current predictions are available for free online. Users can generate predictions and save predictions in traditional formats that can be saved as pdfs and easily printed out if so desired.

## International Tide Predictions

Historically, foreign agencies provided international tide and tidal current predictions to NOAA every year for inclusion in the printed tables. These international predictions - apart from some Caribbean, Central American, and Pacific Island locations - will not be available through digital NOAA products or services after this change, though users may still get this data directly from the country of origin. The U.S. predictions on our website are generated from harmonic constants, and foreign agencies do not supply us with those underlying constants - only the predictions themselves. For questions or more information on how to access international predictions please contact us at [Tide.Predictions@noaa.gov](mailto:Tide.Predictions@noaa.gov).

**Directing users to our online predictions ensures they are using the best information NOAA can provide to keep them safe and informed while out on the water!**