

Winter Storm Friday Night Through Saturday Night

National Weather Service

Decision Support Briefing # 5

Thursday, January 27, 2022 3:40 PM

What Has Changed?

- ✓ Winter Storm Watch expanded across all SNE, except for the Berkshires
- ✓ Snowfall amounts increased, especially across SE MA

Hazards





Winter Weather Hazards



Marine / Coastal Hazards







Wind Related Hazards



Flooding Hazards



Main Points

| Hazard | | Impacts | Location | Timing |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| Damaging Winds |  | Power outages likely | Greatest risk across eastern MA, particularly for Cape Cod and Islands | Saturday, especially afternoon and evening |
| Coastal Flooding |  | Minor coastal flooding. Pockets of moderate coastal flooding possible | Greatest risk is along the eastern MA coast, and north-facing shores, like Nantucket Harbor and Cape Cod from Sandwich to Dennis. | Saturday, especially during the evening high tide |
| Heavy Snow |  | Hazardous travel conditions with visibility less than one quarter mile at times | Greatest risk across eastern MA into RI | Saturday into Saturday evening |
| Marine |  | Rough seas and Storm Force winds | All areas, but greatest risk across the eastern offshore waters | Late Friday night through Saturday Night |

Summary of Greatest Impacts



Winds: All areas, with greatest risk RI and southeast MA

| | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|
| None | Limited | Elevated | Significant | Extreme |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|



Coastal Flooding: Most likely along the east coast of MA

| | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|
| None | Limited | Elevated | Significant | Extreme |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|



Snow: All areas, with greatest risk eastern MA and RI

| | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|
| None | Limited | Elevated | Significant | Extreme |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|



Marine: All coastal waters

| | | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|
| None | Limited | Elevated | Significant | Extreme |
|------|---------|----------|-------------|---------|



Winter Storm: late Friday Night – Saturday night

High confidence in a strong coastal storm near southern New England

Still some uncertainty with exact track

- But increasing confidence of significant snow/wind across eastern MA/Rhode Island with lower confidence farther inland

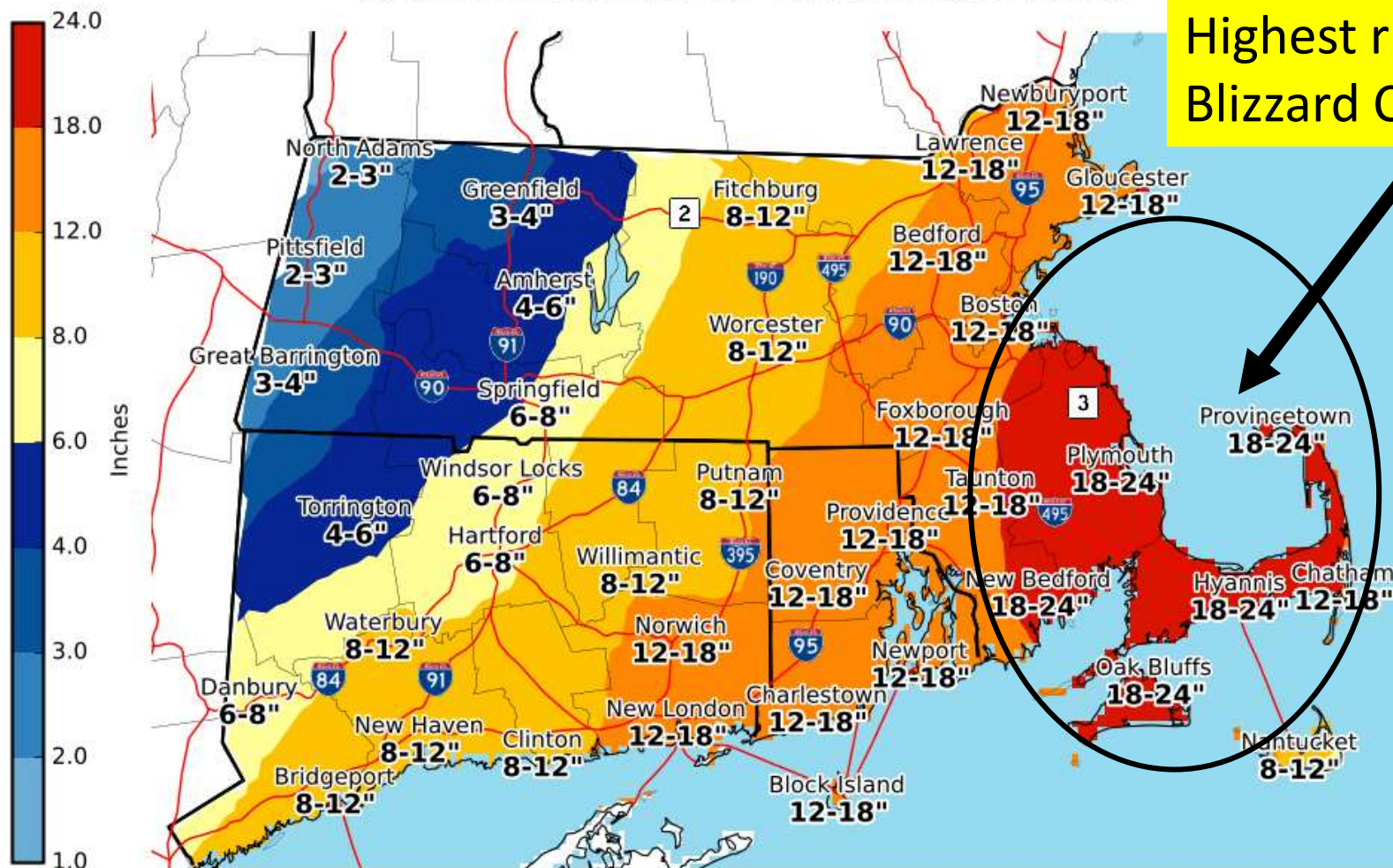
Impacts:

- Significant snowfall, blowing and drifting
- Near blizzard conditions from SE MA to Cape Cod
- Minor to moderate coastal flooding
- Strong N/NE winds to 40-50 MPH....60-70 MPH over Cape Cod
- Power outages likely, especially over the Cape/Islands
- Dangerous conditions for mariners - seas 25-30 feet offshore

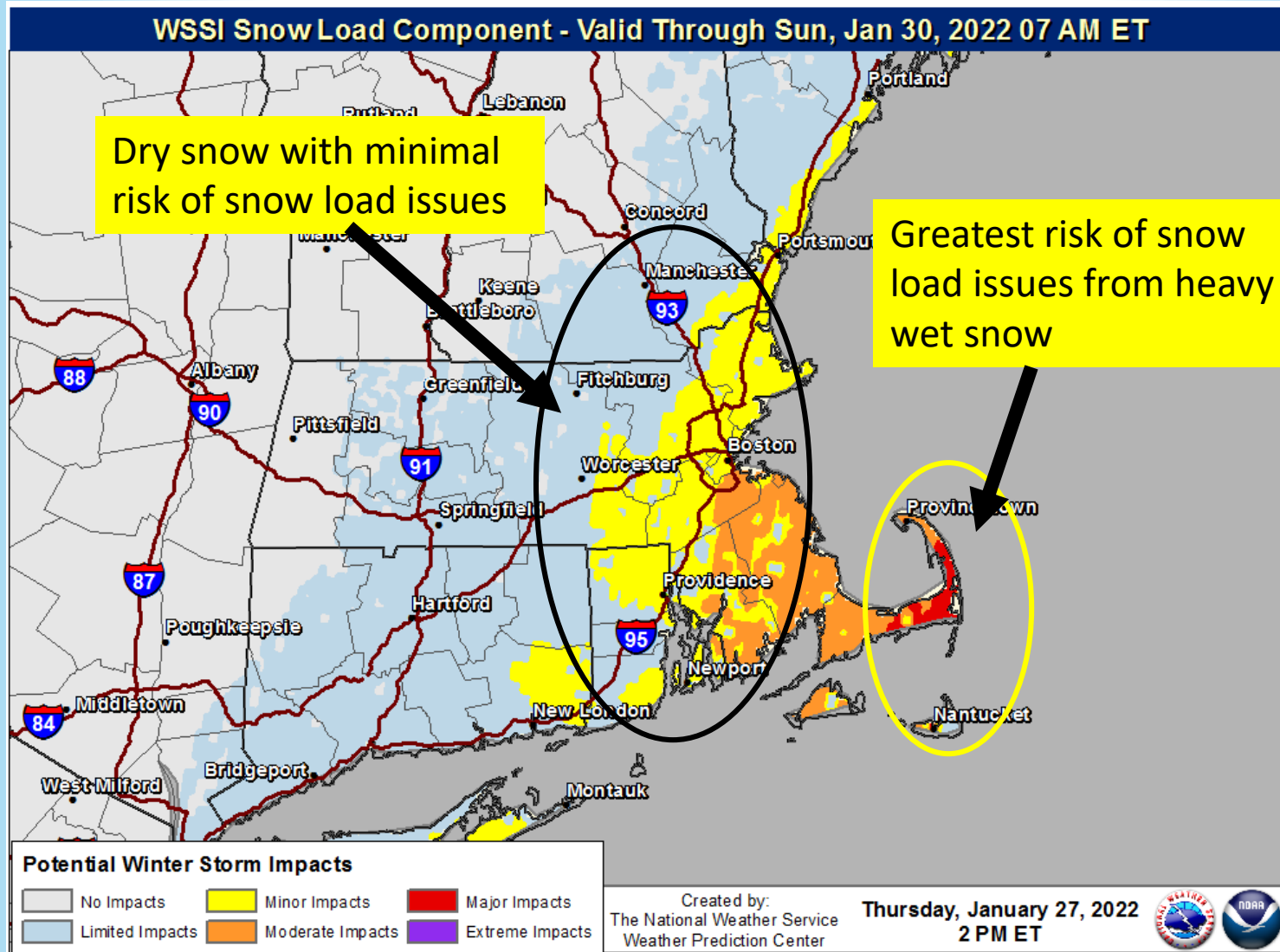
Forecast Storm Total Snowfall

Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast

Valid: 01/28/2022 07:00 PM - 01/30/2022 07:00 AM EST



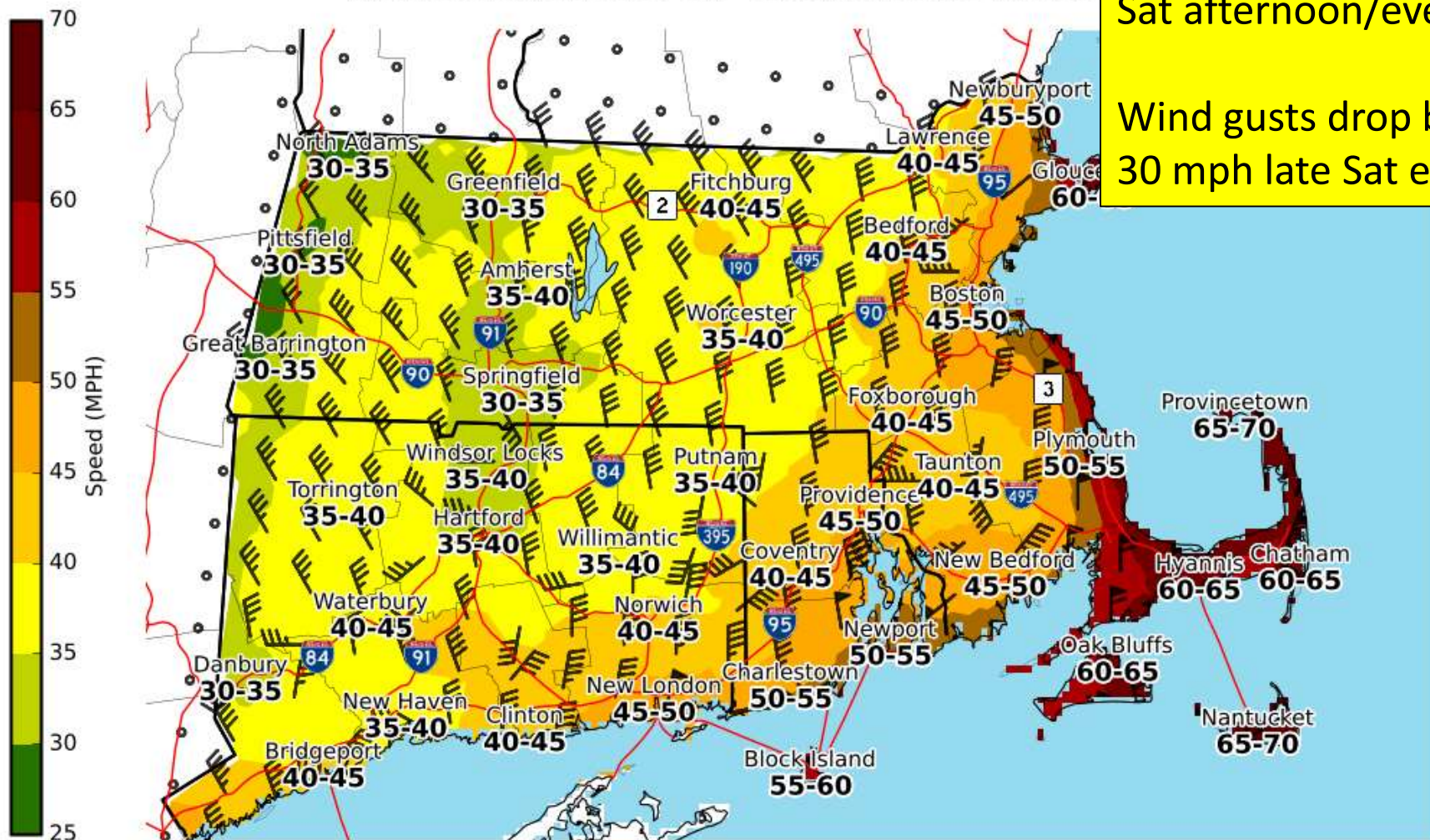
Snow Load Impact Late Friday Night – Saturday night



