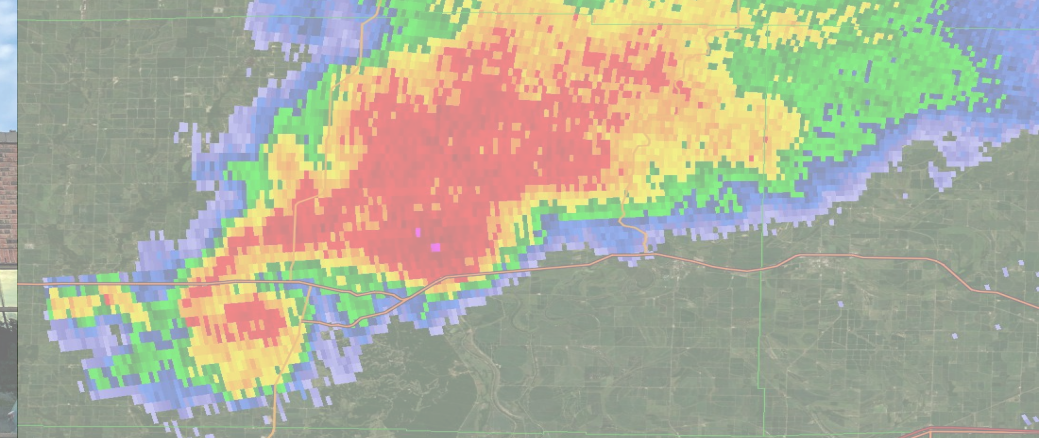




# National Weather Service

**Boston, MA**

Emergency Management Briefing  
Cold & Winter Storm Jan 31-Feb 2  
Saturday 1/31/2026







# Incoming Cold and Late Weekend Storm

January 31, 2026

4:37 AM

For Southern New England

## Key Messages:

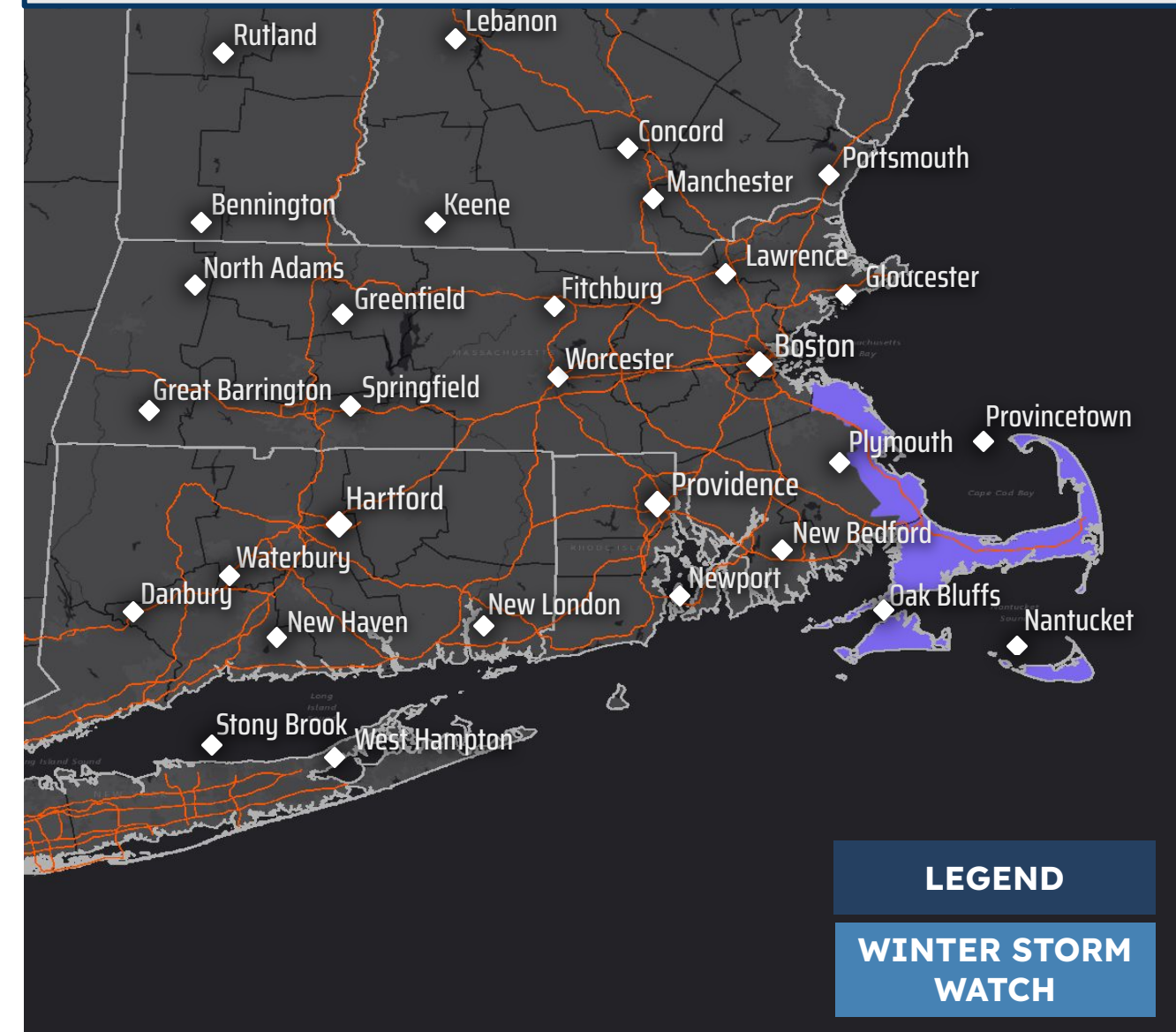
- Hazardous wind chills expected through this morning.
- Strong coastal storm expected to track well offshore of New England Sunday into Monday.
  - Accumulating snow and gusty winds for Cape Cod and the Islands and part of South Shore.
  - Minor/moderate coastal flooding and some erosion along eastern Massachusetts coast.
  - Strong gale to storm force winds over the waters

## INFO

## New Information/Updates

- Winter Weather Advisories issued for eastern Plymouth County, Cape Cod and the Islands. The Winter Storm Watch is no longer in effect.
- Coastal Flood Watch converted to Coastal Flood Advisories for eastern Massachusetts coast; Coastal Flood Watches continue for Cape Cod and the Islands.
- Gale and Storm Warnings issued for nearshore coastal waters Sunday into Monday.

