

Nautical Knowhow - 040321

Sample Route Planning

The following slides illustrate how I would plan a *hypothetical* rendezvous of the Boston and Hull rowing groups on Spectacle Island for Tomorrow. This process, or similar, is how trained coxswains should plan a rowing session or event.

- I used the windalert.com web site for wind and temperature info. I typically consult several other sites for confirming information.
- I used the usharbors.com web site for tide information

In a note I would send to the club, I would point out:

- We will be leaving at non standard times, Hull leaving later than normal and Boston leaving earlier than normal at a compromise time of 0900.
- The trip will be longer than usual at 3 hours. Be sure to be on time for departure or all of the times and planning will be off with a negative impact on the trip and everyone's plans for the rest of the day.
- It is going to be cold (mid 30s), so bring plenty of warm clothes and consider that on the island it may get chilly after sweating on the trip out.
- Bring plenty of food and water, we will have a picnic on the island with food you bring.
- There are restrooms on the island.
- I have contacted the island to let them know we are coming because it is out of season.

Wind Alert Logan Airport

3 hour event window

Logan Airport

		Sat, 3 Apr																					
Hour		1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	12PM	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM
Wind (mph)		12	12	11	10	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	10	10	10	9	8	8	7	6	5	5	5
		↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘	↘
Gust		16	16	14	13	11	13	14	16	16	15	15	14	13	13	13	13	13	12	11	10	10	10
Sky		☁	☁	☁	☁	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀	☀
°F		32	31	30	30	30	30	31	31	33	35	37	38	40	41	42	43	44	43	43	43	42	42

Summary

Wind speed 11 steady, Gusts to 15 mph

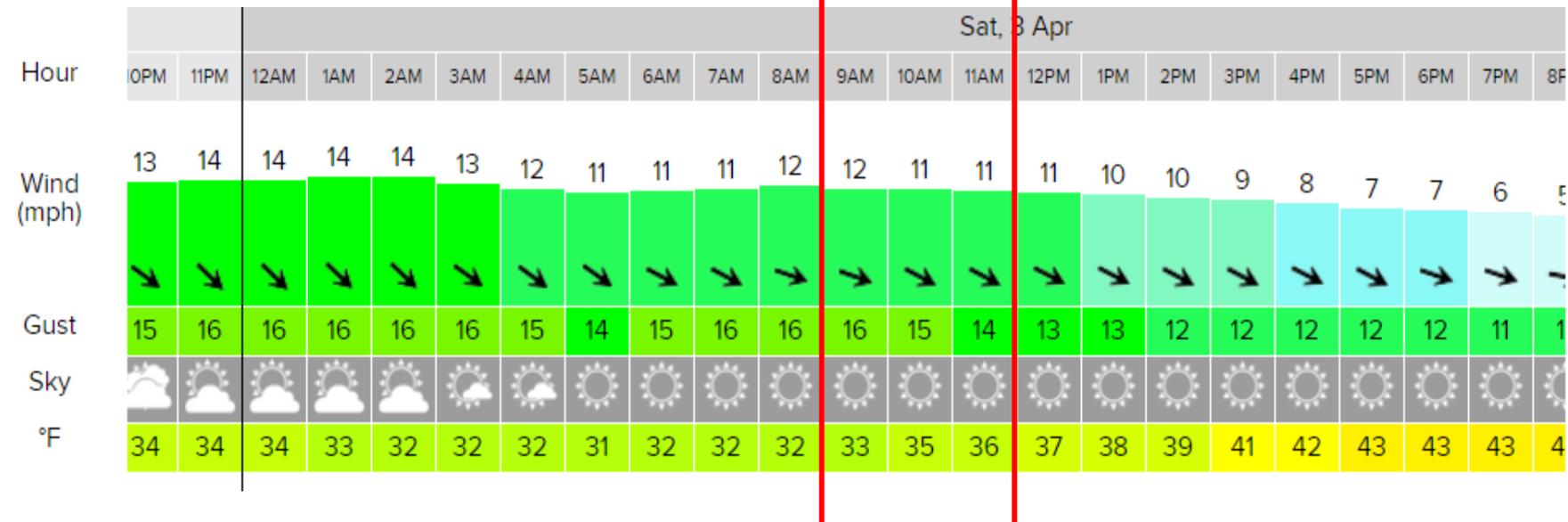
From WNW (Appx from the "L" Street Boathouse to the Spectacle Pier)

