

Potential Winter Storm Friday Night Into Saturday Night

National Weather Service
Decision Support Briefing # 2
Wednesday, January 26, 2022 3:22 AM





Winter Weather Related Hazards



What Has Changed?

- ✓ Increased confidence in an impactful storm

Main Points

Hazard		Impacts	Location	Timing
Damaging Winds		Possible power outages	Greatest risk across eastern MA and RI	Friday night into Saturday
Coastal Flooding		Minor coastal flooding. Localized moderate coastal flooding possible	Greatest risk is along the eastern MA coast, and north-facing shores, like Nantucket Harbor.	Saturday
Heavy Snow		Visibility possibly lowering to less than a quarter mile at times	Greatest risk across eastern MA into RI and portions of eastern CT	Friday night into Saturday night
Marine		Rough seas, with winds up to Storm Force possible	All areas, but greatest risk across the eastern offshore waters	Friday night into Saturday

Summary of Greatest Impacts



Winds: All areas with greatest risk RI & southeast MA

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
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Coastal Flooding: Most likely along the east coast of MA

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
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Snow: All areas with greatest risk eastern MA and RI

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme
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Potential Winter Storm: late Friday Night – Saturday night

High confidence in a coastal storm near southern New England

Lower confidence in the exact track

Does it track near the coast or farther offshore?

Potential impacts:

Heavy snow, blowing and drifting

Minor to moderate coastal flooding

Strong northeast winds to 50 MPH - perhaps 60+ MPH near Cape Cod

Possible power outages

Dangerous conditions for mariners - seas 25-30 feet offshore

Potential Winter Storm: Late Friday Night – Saturday night

High confidence in a coastal storm, lower confidence in exact track

Track Closer to Coast:

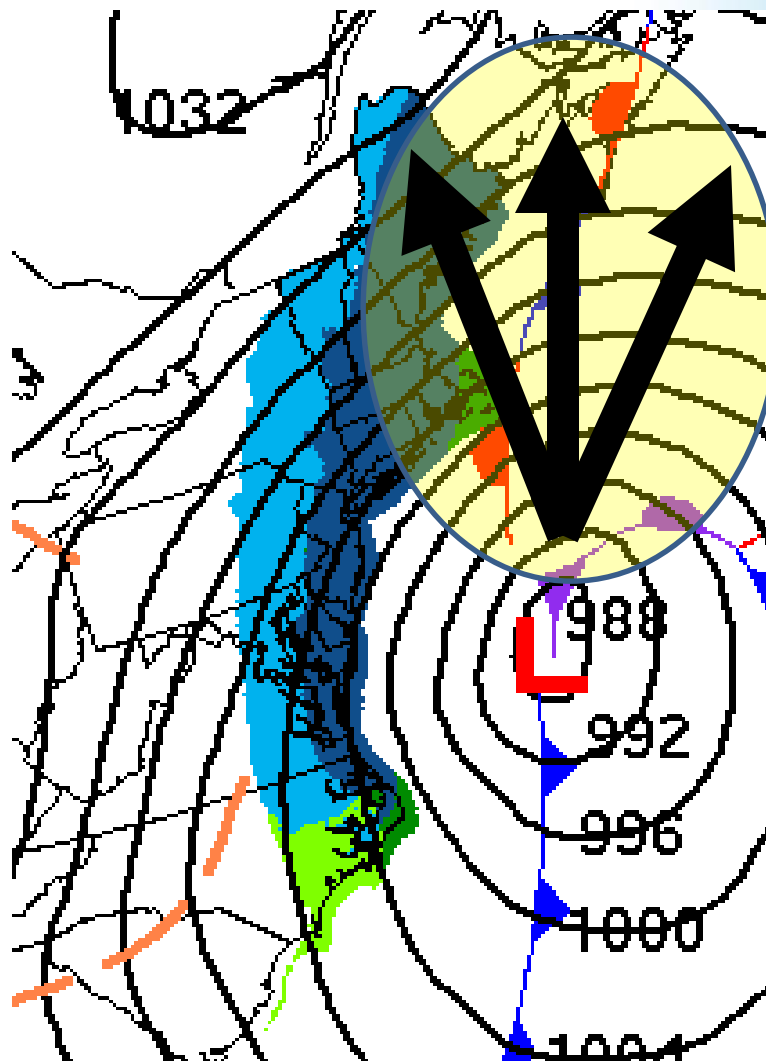
Heaviest snow inland,
rain/snow issues near coast

Offshore Track:

Heaviest snow near coast,
less snow inland

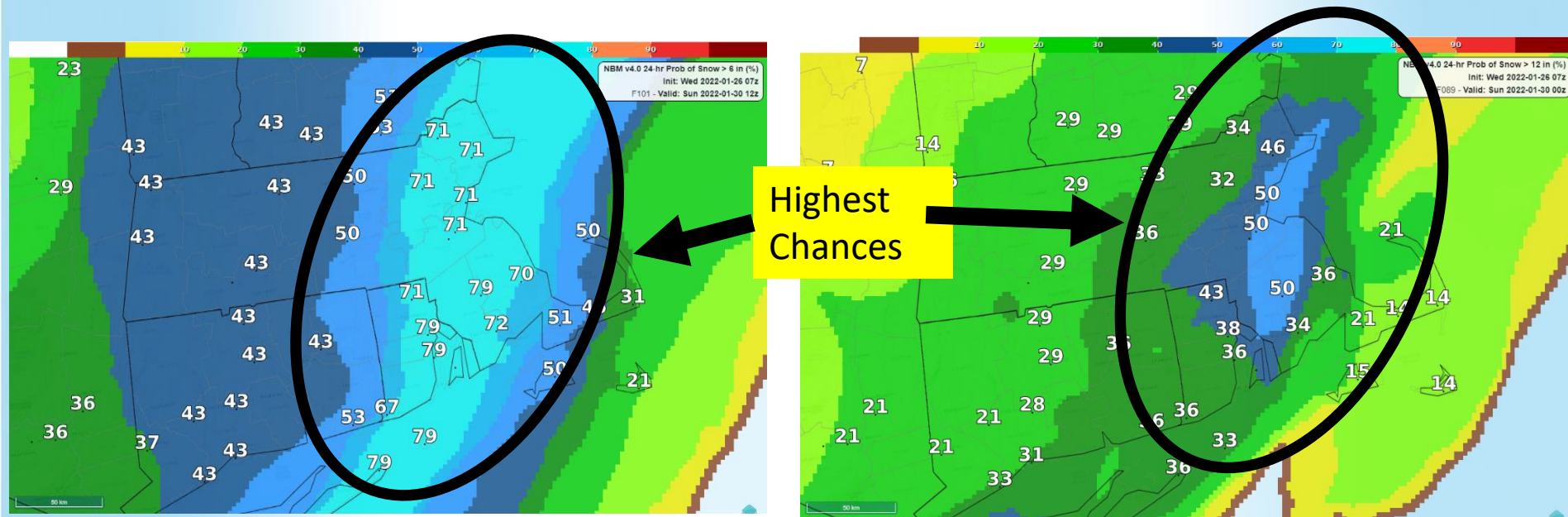
Timing:

Late Friday night – Saturday
night



7 AM Saturday
Weather Map

Potential Winter Storm: Late Friday Night – Saturday night

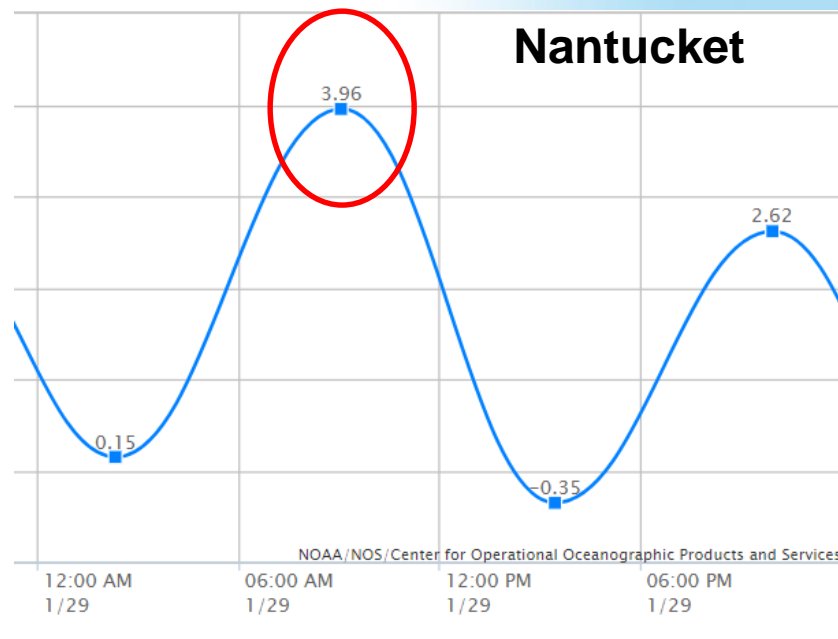
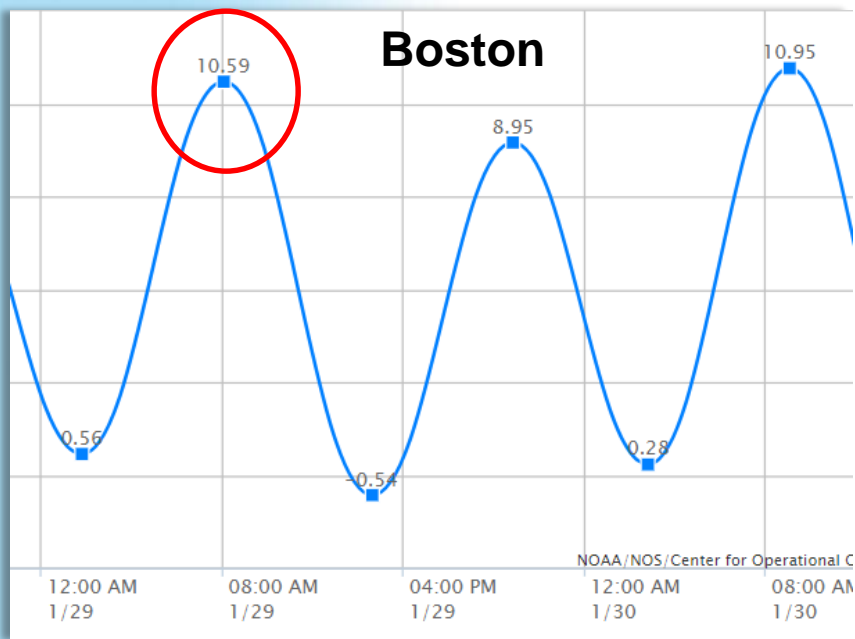