## Current Winter Storm Headlines



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

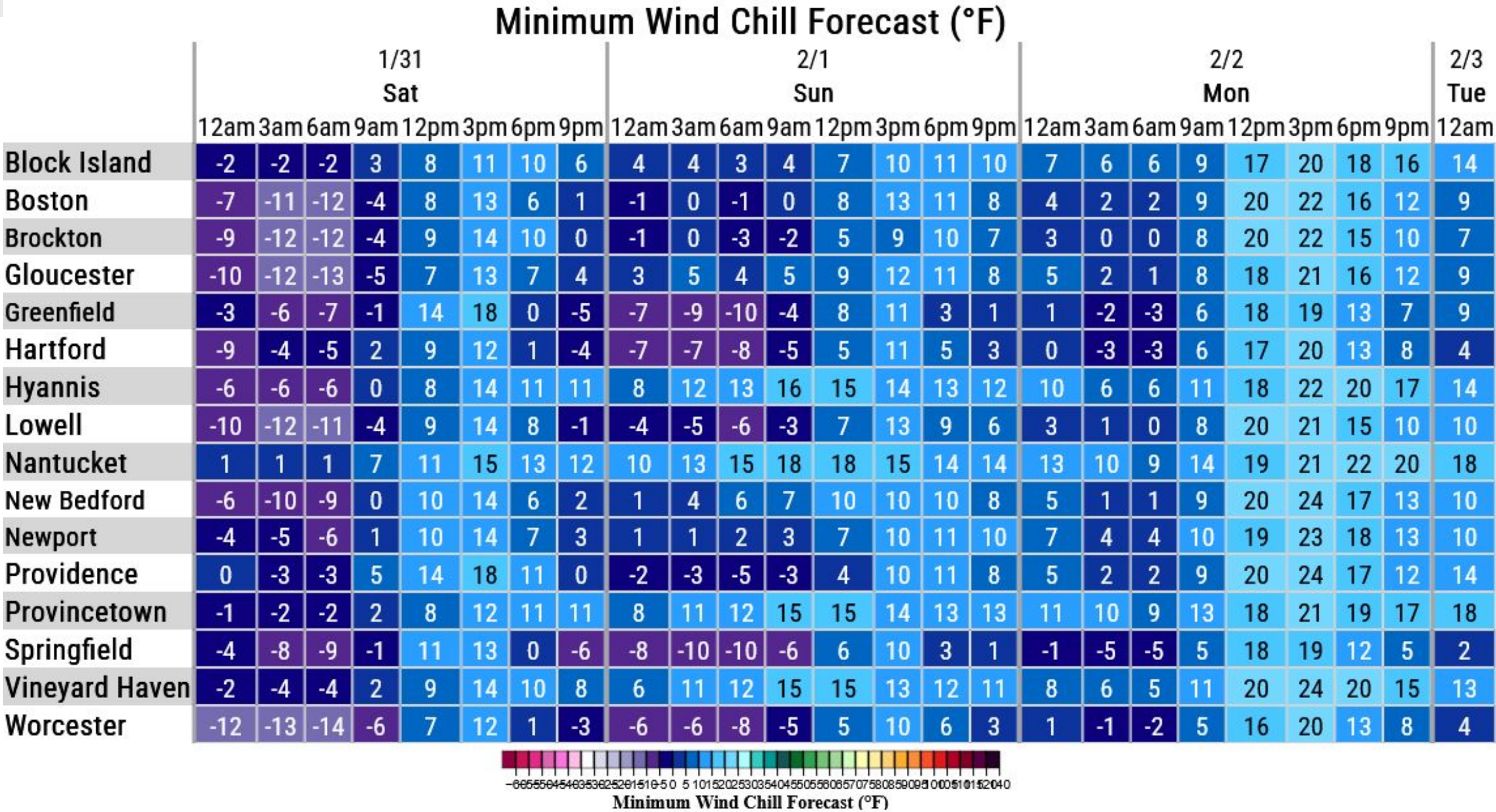
National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA





# Hazardous Wind Chills Through Early Saturday

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM



Created: 12 am EST Sat 1/31/2026 | Values are minimums over the period beginning at the time shown.





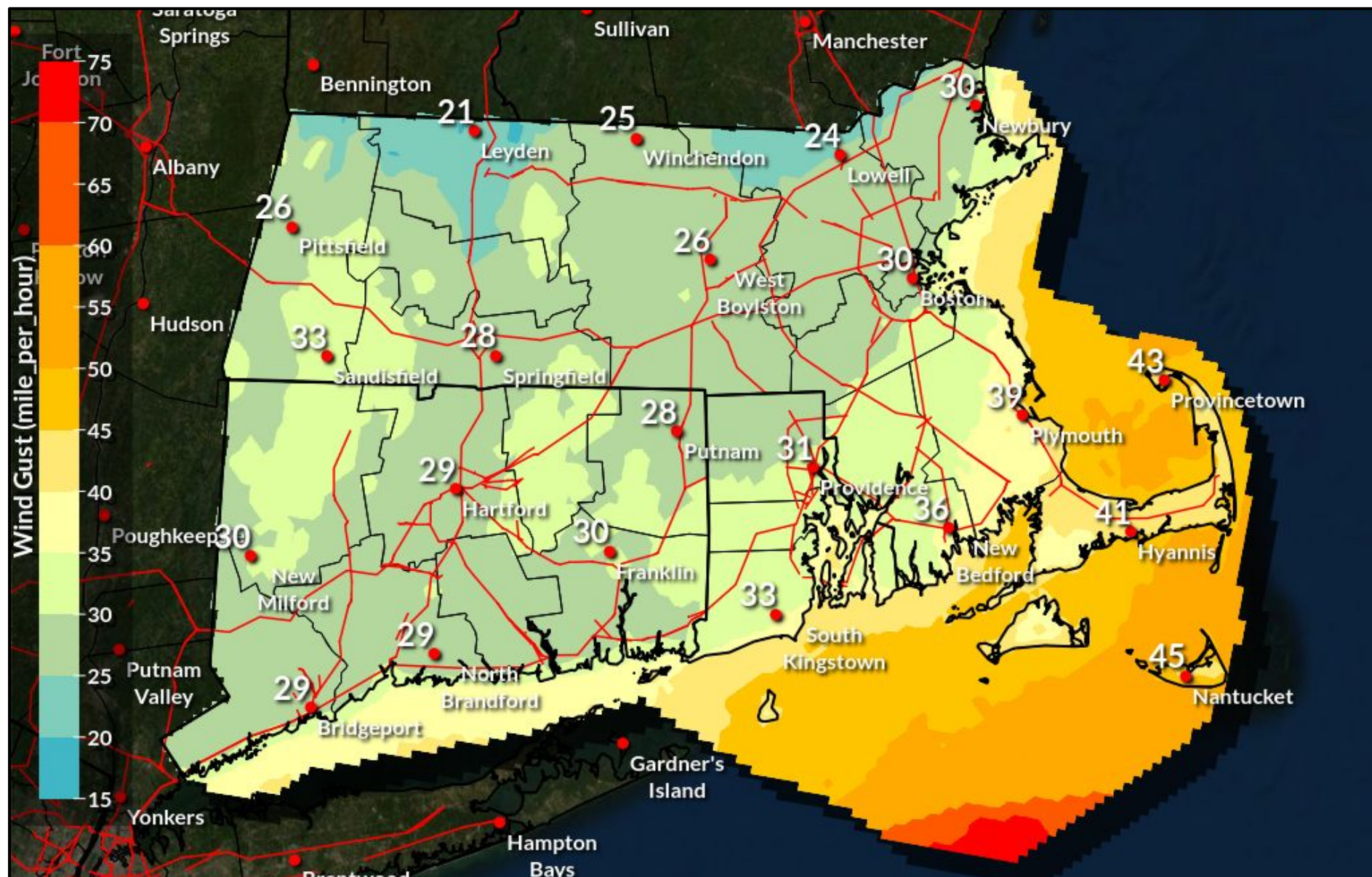


# Forecast Max Wind Gust (mph)

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

Sunday through Monday

- **Gusty north winds expected to accompany offshore storm.**
  - Highest gusts over the waters and southeast MA, especially Cape & Islands.
- **Timing:**
  - Gusts increase early Sunday morning.
  - Peak gusts likely occur in the afternoon-evening time frame.
- **Uncertainty:**
  - Gust magnitude will also be sensitive to storm track.



