

RECORDING TIDES

KYKD airs the Bethel sunrise and sunset data and tide predictions from three locations in our listening area in conjunction with the news, weather, and weekly verse at the beginning of an hour about nine times per day.

Three files are needed for each day:

1. Tides-M file for use during mornings between 6:00 a.m. and noon.
2. Tides-A file for use during afternoons between noon and 6:00 p.m.
3. Tides-E file for use during evenings between 6:00 p.m. and midnight.

Currently, these files named with a –M, –A, and –E for morning, afternoon, and evening respectively will be used during these broadcast windows between the two times indicated:

FILE	MONDAY	TUES-FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Tides-M	6:08 a.m. 9:10 a.m.	6:08 a.m. 9:10 a.m.	6:08 a.m. 10:10 a.m.	6:07 a.m. 9:10 a.m.
Tides-A	1:08 p.m. 4:10 p.m.	1:08 p.m. 4:10 p.m.	1:08 p.m. 2:10 p.m.	2:08 p.m. 4:10 p.m.
Tides-E	9:07 p.m. 9:09 p.m.	6:08 p.m. 9:09 p.m.	8:08 p.m. 9:10 p.m.	6:08 p.m. 10:10 p.m.

The most challenging aspect of making these recordings is keeping a time awareness of the broadcast window so that what you say makes sense in light of the time or times it will be broadcast. Our natural tendency is for our recordings to make sense when we record, which is in fact, irrelevant.

After the brief greeting, the first element of the recording is the sunlight data for Bethel. Annually the data is compiled for the year from astronomic calculations and listed in a spread sheet on the Admin computer, J: \Tides\Bethel Daylight.

You may wish to transcribe that data to a working script. If the sunrise is after the broadcast window for the file you are creating, use “The sun will rise this morning in Bethel at . . .”. If the sunrise is during the broadcast window, it is best not to use a verb at all, but simply say, “Sunrise this morning in Bethel, . . .”. If the sunrise is before the broadcast window say, “The sun rose this morning in Bethel at . . .”. Apply the same principal to announcing the sunset – future tense for a time after the window, no verb during the window, and past tense for a time before the window.

The total daylight hours should be similarly announced, e.g., “That will give us ____ hours and . . .” for a sunset after the window, “Giving us _____ hours and . . .” for a sunset during the window, and “That gave us ____ hours and . . .” for a sunset prior to the window.

We will want to announce three predicted tides for each of the three locations, beginning each time with the first tide occurring in or after the broadcast window. If there is no tide during the window, simply announce something like, “ The next high tide at Bethel will be at . . .”. If that first tide is within the window, that means that the file you record will be played both before and after the time of the tide, so you can’t use verbs such as “was” or “will be”. In that case say something like, “The tide tables for Quinhagak show a low tide at . . . “

Please note that there are no tides published by NOAA specifically at Togiak. Local mariners use different tide tables from several nearby areas. We will use the published tables for Black Rock Island in the Walrus Islands group and identify them as such by saying, “The tides for Togiak at Black Rock . . .” or words to that effect.

Unlike some recordings used on KYKD, the tides files do NOT need to be a specific length. In the automation log they are always followed by an “auto-start” event, usually the play of a music file that will begin automatically when the tide file completes, regardless of file length.

Files will need to be edited and normalized to achieve a useable amplitude. If using Adobe Audition the tide files should be edited and hard limited to .015% clipping, + or - .005% just as we do other voice files. Tides are played without a music bed.

Save the files to the J: \Tides folder on the Admin computer. That can be done directly from the Production computer or, if producing the file remotely, sent via FTP to that folder. The three files for the day should be named with the two-digit month and two-digit day, then the word Tides, and the suffix indicating morning, afternoon, or evening, all separated by dashes. In example, 05-26-Tides-M, 05-26-Tides-A, and 05-26-Tides-E. After midnight each day the files for the new day are automatically saved to the On-Air computer E: drive with the names “Tides-M,” “Tides-A,” and “Tides-E,” overwriting the previous day’s files.