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NOAA tide station pages displaying incorrect times due to daylight savings issue

March 13, 2026 — Developers of the tide web app Tide Tracker (<https://tidetracker.io>) have identified a time error on official tide pages published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

While testing Tide Tracker, the developers noticed that predicted high- and low-tide times displayed in their app differed by exactly one hour from those shown on the NOAA station page for the San Francisco Tide Station.

(<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/stationhome.html?id=9414290>)

For March 12, Tide Tracker displayed a predicted high tide of 5.0 feet at 6:21 a.m., while the NOAA station page listed the same tide event at 5:21 a.m.

The team initially suspected a daylight-saving-time error in their own code. After extensive testing and code review failed to identify a problem, the developers contacted NOAA's Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) to investigate.

In response, NOAA staff confirmed that the discrepancy is due to an issue affecting the official NOAA station pages themselves.

“Our IT staff is aware of this issue with the station home page. I cannot provide any guidance as to when this may be resolved or corrected.”

The NOAA tide predictions available through the agency's data APIs—the source used by Tide Tracker and many other marine applications—appear to be correct. The issue appears limited to how NOAA's station pages display the times, which currently do not adjust for daylight saving time.

NOAA's tide and current data are widely used by sailors, commercial mariners, harbor operators, fishermen, coastal planners, and recreational boaters throughout the US. Discrepancies in timing can matter when navigating shallow waters, entering harbors, or planning vessel movements.

“Like essentially all tide apps, we rely heavily on NOAA data,” said Tide Tracker's lead designer, Louis Benainous. “Our first assumption was that we had introduced a bug. It took quite a bit of investigation before we realized the discrepancy was coming from the station page itself.”

The discovery underscores a long-standing principle of seamanship:

“The prudent mariner will not rely solely on any single aid to navigation.”

Tide Tracker is a free web application designed to present NOAA tide data in a simplified format that shows predicted tides, observed water levels where available, and the current tide level (“Tide Now”) at thousands of U.S. tide stations.

The web app is available at <https://tidetracker.io>