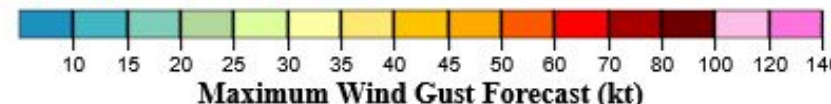




# Forecast Max Wind Gusts

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (kt)																									
	1/31 Sat								2/1 Sun								2/2 Mon								2/3 Tue
	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	12am
Block Island	18↗	13↗	12↗	9↗	8↗	9↗	13↓	21↓	27↓	32↓	34↓	36↓	35↓	33↓	30↓	27↗	24↗	22↗	20↗	18↗	16↗	16↗	17↗	16↗	14↗
Boston	14↗	13↗	12↗	13↗	11↗	9↗	8↗	13↓	16↓	20↓	23↓	24↓	25↓	24↓	23↓	22↗	20↗	19↗	18↗	16↗	15↗	14↗	14↗	12↗	10↗
Brockton	11↗	11↗	10↗	11↗	10↗	8↗	6↓	12↓	16↓	20↓	25↓	27↓	27↓	26↓	24↓	22↗	19↗	18↗	17↗	16↗	15↗	13↗	11↗	10↗	9↗
Gloucester	17↗	15↗	17↗	15↗	10↗	8↗	10↗	15↓	21↓	25↗	26↓	28↓	29↓	28↓	29↓	27↗	24↗	22↗	20↗	18↗	16↗	15↗	15↗	14↗	13↗
Greenfield	5↗	5↗	4↗	7↗	7↗	7↗	8↗	10↓	12↓	13↓	15↓	17↓	18↓	19↗	19↗	19↗	16↗	15↗	13↗	12↗	14↗	13↗	9↗	7↗	6↗
Hartford	8↗	6↗	4↗	9↓	9↓	7↓	8↓	12↓	16↓	19↓	22↓	23↓	24↓	25↓	22↗	21↗	19↗	17↗	16↗	17↗	18↗	17↗	14↗	10↗	8↗
Hyannis	15↗	15↗	14↗	11↗	9↗	7↗	10↓	14↓	21↓	27↓	30↗	33↗	36↓	36↓	35↓	32↓	28↗	24↗	21↗	19↗	17↗	14↗	12↗	12↗	12↗
Lowell	9↗	9↗	8↗	13↗	11↗	8↗	7↗	8↓	10↓	14↓	17↓	20↓	22↓	22↓	19↗	18↗	16↗	15↗	15↗	15↗	15↗	14↗	11↗	9↗	6↗
Nantucket	15↗	14↗	13↗	11↗	9↗	9↗	10↗	16↗	23↗	30↗	34↗	36↗	38↗	39↓	38↓	35↓	30↓	25↗	21↗	19↗	17↗	14↗	13↗	13↗	13↗
New Bedford	13↗	13↗	12↗	11↗	8↗	7↗	8↓	12↓	17↓	23↓	28↓	31↓	31↓	30↓	27↓	24↗	21↗	20↗	18↗	16↗	14↗	12↗	11↗	11↗	10↗
Newport	13↗	12↗	11↗	9↗	7↗	8↗	10↓	17↓	21↓	26↓	30↓	31↓	31↓	30↓	27↓	25↗	22↗	20↗	18↗	15↗	13↗	12↗	13↗	13↗	11↗
Providence	8↗	8↗	7↗	9↗	7↗	6↗	6↓	11↓	16↓	20↓	24↓	27↓	27↓	25↓	21↓	18↗	16↗	15↗	14↗	13↗	13↗	12↗	10↗	8↗	7↗
Provincetown	18↗	15↗	14↗	13↗	12↗	10↗	11↓	17↓	23↗	28↗	32↗	35↗	36↗	37↓	37↓	36↓	32↗	28↗	25↗	23↗	20↗	18↗	17↗	17↗	15↗
Springfield	8↗	5↗	4↗	7↗	7↗	7↗	9↓	13↓	16↓	18↓	20↓	23↓	24↓	24↓	22↗	22↗	19↗	16↗	15↗	15↗	16↗	16↗	13↗	10↗	8↗
Vineyard Haven	15↗	13↗	12↗	10↗	9↗	8↗	10↓	15↗	21↗	26↗	30↗	33↗	34↓	34↓	32↓	28↗	24↗	21↗	19↗	16↗	14↗	12↗	12↗	12↗	12↗
Worcester	8↗	7↗	7↗	11↗	10↗	8↗	7↗	11↓	13↓	17↓	20↓	23↓	24↓	23↓	21↗	22↗	20↗	19↗	18↗	18↗	17↗	15↗	13↗	11↗	9↗



Created: 12 am EST Sat 1/31/2026 | Values are maximums over the period beginning at the time shown.