Chance of 6" or more of snow

Chance of 12" or more of snow

Timing: Late Friday night into Saturday night

Minor to Moderate Coastal Flooding Sat AM: Eastern MA Coast



- Vulnerable shore roads temporarily impassable around high tide
- Less than 1 foot of inundation (above ground level)
- Minor beach erosion

Saturday AM high tide:

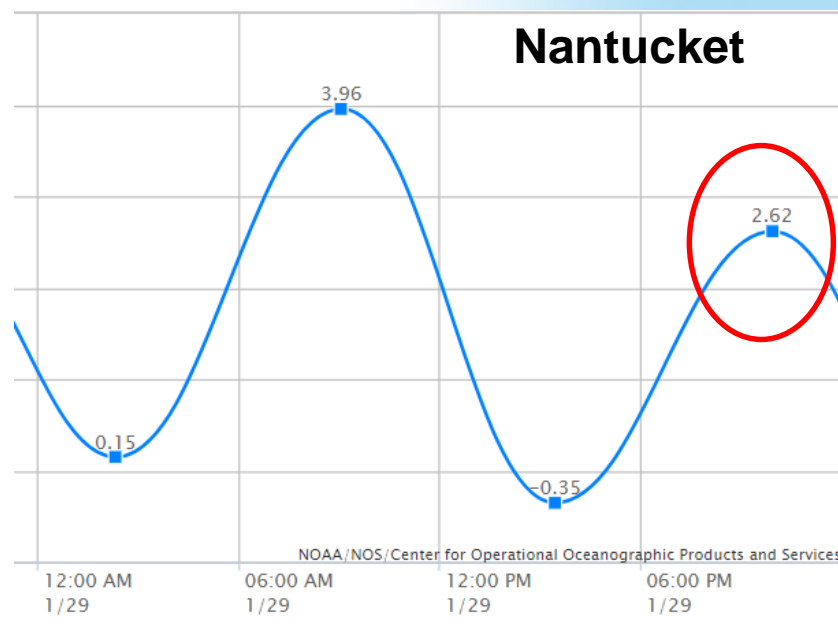
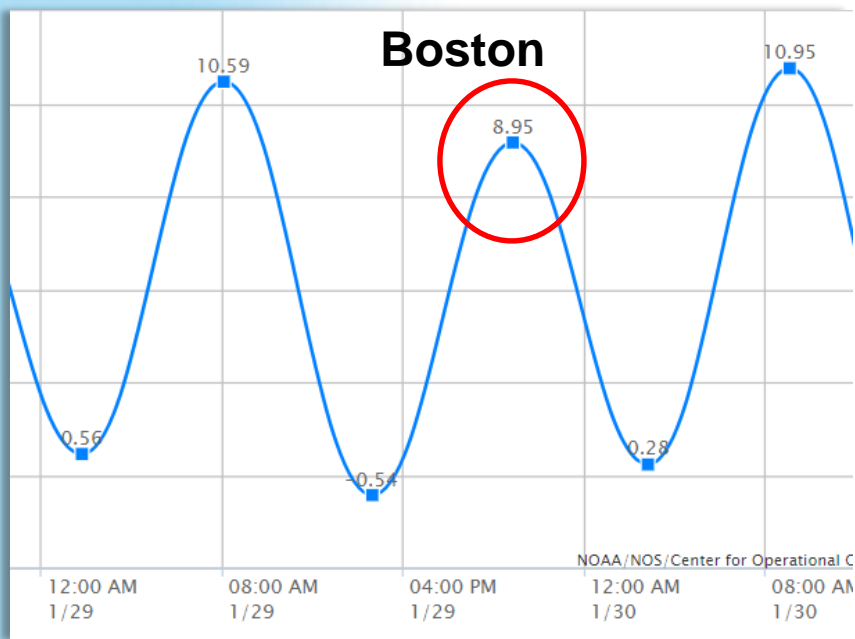
Minor Flooding Possible

