

National Weather Service Boston, MA

Emergency Management Briefing
Winter Storm Jan 25-26th

Date/Time: 1/23/2026 3:30 AM



Incoming Cold and Late Weekend Storm

**January 23, 2026
2:49 AM**

For Southern New England

Decision Support Briefing

Key Messages

- **Cold temperatures/hazardous wind chills Friday night-Saturday.**
- **High Impact Winter storm Sunday-Monday.**
 - **Difficult travel, especially Sunday Night-early Monday (early Mon commute).**



• New Information/Update

- First “most likely snowfall accumulation” map added.
- Biggest question right now is how much any mixed precip on the south shore might bring down snow totals.
- Next Briefing: Friday afternoon 2/23.





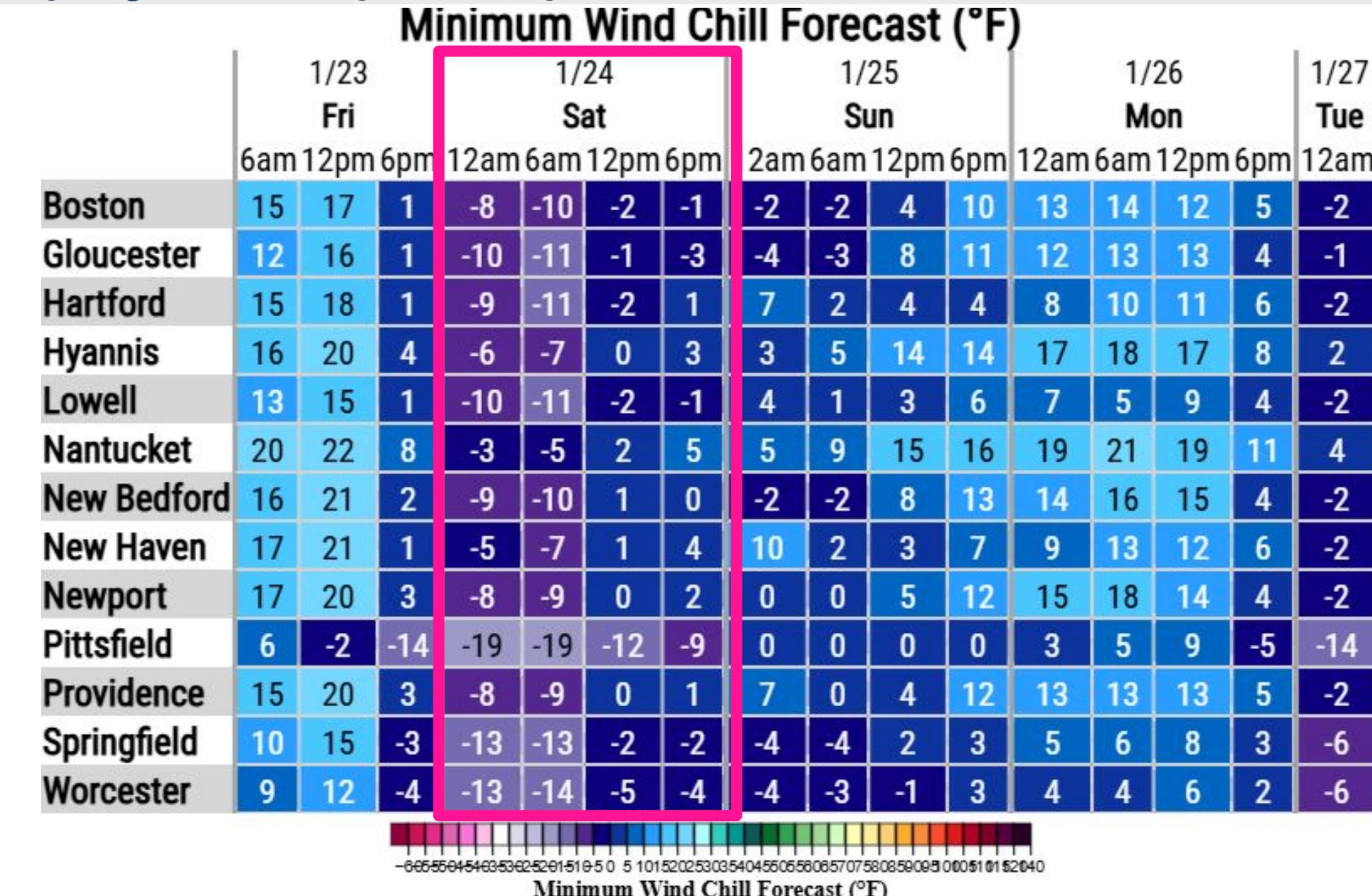
Forecast Minimum Wind Chills

January 23, 2026
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Hazardous Wind Chills Friday Night into early Saturday

Key Messages

- Combination of well below normal temperatures and gusty winds will bring bitter cold wind chills Fri Night into the weekend.
- Hazardous wind chills, especially for east slope of Berkshires.
- Extreme Cold Warning and Cold Advisories in effect Friday Night-Saturday AM.



Created: 2 am EST Fri 1/23/2026 | Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.