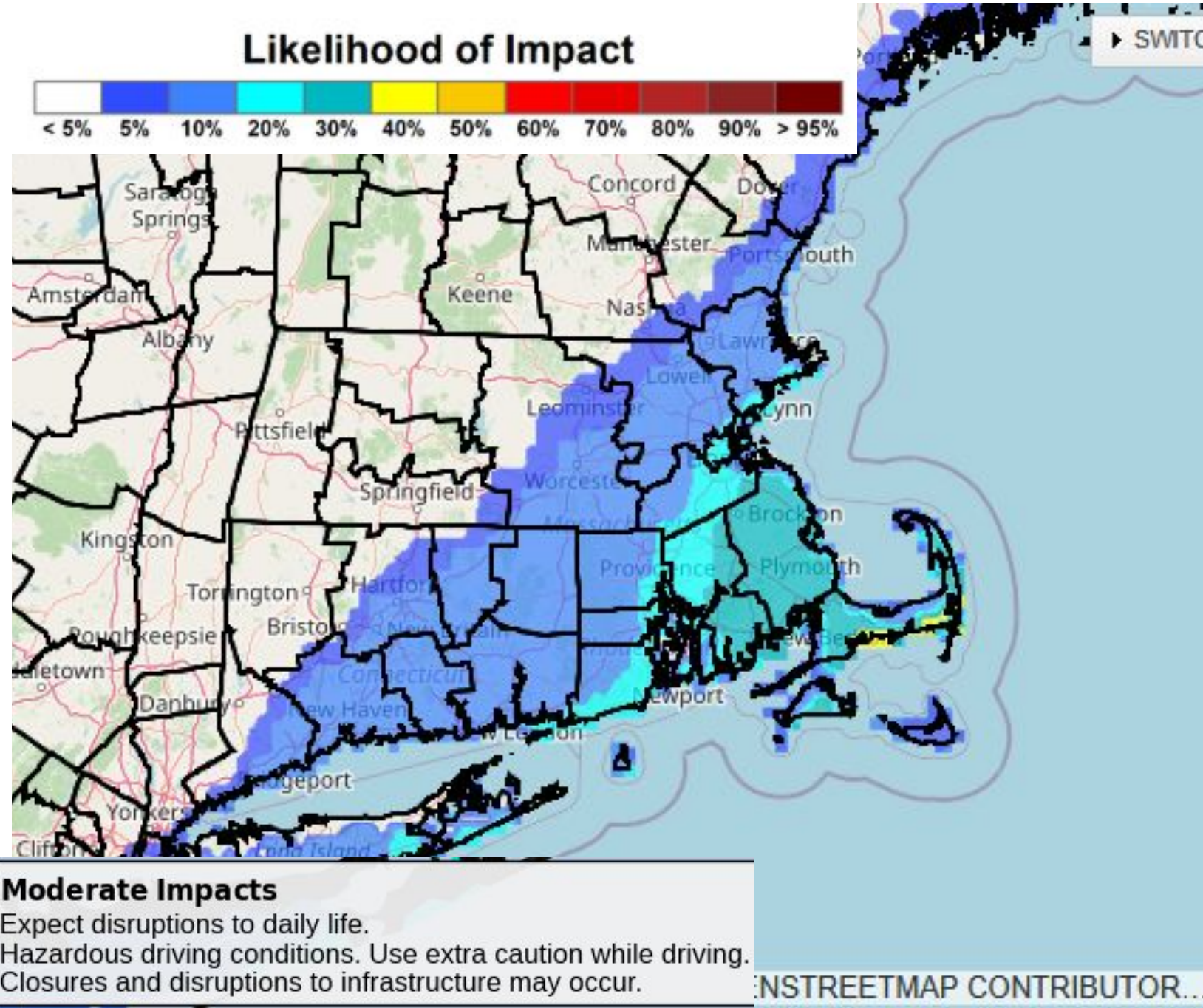




# Potential Coastal Winter Storm Sun/Sun Night

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

Probabilistic Winter Storm Severity Index



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA





# Confidence Levels

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

## Timing Confidence

LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
-----	--------	------

- Snow arrives very early Sunday morning (after midnight Saturday).
- Steadiest snow during day Sun (more likely Cape/Islands).
- Exiting Sun evening. Ending on Cape/Islands late Sun Night.

## Snow Amounts Confidence

LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
-----	--------	------

- Confidence is medium as the slight shifts in the track will have significant impacts to total snowfall accumulations.

## Travel Impacts Confidence

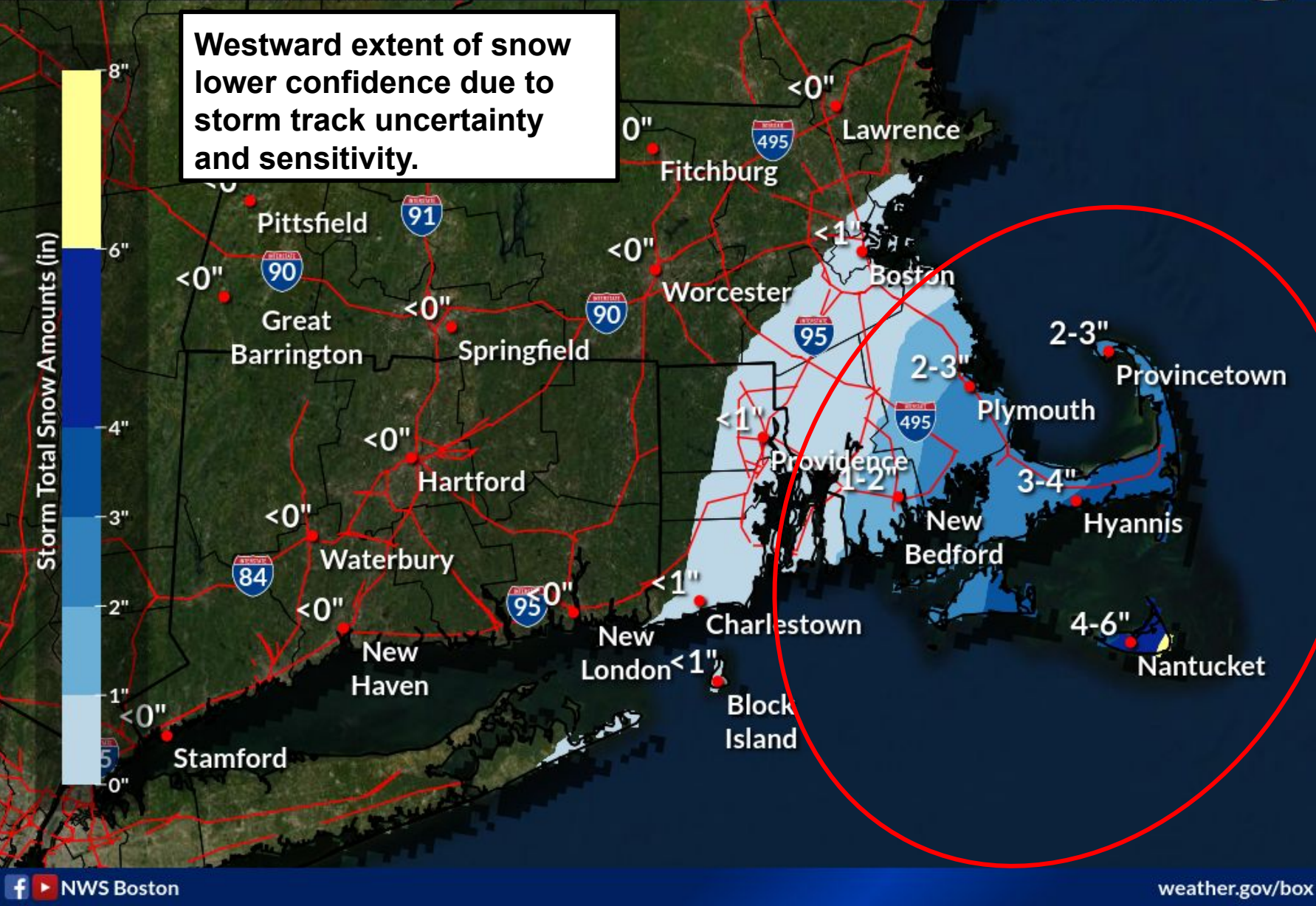
LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
-----	--------	------

- Travel may be difficult in southeast coastal Massachusetts.
- Gusty winds and steadier snow may lead to periods of low visibility.