Surge: 1-2 ft

Seas: 20 ft

Wind: NE 20-30 with gusts to 40 mph

Minor to Moderate Coastal Flooding Sat PM: Eastern MA Coast



- Vulnerable shore roads impassable around high tide, some debris on roads
- 1 to 2 feet of inundation possible
- Significant beach erosion
- Residual minor flooding/splashover Sunday morning (Cape Cod Bay)

Saturday PM high tide:

Minor-Moderate Flooding Possible

Surge: 2-3 ft

Seas: 25-30 ft

Wind: NE 30-40 with gusts to 50-60 mph

Concerns for Mariners

Wind:

- Increasing NE winds late Friday night/Saturday
- Reach Gale force Saturday morning
- Peak 50-55 kt Saturday afternoon/night
- Shift to NW Saturday afternoon then fall below Gale early Sunday morning

Seas:

- Build steadily Saturday
- Peak 25-30 ft offshore Saturday afternoon/night, 5-10 ft on bays and sounds
- Lowest visibility in rain/snow Saturday

Localized rogue waves offshore could exceed 40 feet



Threat Event Summary

✓ **Confidence**: high confidence a storm will develop, low confidence on precise track

✓  Strong northeast winds to 50 MPH - maybe 60+ MPH? (Saturday)



Minor to moderate coastal flooding (especially Saturday evening)



Heavy snow (Late Friday night-Saturday night)



Dangerous conditions for mariners - seas 25-30 feet offshore (Saturday)

✓ **Where:** All of Southern New England (MA, RI & CT)

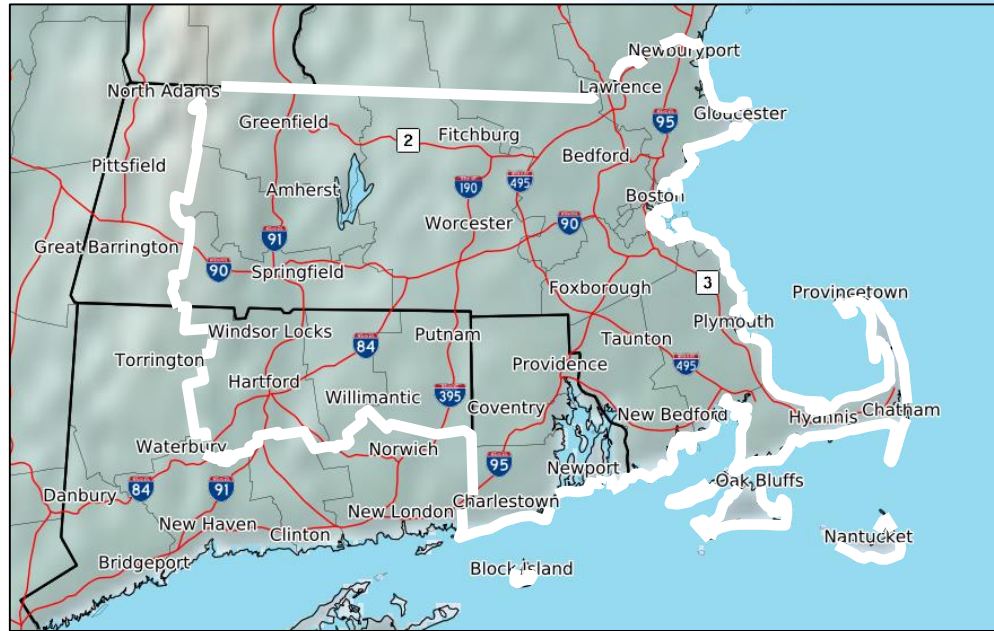
✓ **When:** Late Friday night into Saturday night

Contact and Next Briefing Information

Next Briefing

When: 6 PM, Wednesday, January 26th

Method: via email



www.weather.gov/boston



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