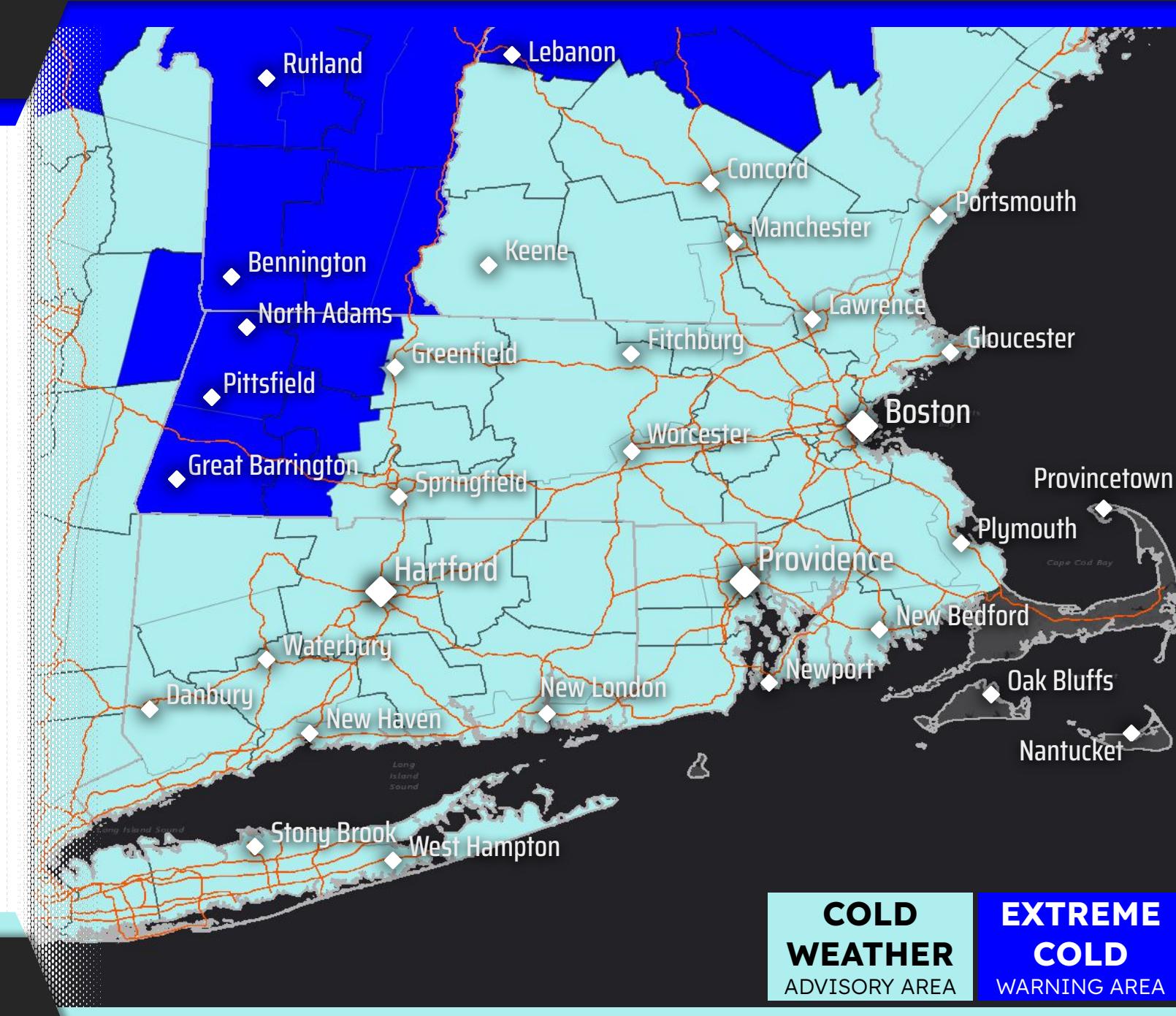
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Extreme Cold Warning | Cold Weather Advisory

Friday Night into Saturday Morning

- **Extreme Cold Warning: East Slope of Berkshires.**
 - Wind chills as low as -25°F
 - May cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes.
- **Cold Weather Advisory: Rest of southern southern New England (except Cape and Islands).**
 - Wind chills as low as -20°F
 - May cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes.



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Most Likely Snowfall

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Timing Confidence

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Snow likely arrives Sun AM into early afternoon.
- Timing of heaviest snow: Sun evening-early Mon.
- Light to moderate snow likely lingers through much of Mon.