## Forecast Snowfall Accumulation

Late Saturday Night Through Sunday Night

Weather Forecast Office  
Boston, MA  
Issued Jan 31, 2026 1:20 AM EST

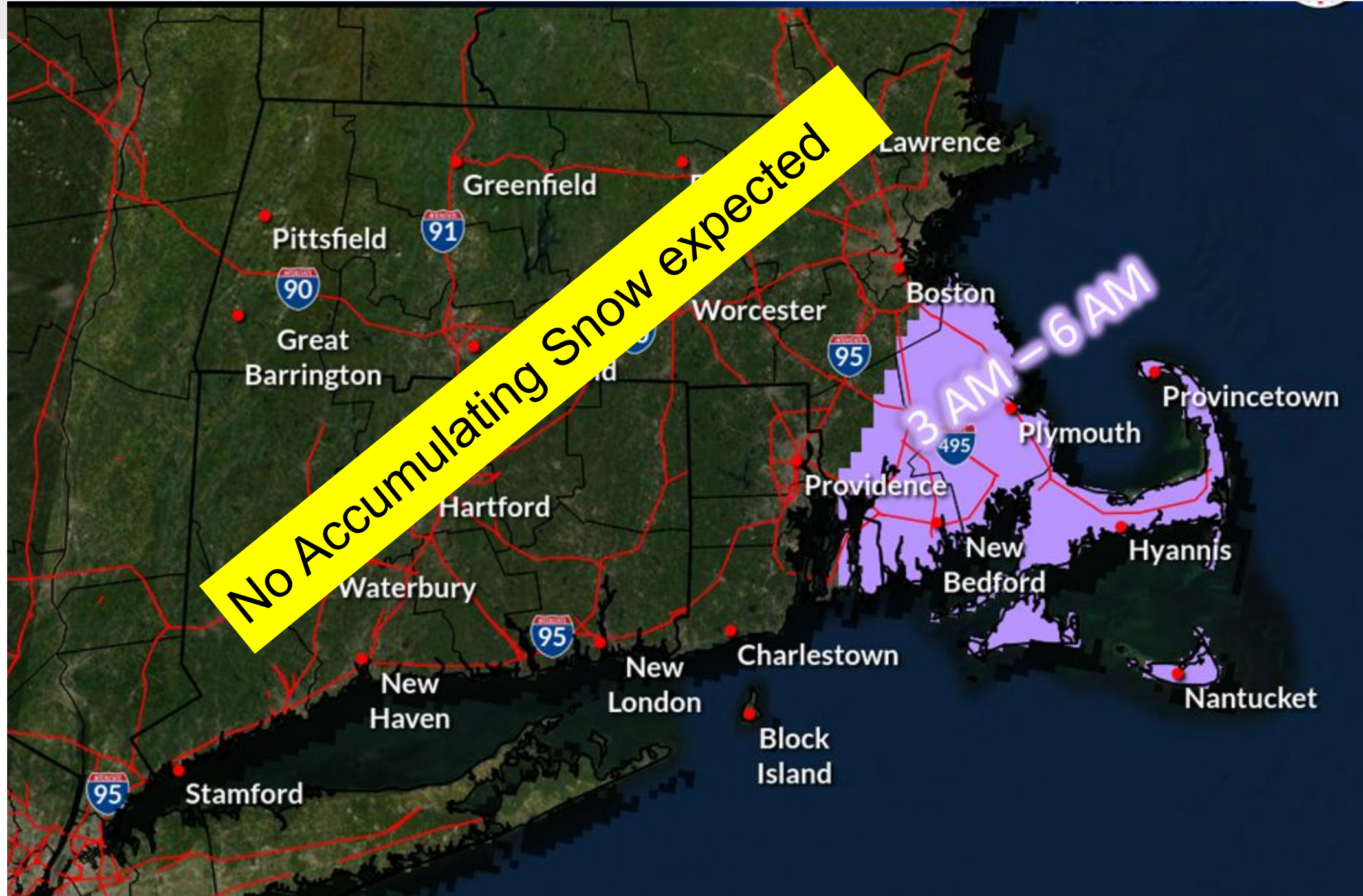






# Snow Starting Time

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA

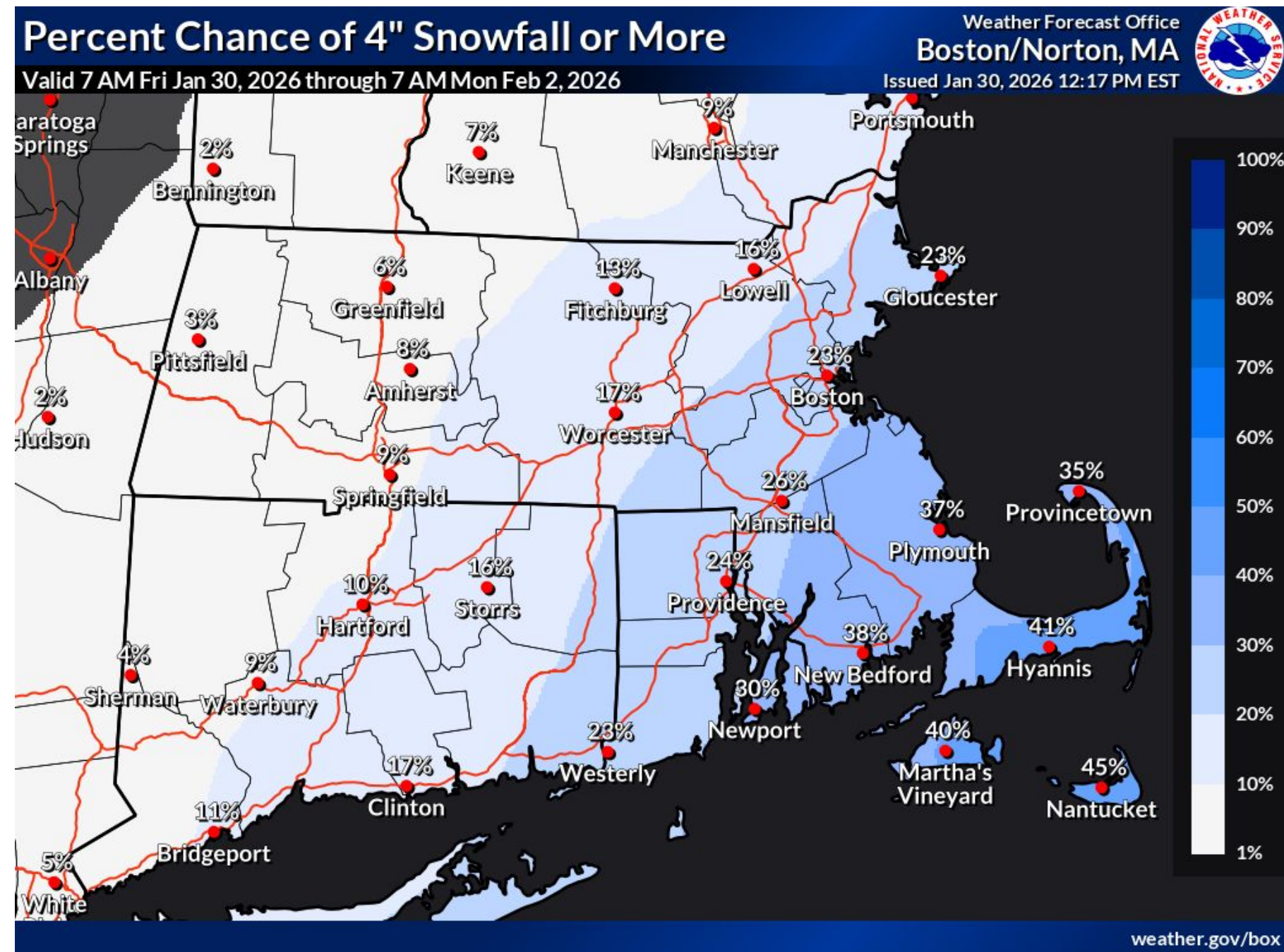




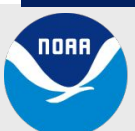
# Chance of 4 Inches or Greater of Snow

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

Sunday and Sunday Night



- Snow amounts will be very sensitive to storm track.
- If the storm track trends west, probabilities of 4"+ would both increase and push westward toward I-95 corridor.