Forecast Maximum Wind Gusts

Max Wind Gusts (MPH)

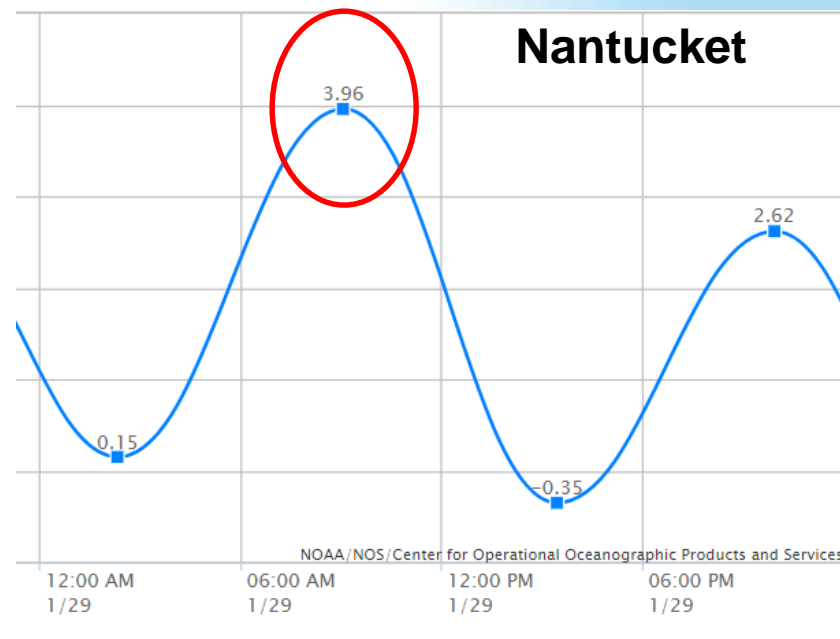
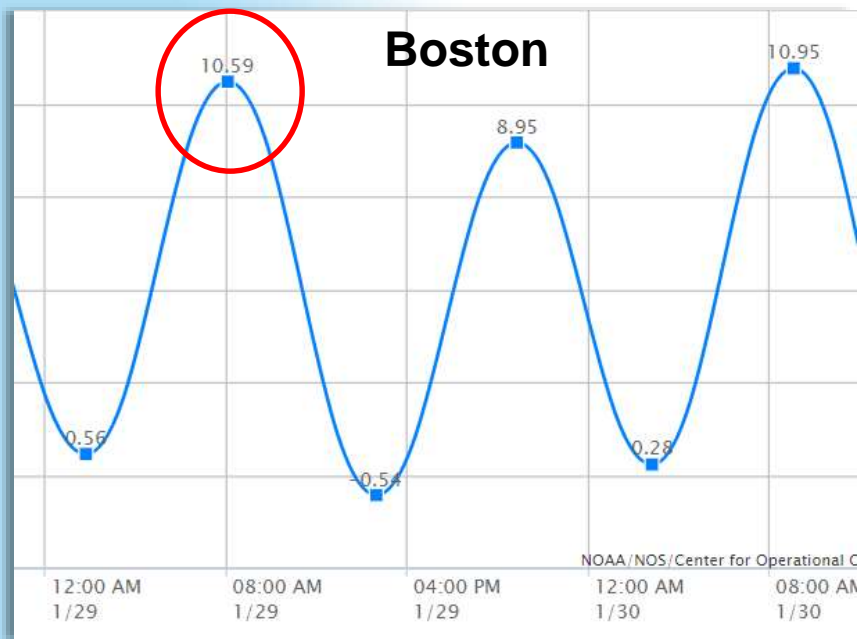
Valid: 01/28/2022 07:00 PM - 01/30/2022 01:00 AM EST



