1. Do you live near a body of water?

Yes. Living in Charleston, on the Atlantic Ocean, there are plenty of nearby beaches and waterways to access year round. It's a great place to live.

2. Do you enjoy spending time on the water?

Absolutely! I didn't grow up on the water, so it's nice to be so close to it now. My wife and I just purchased a boat, which we spend as much time on as possible. We try to go to the beach as much as possible on the weekends even into the fall months. It's warm here year round, so there is always an excuse to be near the water.

3. What water based activities do you participate in?

Mainly boating or fishing, occasionally kayaking, and obviously swimming. Again, with our new boat we are able to go out on the water for even short periods of time just to ride around, so that's mainly what I do when I'm on the water.

4. Where do you usually get your weather forecasts from?

NOAA, Weather Channel, MyRadar, Tide Alert

5. Which weather app do you use the most and why?

MyRadar because the information comes from the NOAA, so I know it will be accurate.

6. Is there a feature or features, within one of the weather apps, that you find most helpful when planning your time on the water?

Future forecasts and future radar graphs. I just want to make sure no storms or any bad weather are on the way. It takes a lot of work to get everything ready to go out on the boat, so it would pretty annoying to get out on the water and have to turn around. Same with going to the beach. There's always a chance of rain in Charleston, so it's good to be prepared before making a trip anywhere.

7. How often do you check the weather?

Every day. Multiple times a day depending on what I'm doing, but it's usually one of the first things I check in the morning. It's obviously important to know what the temperature and weather conditions are going to be like so you can prepare.

8. Do you check the weather before planning your time on the water?

Yes, it's just about the most important thing. Bad weather can ruin your day, especially if you're planning for a whole day at the beach or a day of fishing.

9. Do you check the weather while you're on the water? If so, why?

Yes, to make sure nothing is changing. Rain comes out of nowhere sometimes, especially when you're moving from place to place. Even clouds can make time on the water not as enjoyable, so I like to check weather conditions frequently.

10. Would weather alerts help you plan your time on the water or do you prefer to check weather apps for updates?

I think if something major was happening, an alert would be helpful so that I could act quickly. Otherwise, I like to check my weather apps and see how tides are changing and check future forecasts.

11. Would you be interested in being able to chat with other people in your area via a weather app to see how the weather or water is wherever they are?

Possibly. It depends on the credibility of who I'm talking to. I wouldn't want to chat just to chat, but if we could share important information I guess that would be helpful.

12. What type of weather or water information is important to you when planning for your time on the water? Or what information do you hope to get from the app(s) you use?

Chance of rain, lightning strikes in the area, wind speeds, length of bad weather, location of storms. All of that is important to know before going out on the water, especially on the boat or going fishing.

13. Would it be helpful to know where nearby boat landings are? Why or why not?

Yes, I think it would be helpful for planning and emergencies. This would be most helpful if you weren't familiar with the area. If you got off course or something happened and you needed to get to land quickly, it would be good to know this information.

14. Do you find weather forecasts or technical weather terms confusing?

No, weather apps are pretty easy to understand these days - at least the basic, important information.

15. In what format do you prefer to get your weather conditions?

Every way. It's important to check all the details, not just one thing, so you know you're getting the most accurate information.Graphs, Maps, and hourly conditions are all useful.

16. What about an app makes it trustworthy or dependable to you?

Accuracy

18. Would you find it helpful if suggestions were offered within the app? Such as how long you should plan to spend on the water before weather gets bad? Or are there other possible suggestions that might be helpful when planning your time on the water?

Yes, definitely. Direction of storm travel, duration, wind direction and speed, wave speed and frequency, tide charts, sunrise/sunset times, and traffic at boat ramp would all be super helpful to know before getting on the water.