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA





# Chance of 8 Inches or Greater of Snow

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

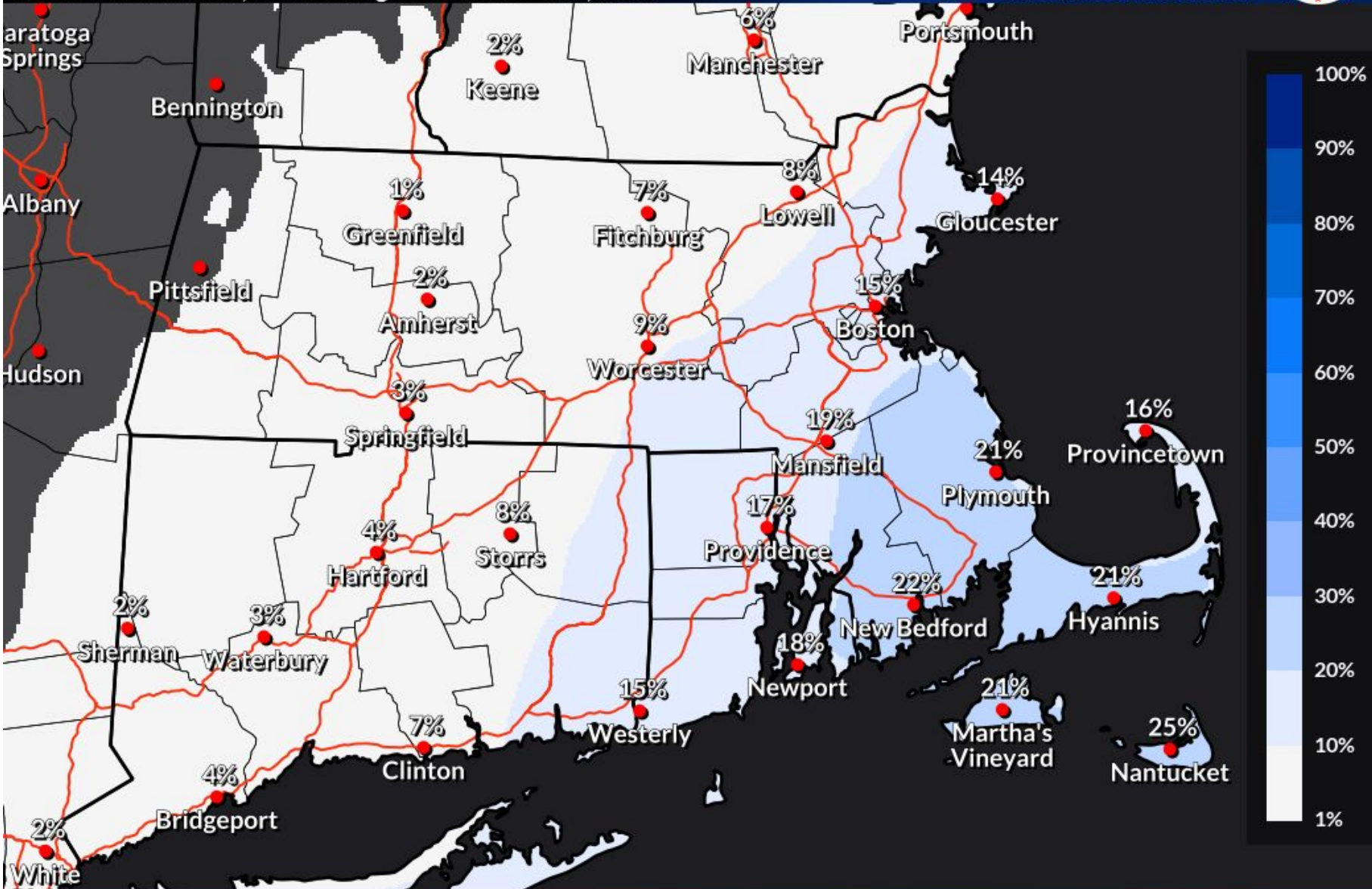
Sunday and Sunday Night

## Percent Chance of 8" Snowfall or More

Valid 7 AM Fri Jan 30, 2026 through 7 AM Mon Feb 2, 2026

Weather Forecast Office  
Boston/Norton, MA

Issued Jan 30, 2026 12:15 PM EST



weather.gov/box

- Snow amounts will be very sensitive to storm track.
- If the storm track trends west, probabilities of 8"+ would both increase and push westward toward I-95 corridor.



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA





# Coastal Flood and Marine

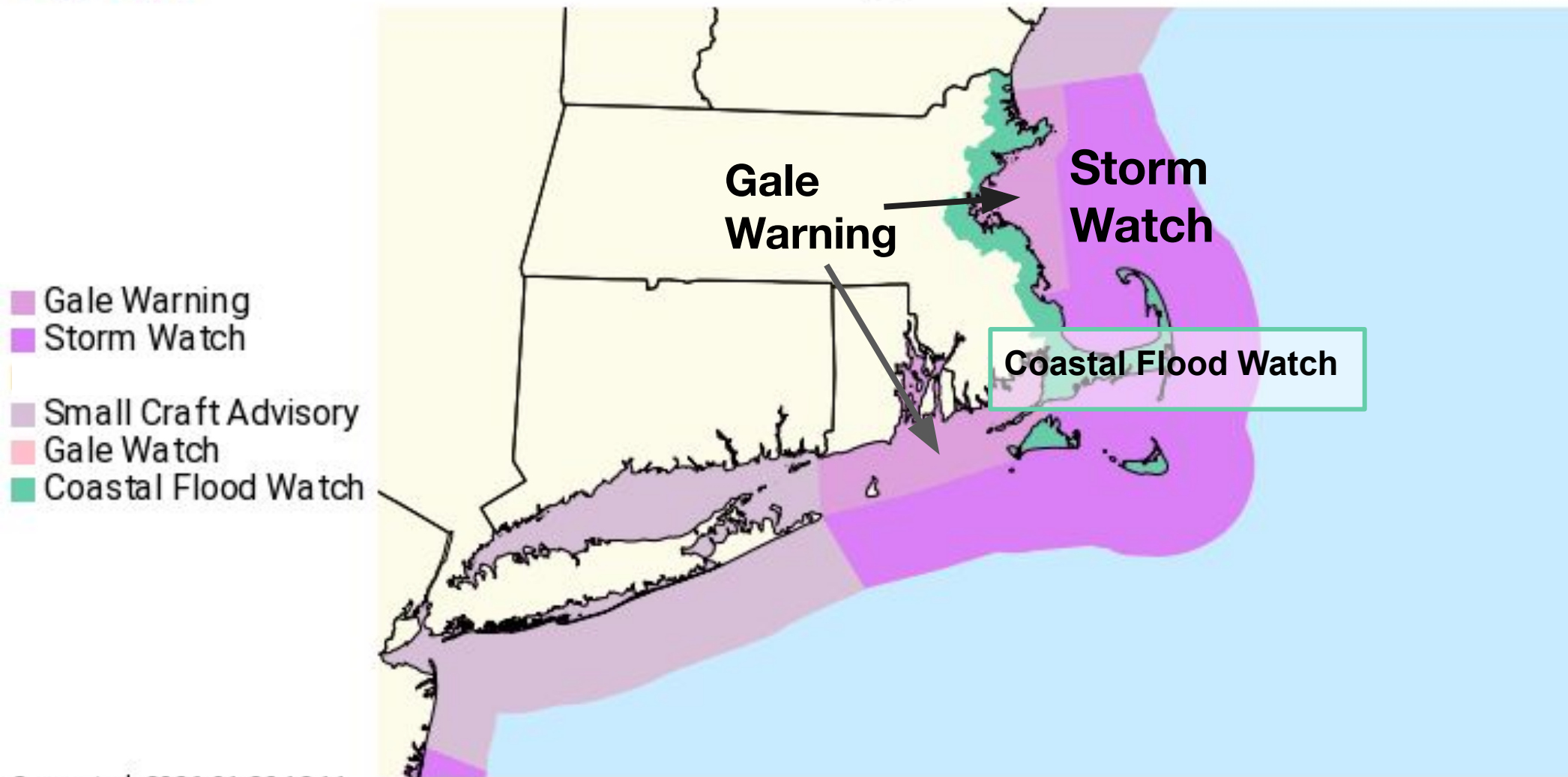
January 31, 2026

4:37 AM

Sunday - Monday



## Marine Watches Warnings and Advisories



### Coastal Flood Watch:

- Potential for Moderate flooding around high tides Sunday into Monday
- Water could be 1-3 feet deep
- Minor beach and dune erosion