Snow Amounts Confidence

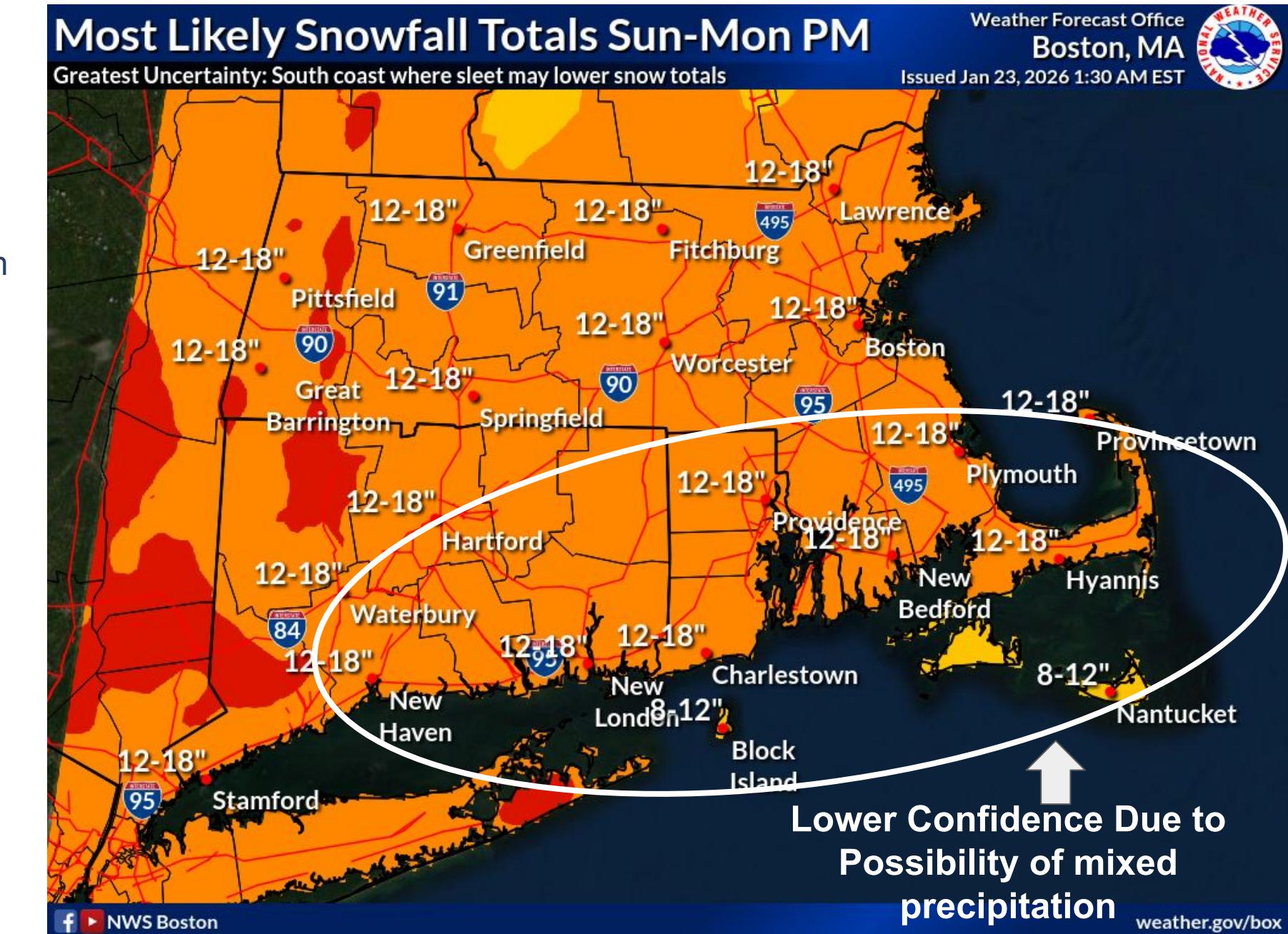
LOW MEDIUM HIGH

- Medium confidence (~70-80%) for a foot or more of snow.
- Lower confidence in amounts for south coast and Cape and Islands due to potential for mixed precipitation.

Travel Impacts Confidence

LOW MEDIUM HIGH

Travel will be difficult, especially Sunday night into Monday morning when snowfall accumulation rates will be highest.



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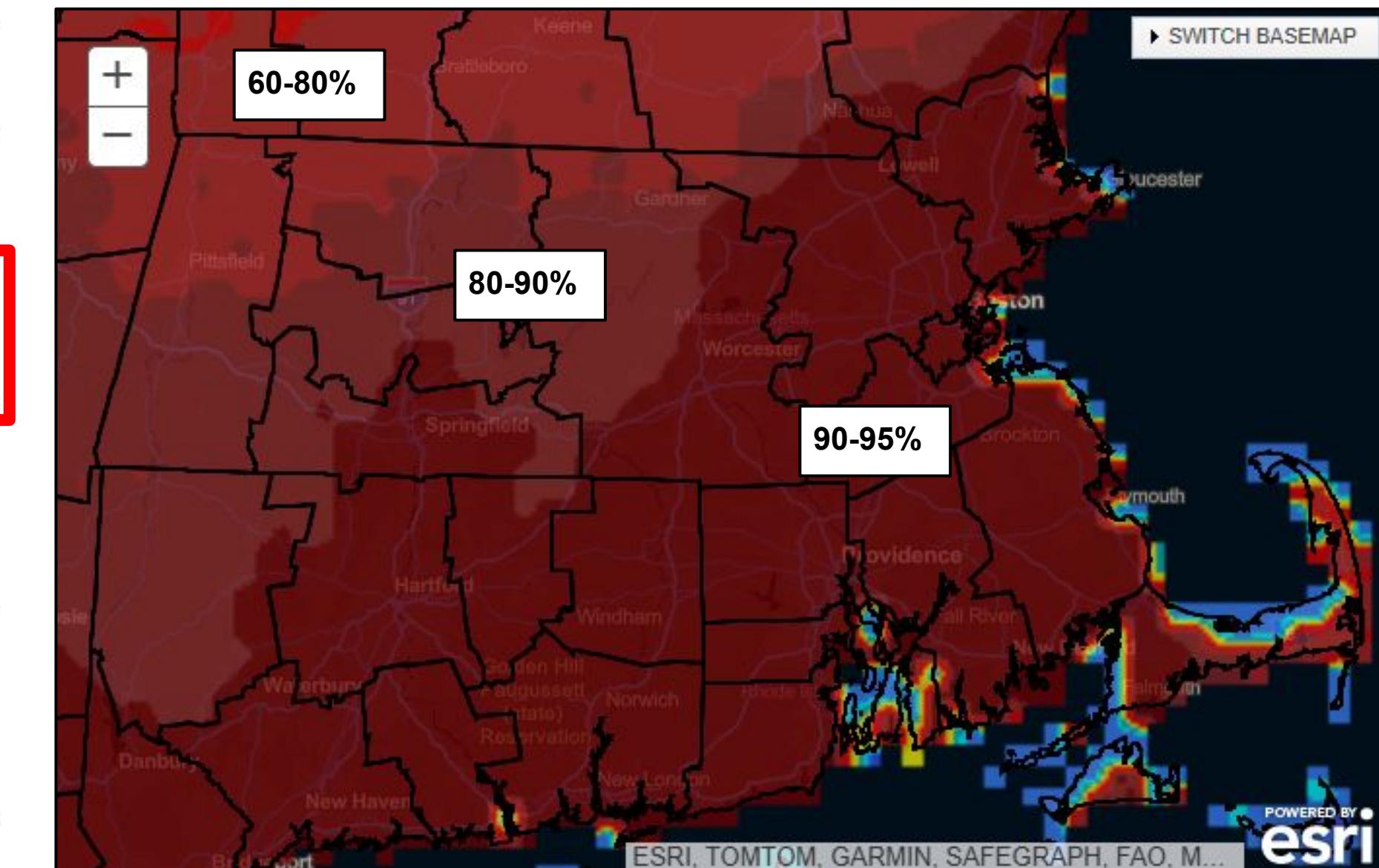


Probability of Moderate Winter Storm Impacts

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Potential Winter Storm Impacts	
Winter Weather Area	Expect Winter Weather. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully.
Minor Impacts	Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Winter driving conditions. Use caution while driving.
Moderate Impacts	Expect disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving.Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.
Major Impacts	Expect considerable disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Avoid travel if possible.Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.
Extreme Impacts	Expect substantial disruptions to daily life. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Travel is not advised.Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.Life-saving actions may be needed.