Temp 33 – 37 deg F

Wind Alert Hull Yach Club

3 hour event window

Hull Yacht Club

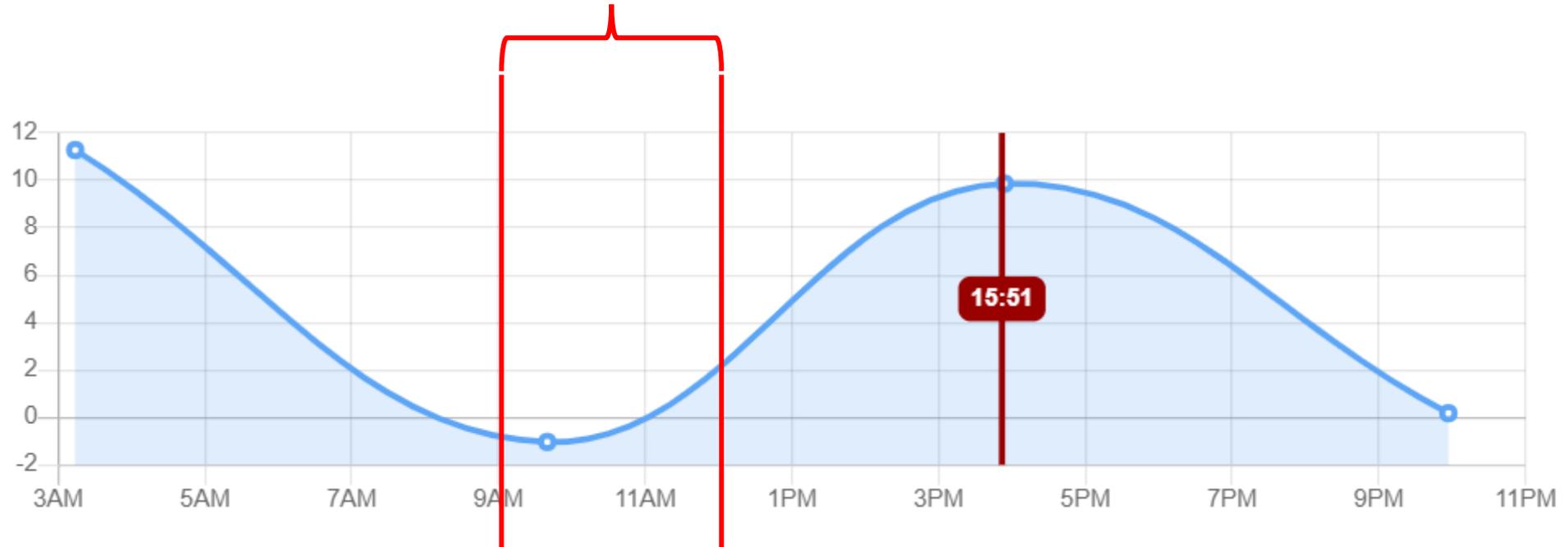


Summary

Wind speed 12 steady, Gusts to 16 mph
From WNW (Appx from Long Island to Hull Gut
Temp 33 – 37 deg F

Tides Boston Harbor 4/3/21

3 hour event window



Summary

- Tidal current will be negligible on the trip to Spectacle Island for Boston and Hull Rowers.
- On the return trip the tidal current will be negligible for Boston Rowers. For Hull rowers, by the time they pass Rainsford Island on the return they will have a slight left to right flooding current and when they get to Hull Gut, the current will give them a push.



- Red is route for trip out from both Boston and Hull and for the return trip to Boston.
- Orange is for the trip to Hull
- Blue arrows are for wind from the respective Logan and Hull wind stations.
- Green arrows are for current on return trip to Hull

Trip Plan

Overview: Boston and Hull rowers depart at 0900 and rendezvous on the beach at Spectacle Island (SI) at 1000. The group spends one hour on the island having lunch at the top of the north drumlin, exploring the island and the visitor center. Rowers depart at 1100 back to Boston and Hull.

From Boston: It is a 4 mile trip to the island. Wind and current will be negligible until they clear Castle Island (CI). From CI to Spectacle Island the WNW wind will be favorable coming from the starboard quarter. Because it will be low tide, leave mark 5A to starboard and then head straight to the dock at SI. Pass day marker 5 on either side. Upon arrival at SI, row to the south side of the pier and pull up on the beach in the lee of the pier.

From Hull: Upon Clearing Hull Gut, the wind will be approximately on the bow. The coxswain will determine the route from here. If the going is difficult, head straight for Long Island (LI) until approximately 50 yards from shore to stay in the lee heading southwest. Cut between the beach and the red number 4 but watch the water depth in this area. At SW end of LI turn and head to the Pier on Spectacle Island. Leave mark 8A to starboard at Sculpin Ledge. At SI, pull in to the beach in the lee of the pier.

SI beach: Pull boats up so that 2 vertical feet of water may rise without reaching the boats, deploy an anchor 50' up the beach and set it into the sand securely.

Back to Boston: The WNW wind should have decreased slightly, but it will be on the port bow so, extra effort will be needed for the first mile until under the lee of CI. Observe the same mark roundings as the trip out.

Back to Hull: It will be down wind all the way, so follow the shortest route. Pass between the shore rocks on Rainsford Island and Quarantine rocks. Expect a little left to right current until Hull Gut and then a following current through the gut. Observe the same mark roundings as on the way out.

Note: In the google maps slide, I show the landing at SI to the north of the pier, it should be to the south side for the better leeward protection