Peak of the Wind
Sat afternoon/evening

Wind gusts drop below
30 mph late Sat evening

Sat AM: Minor Coastal Flooding: Eastern MA Coast



Saturday AM high tide:

Minor Flooding Possible

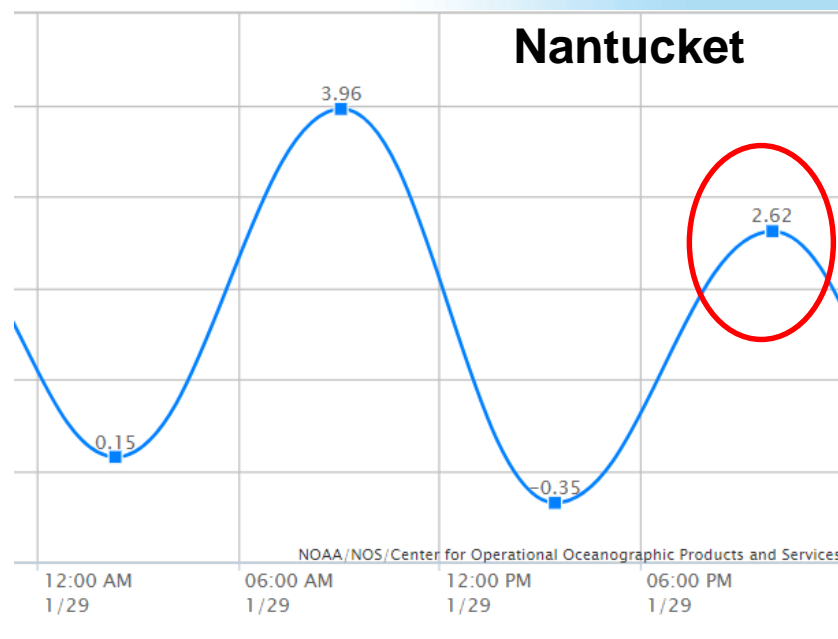
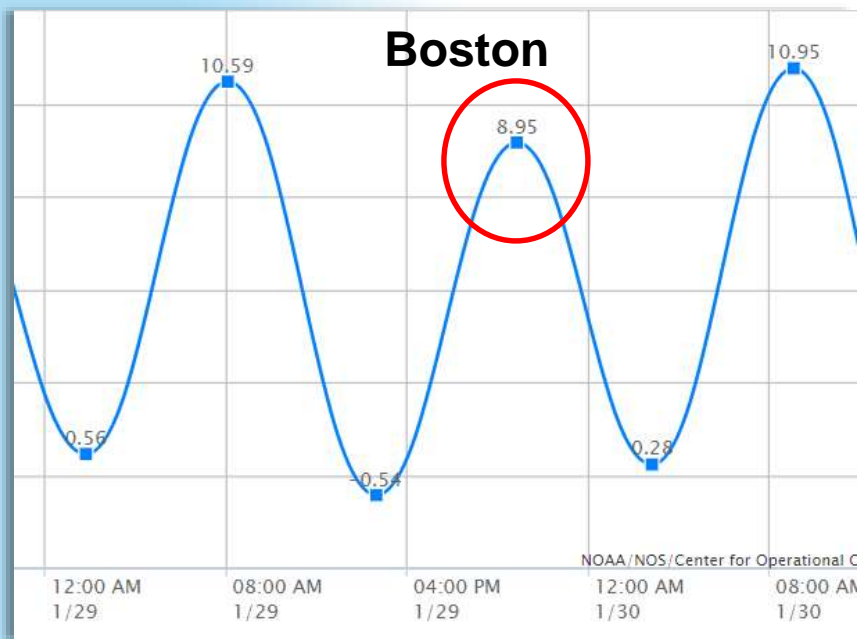
Surge: 1-2 ft