24 HR Forecast Valid 1 PM Sunday - 1 PM EST Monday



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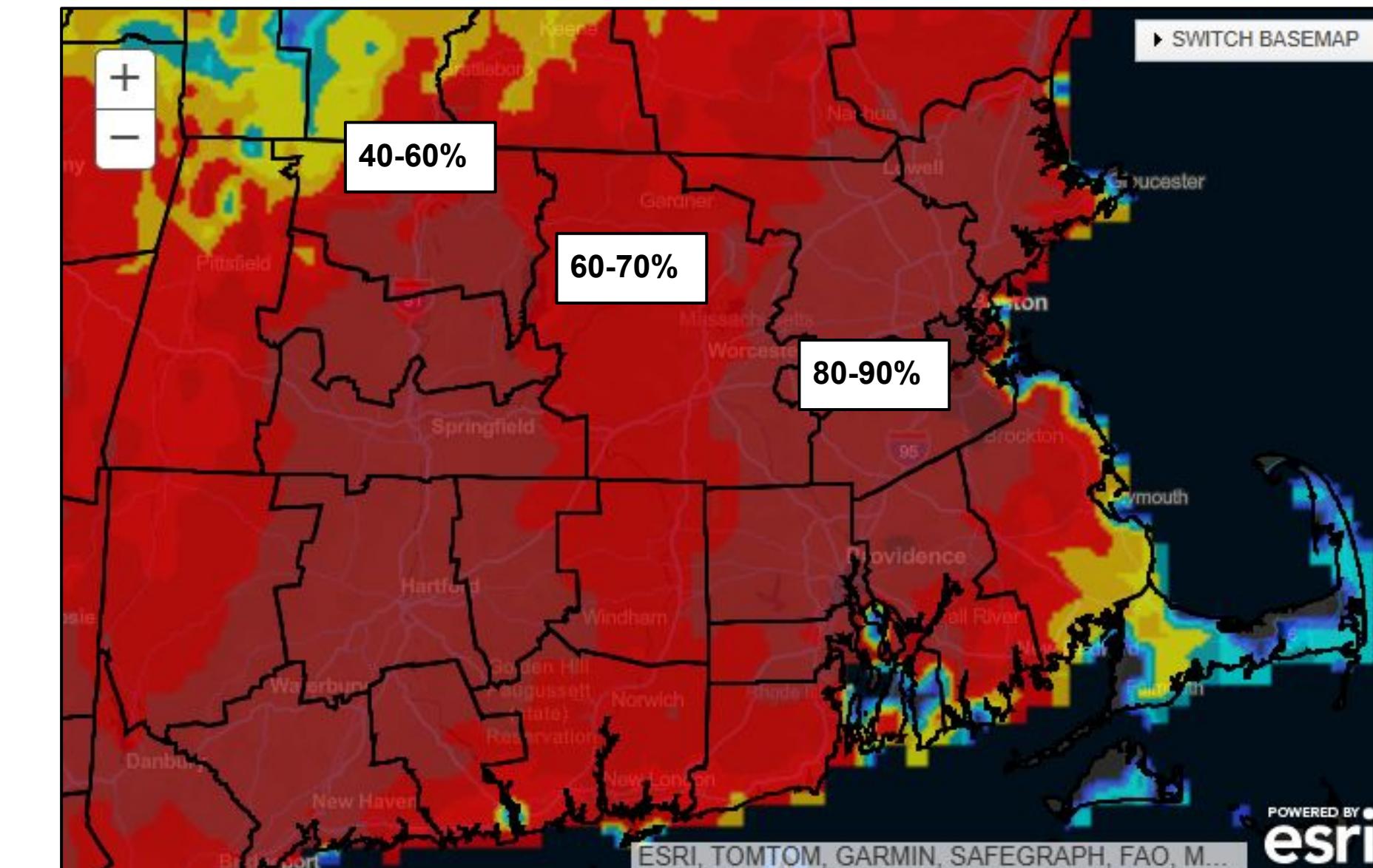