### Storm Warning:

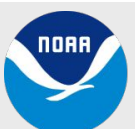
- Greatest chance of 50 kt gusts Sunday-Monday

### Gale Warning:

- 40-45 kt gusts most likely

Seas build to 20-25 feet offshore

Generated: 2026-01-30 13:11  
EST



National Oceanic and  
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U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA

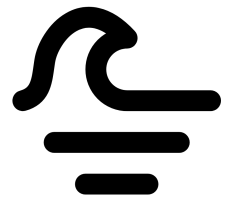


# Storm/Gale Warning

Sunday morning through Sunday night



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



## SEAS

- 15 to 20 FT

## WIND

- 40 to 50 KT

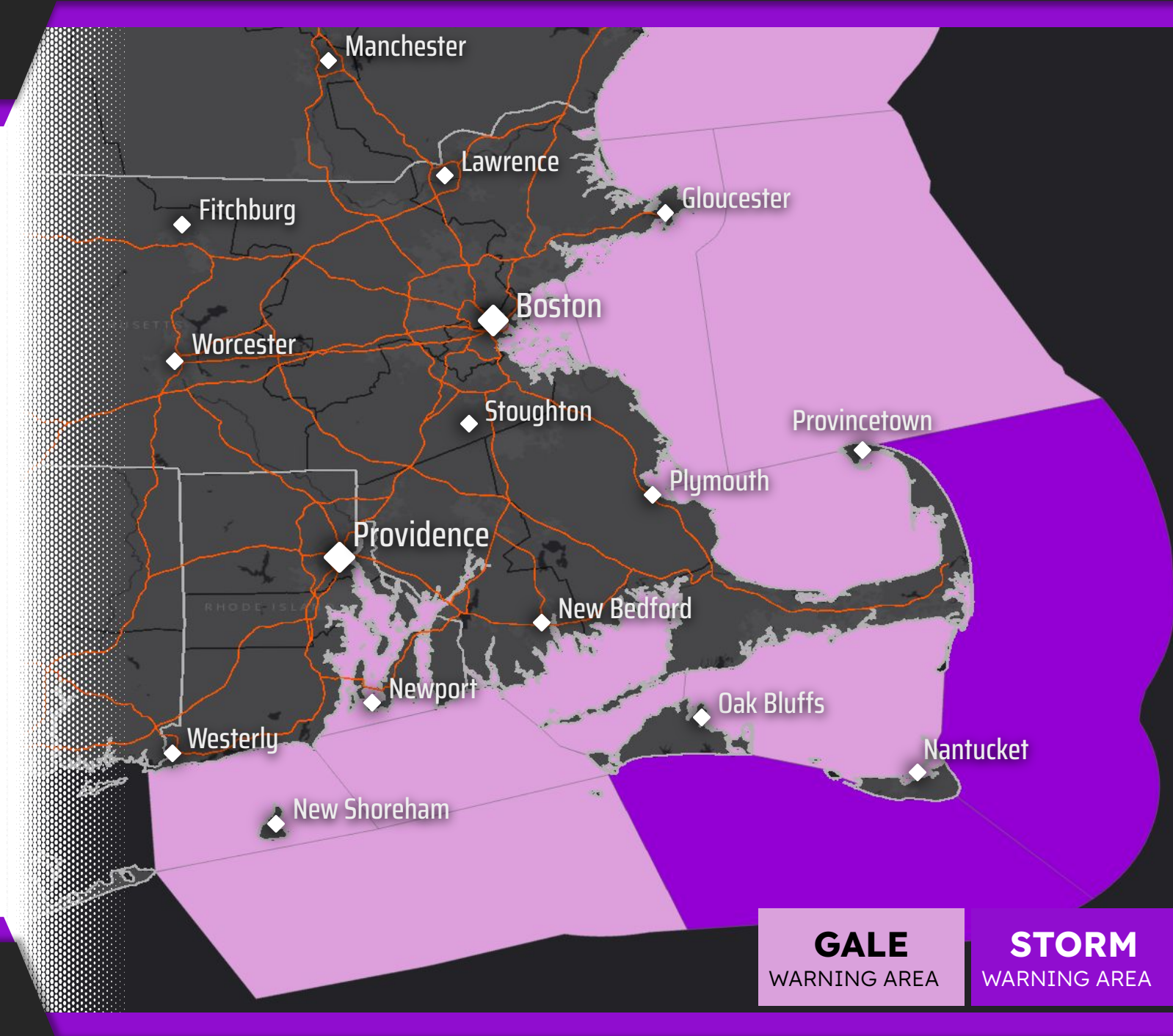


- Wind and wave conditions will be hazardous for small craft.
- Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in these conditions.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