Seas: 10-15 ft

Wind: NE 20-30 with gusts to 45 mph

- Less than 1 foot of inundation (above ground level)
- Minor beach erosion

Sat PM: Minor to Moderate Coastal Flooding: Eastern MA Coast



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

Saturday PM high tide:

Minor-Moderate Flooding Possible

Surge: 2-3 ft, up to 4 ft Cape Cod Bay

Seas: 25-30 ft offshore

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

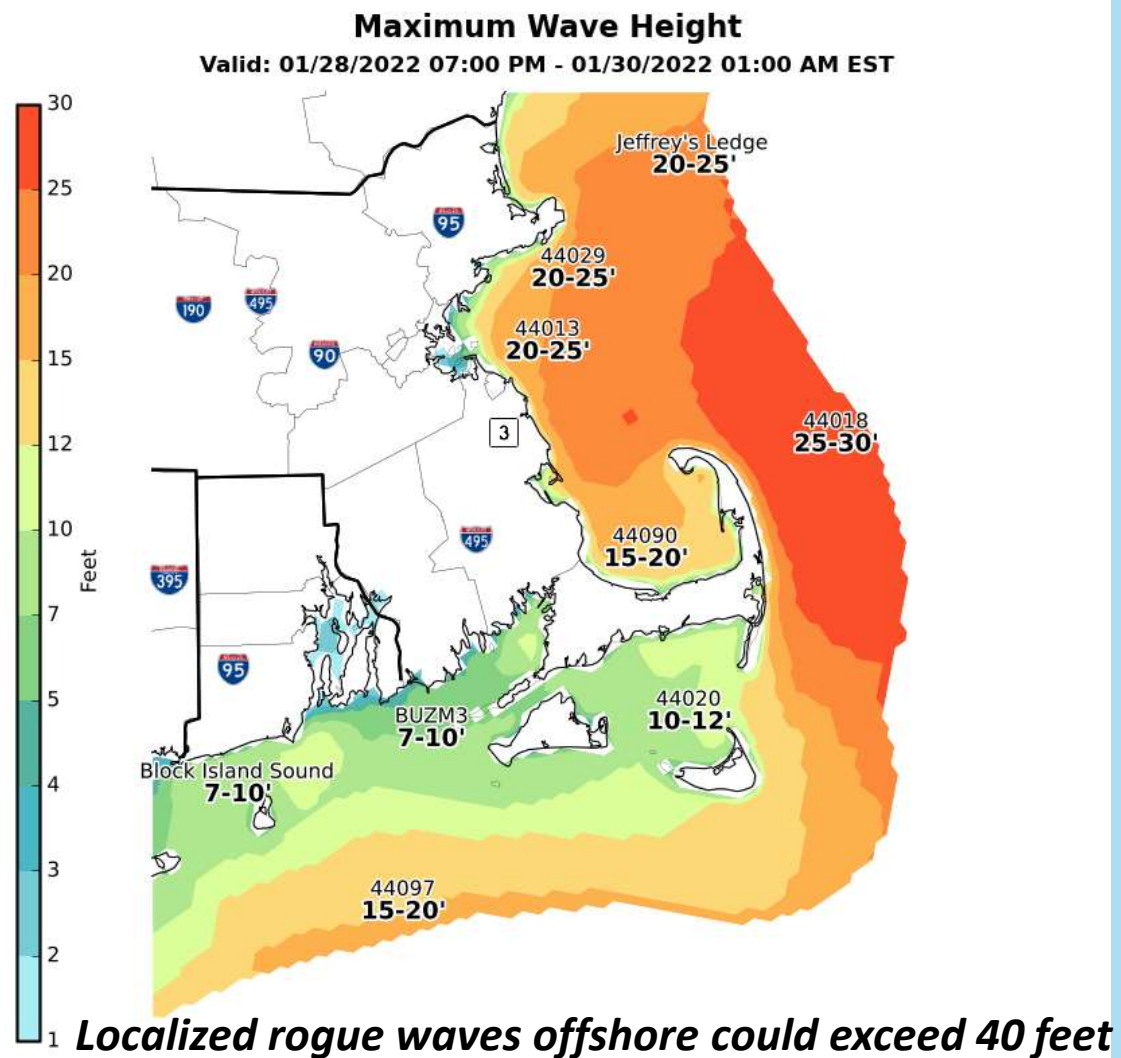
Concerns for Mariners

Wind:

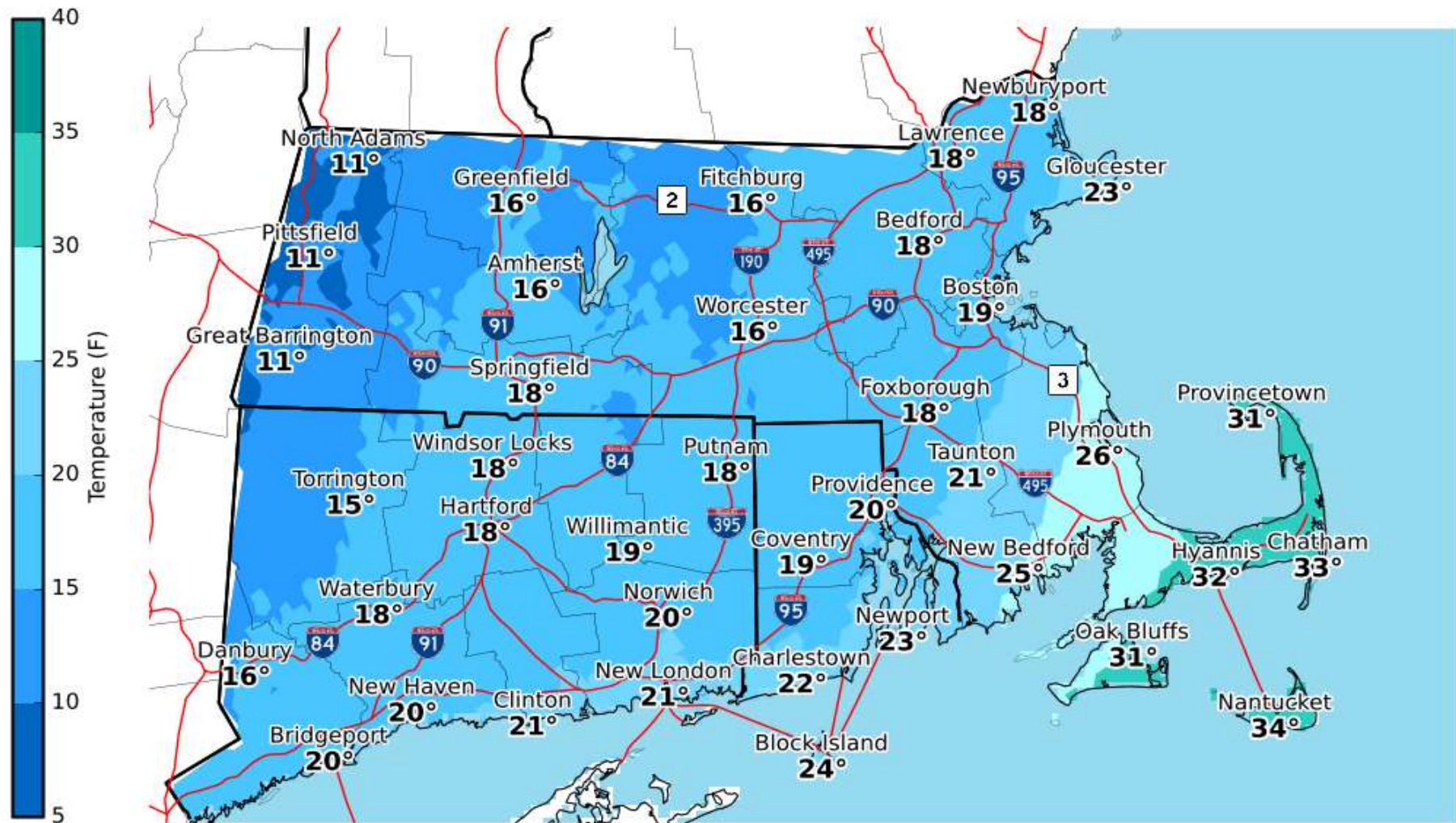
- NE winds reach Gale force late Friday night/early Sat
- Peak gusts from North 50-60 kts Saturday afternoon/evening
- Shift to NW Saturday night, then fall below Gale early Sunday morning

Seas:

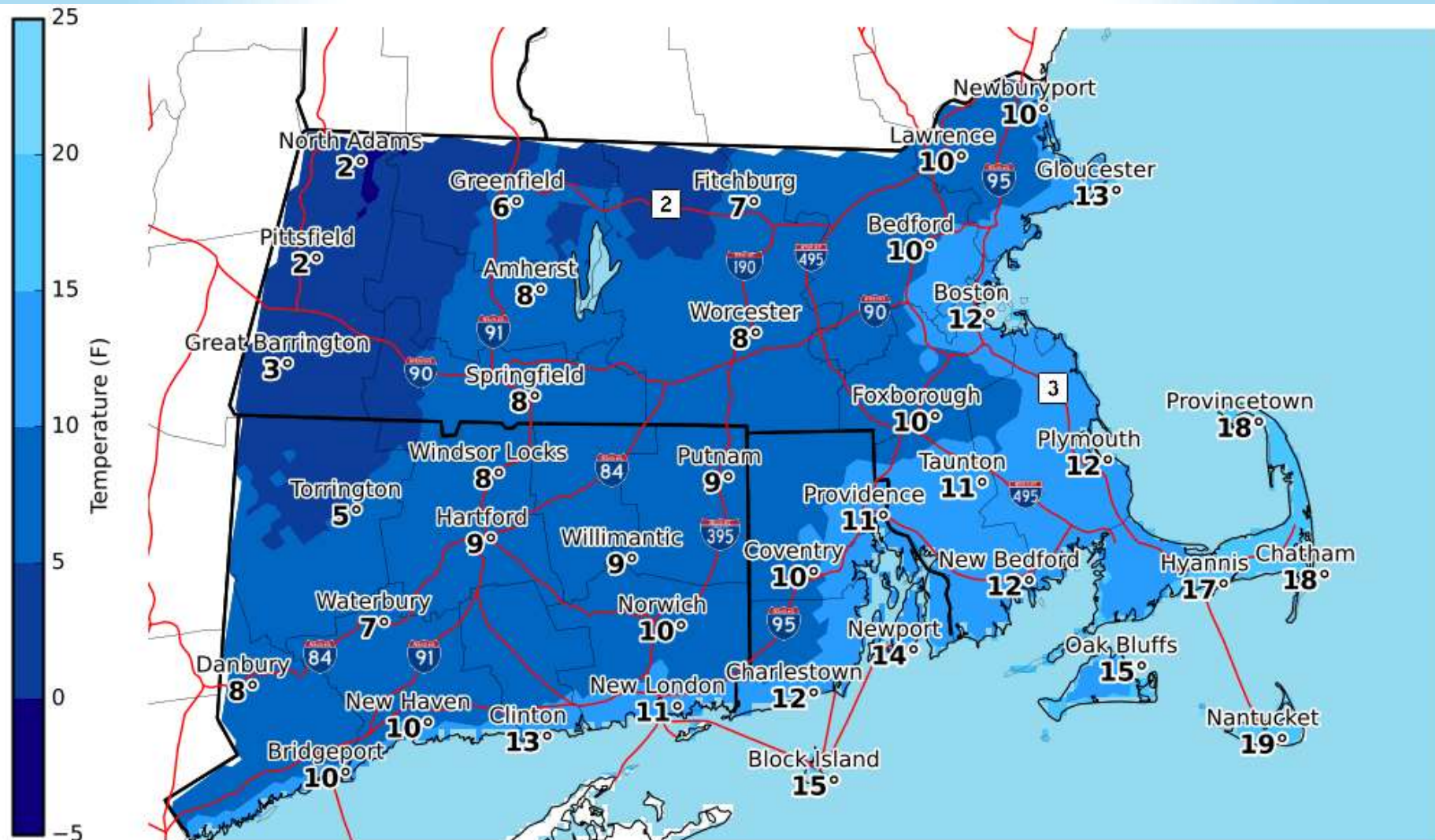
- Build steadily Saturday
- Peak 25-30 ft offshore Saturday evening, 5-10 ft on bays and sounds



1 pm Saturday Temperatures




Low Temperatures Sunday Morning



Threat Event Summary

✓ **Confidence**: high confidence in a significant winter storm, lower confidence on precise track and exact details

✓ : Strong north/northeast wind gusts 40-50 MPH eastern MA, 60-70 mph on Cape Cod where power outages likely



Minor to moderate coastal flooding (especially Saturday evening)



Significant snowfall and near blizzard conditions, especially SE MA



Dangerous conditions for mariners - seas 25-30 feet offshore

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

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

Contact and Next Briefing Information

Next Briefing

When: 6 AM, Friday, January 28th

Method: via email



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