Probability of Major Winter Storm Impacts

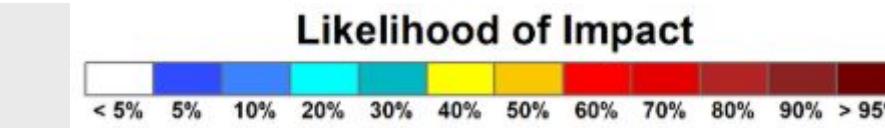
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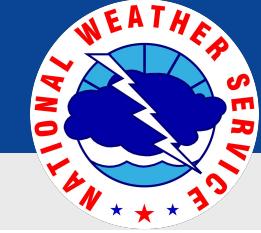
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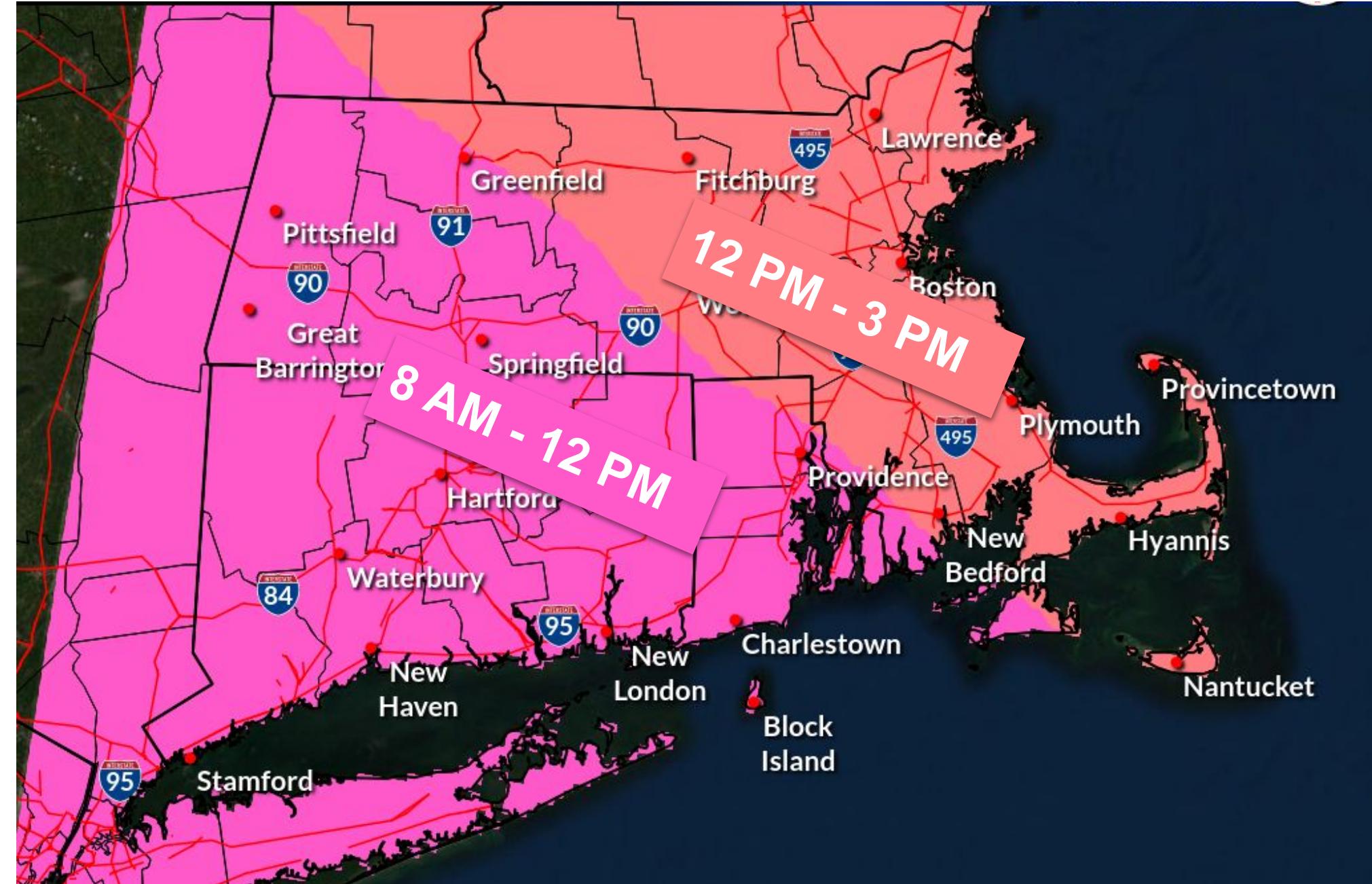
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Snow Onset Time

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Will Be Refined as we get closer to the storm



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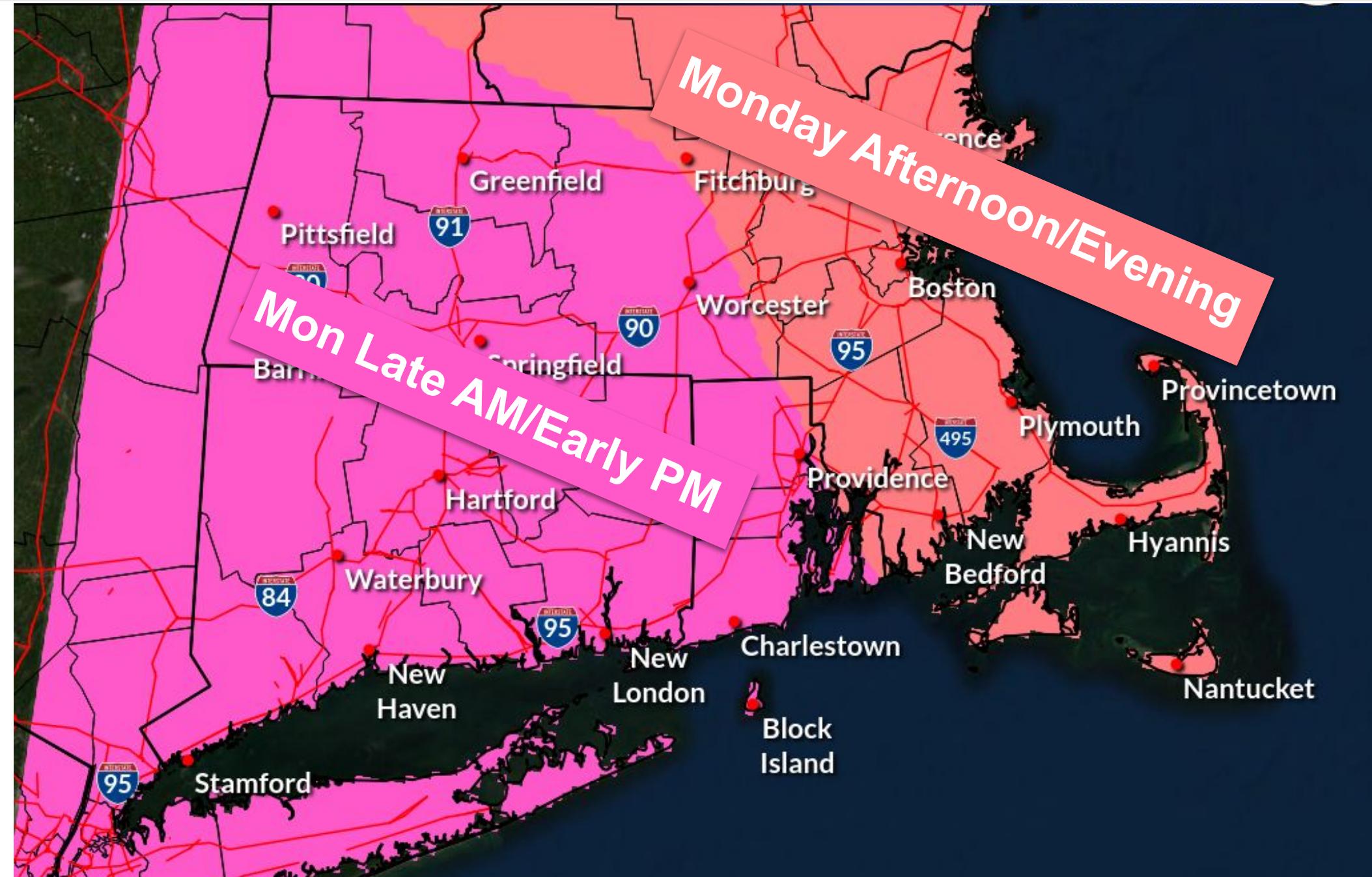
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Snow Ending Time

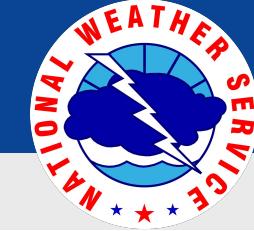
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Snow becomes much lighter as it tapers off through the day on Monday



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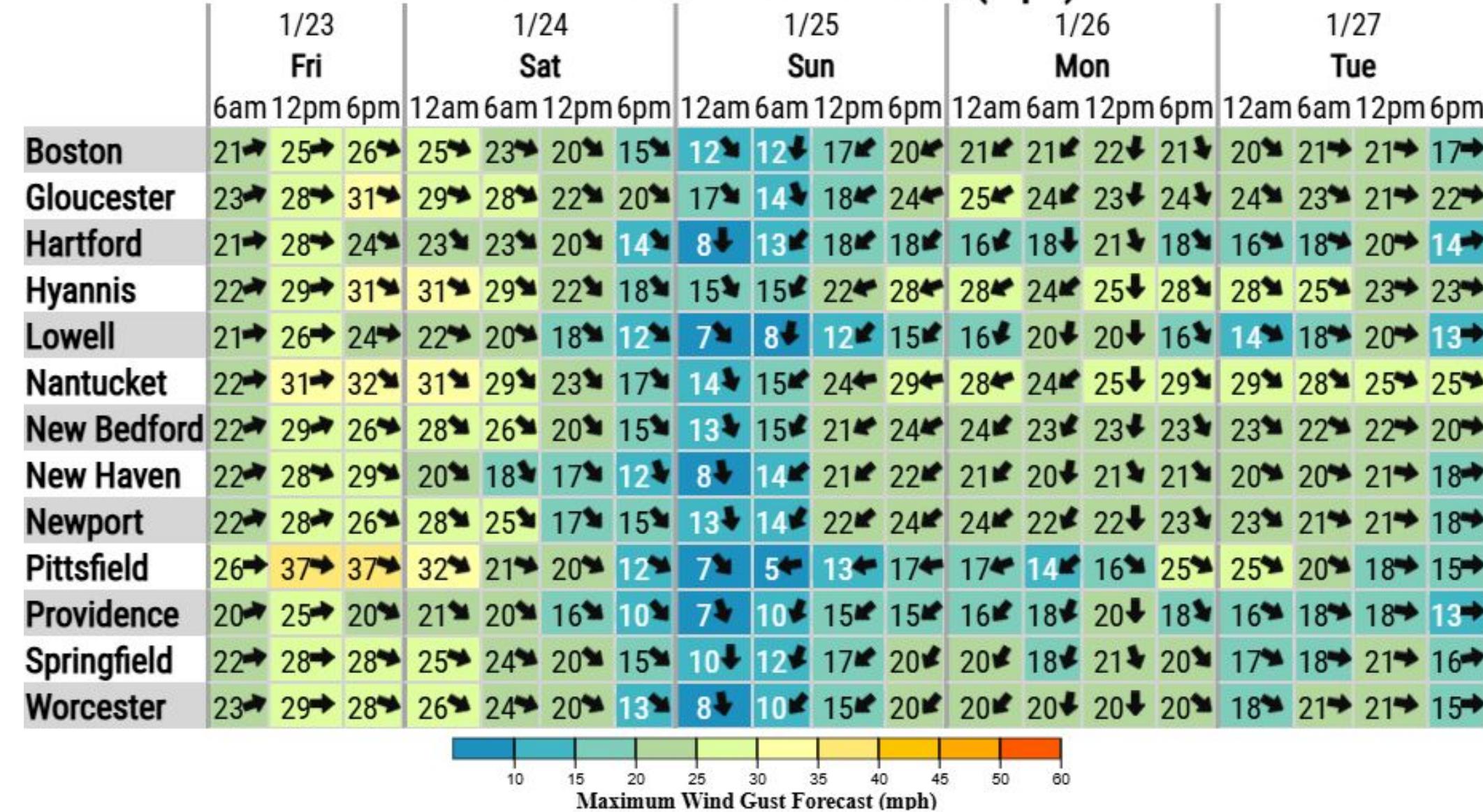
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Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (mph)



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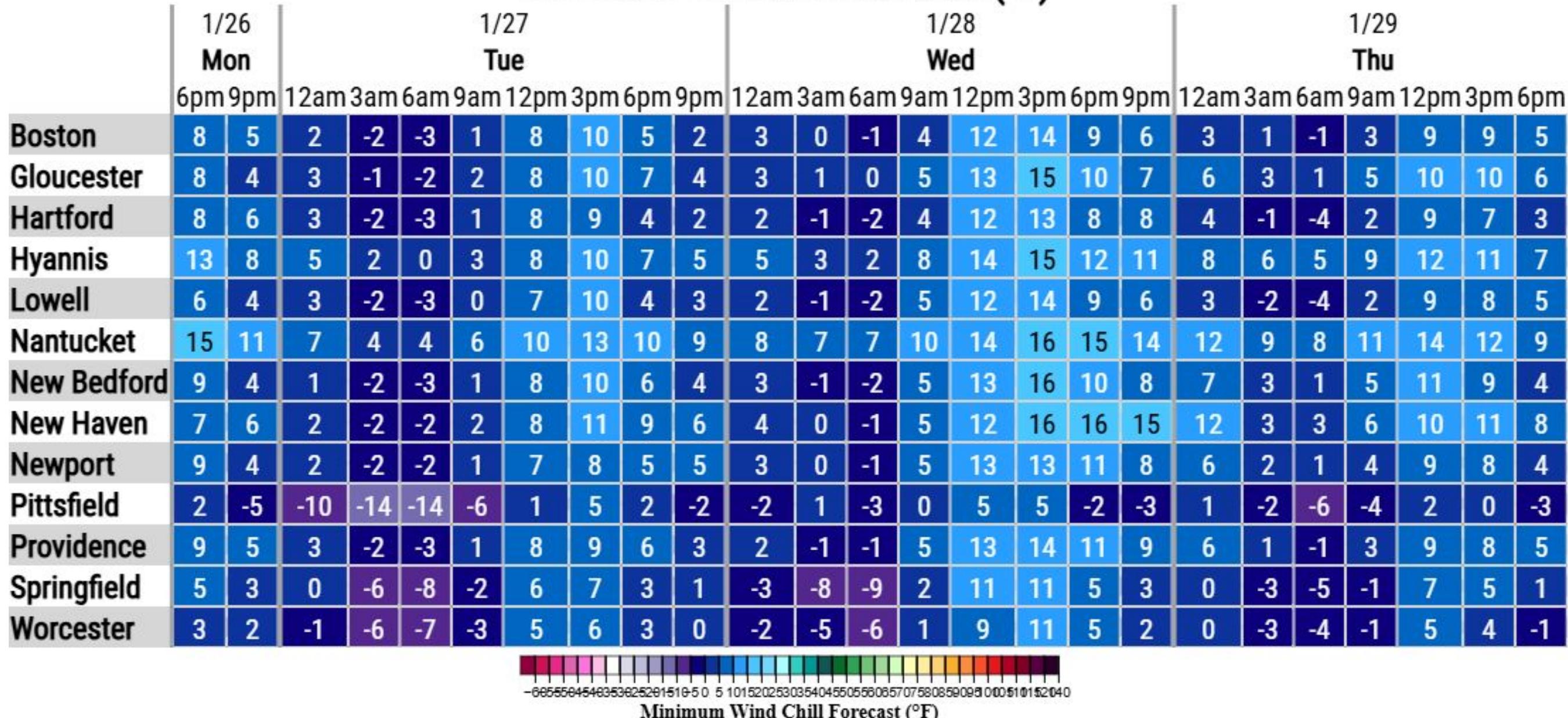
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Wind Chill Forecast after the Storm

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Minimum Wind Chill Forecast (°F)



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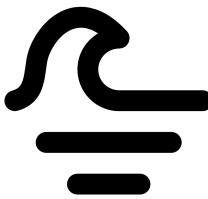
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Gale Warning

Friday Afternoon through Saturday Morning



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



SEAS

- Potential for up **WIND** to 15 FT for east • Up to 40 kts outer waters

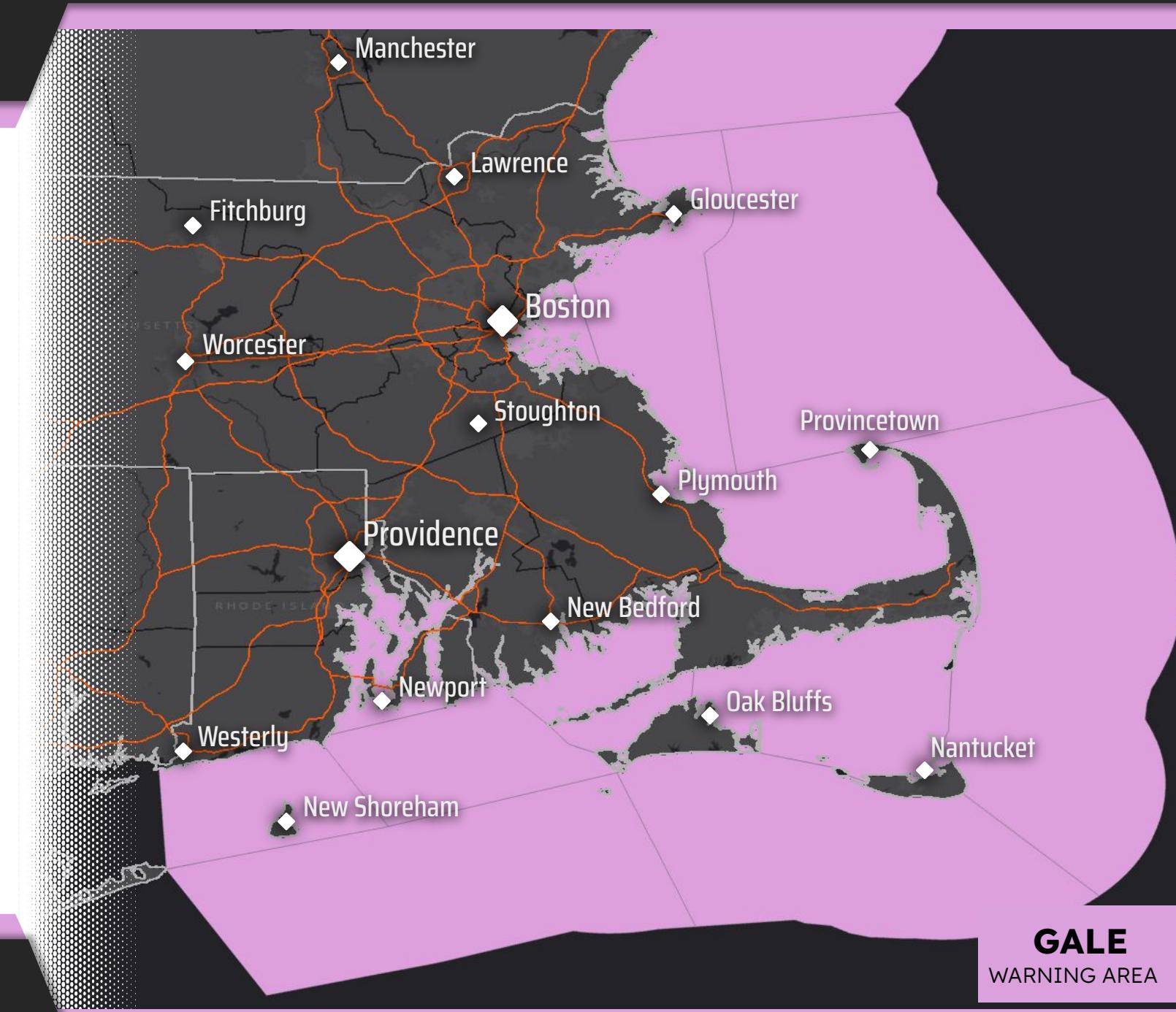


- Wind and wave conditions will be hazardous for small craft.
- Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in these conditions.



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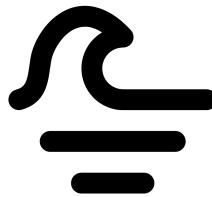
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Heavy Freezing Spray Warning & Advisory

Friday Night through Saturday



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



- Moderate -heavy freezing spray expected

SEAS

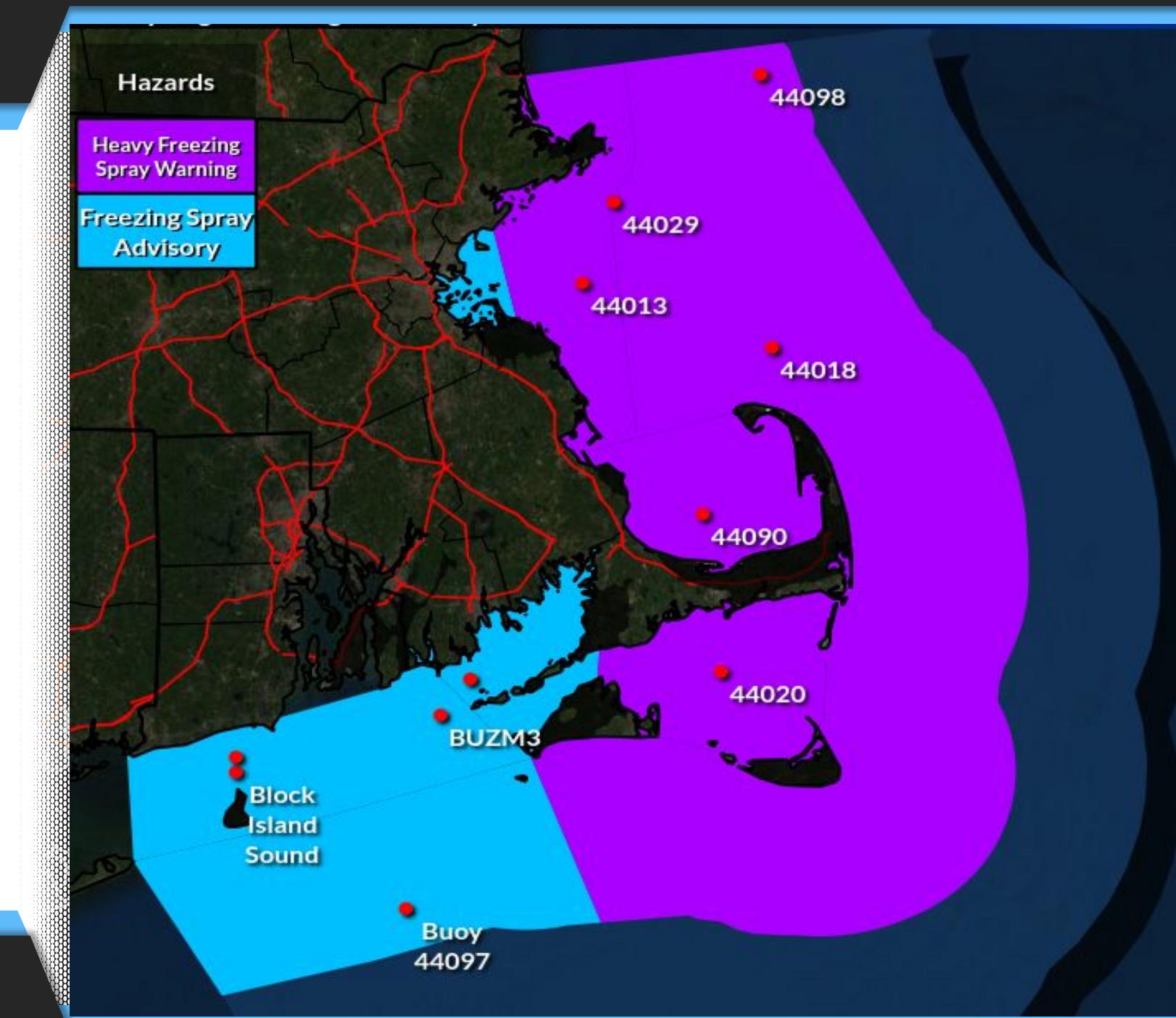
- Rough seas

WIND

- Up to 40 KT



- Rapid ice accretion on decks and superstructures may result in a catastrophic loss of stability.
 - Freezing Spray Advisory: Ice accretion rates 0.3" - 0.8" per hr.
 - Freezing Spray Warning: Ice accretion rates of 0.8" - 1.6" per hr.



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Contact and Next Briefing Information

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For Southern New England



Next Briefing

→ Friday Afternoon 1/23



Contact Information

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