Follow: @NWSBoston



**GALE**  
WARNING AREA

**STORM**  
WARNING AREA

Updated: January 31, 2026

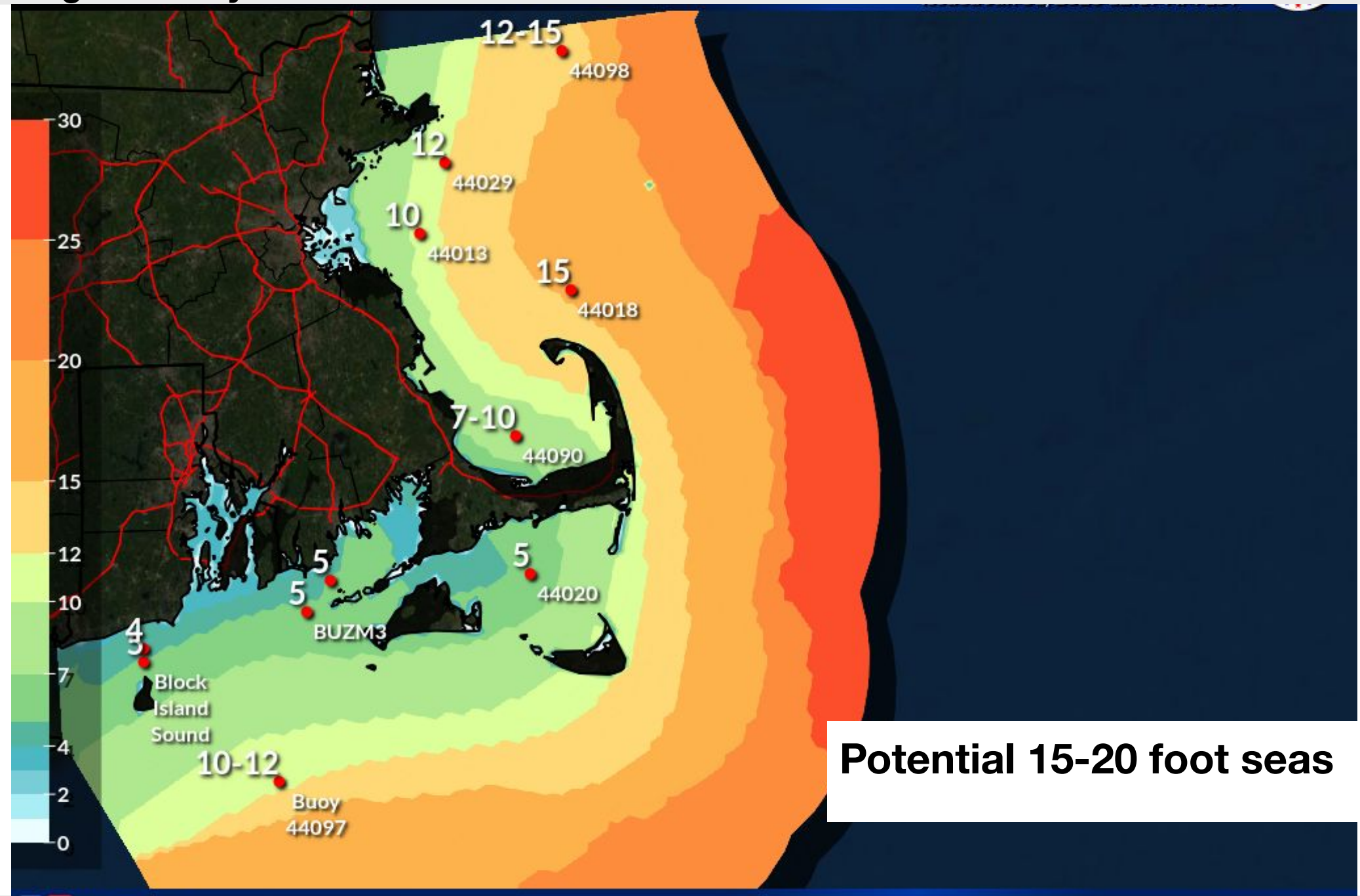




# Forecast Max Wave Heights

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

Sunday through Monday Afternoon



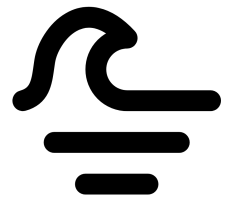


# Freezing Spray Advisory

3am to 1pm Sunday



- Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters



- Moderate spray expected

**SEAS**

- 15 to 20 FT

**WIND**

- 40 to 50 KT



- Freezing Spray Advisory: icing rates of 0.3 to 0.8 inches per hour (moderate icing).
- Freezing Spray Warning: icing rates of 0.8 to 1.6 inches per hour (heavy icing).



**FREEZING  
SPRAY**  
WARNING AREA

**FREEZING  
SPRAY**  
ADVISORY AREA



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

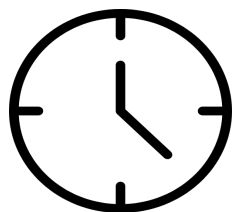
Follow: @NWSBoston

Updated: January 31, 2026



# Coastal Flood Advisory / Watch

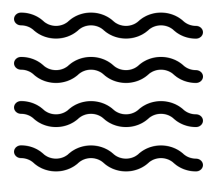
Sunday Morning through Monday Afternoon.



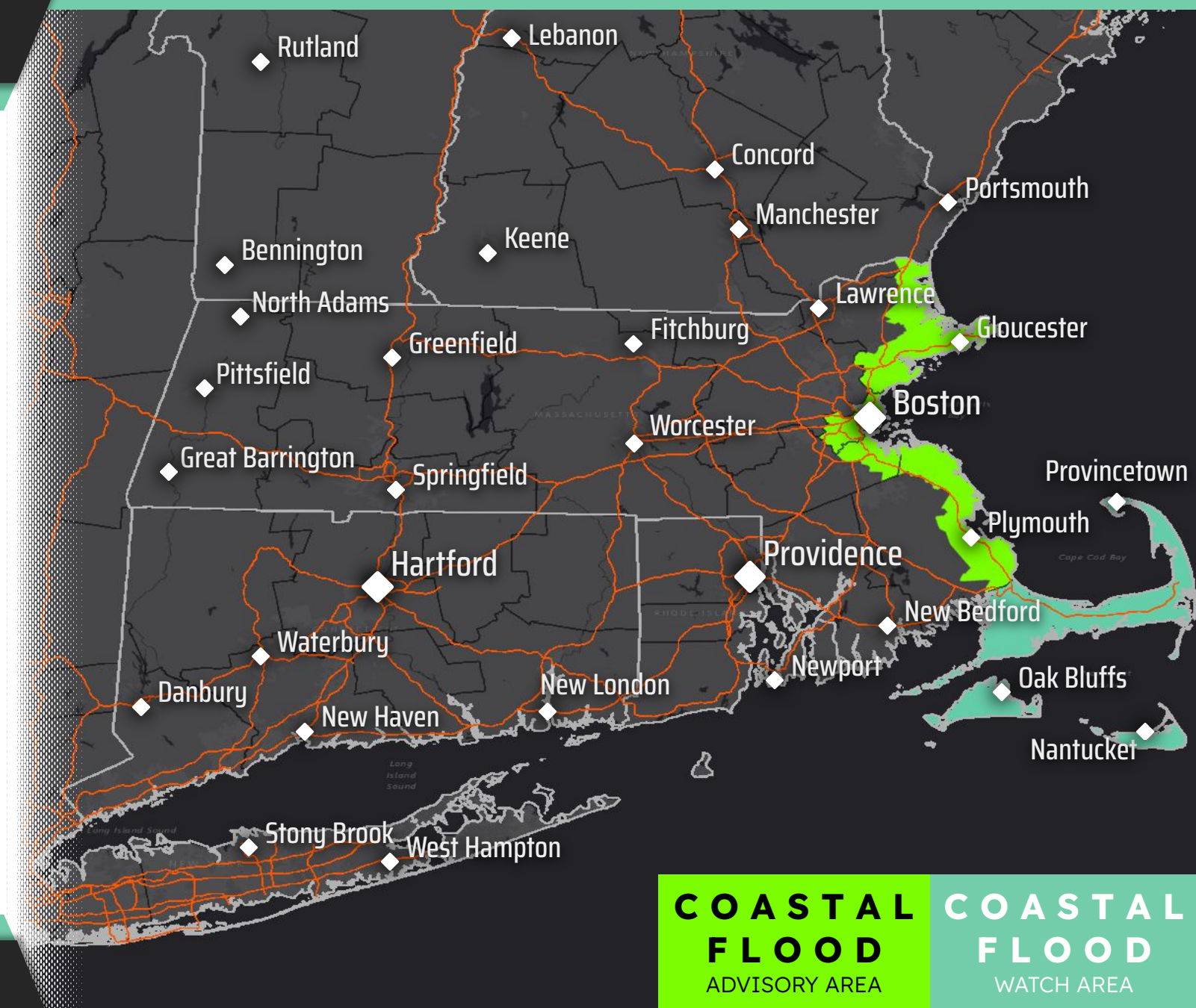
**Sunday Morning through  
Monday Afternoon.**



**Eastern Massachusetts Coast**  
Including Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and  
Nantucket.



- At least minor flooding for most, but areas of moderate flooding are possible near the Cape and Islands
- Significant coastal erosion is possible along the eastern Massachusetts coast Sunday into Monday.



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

Follow: @NWSBoston

**COASTAL FLOOD**  
ADVISORY AREA

**COASTAL FLOOD**  
WATCH AREA

Updated: January 31, 2026



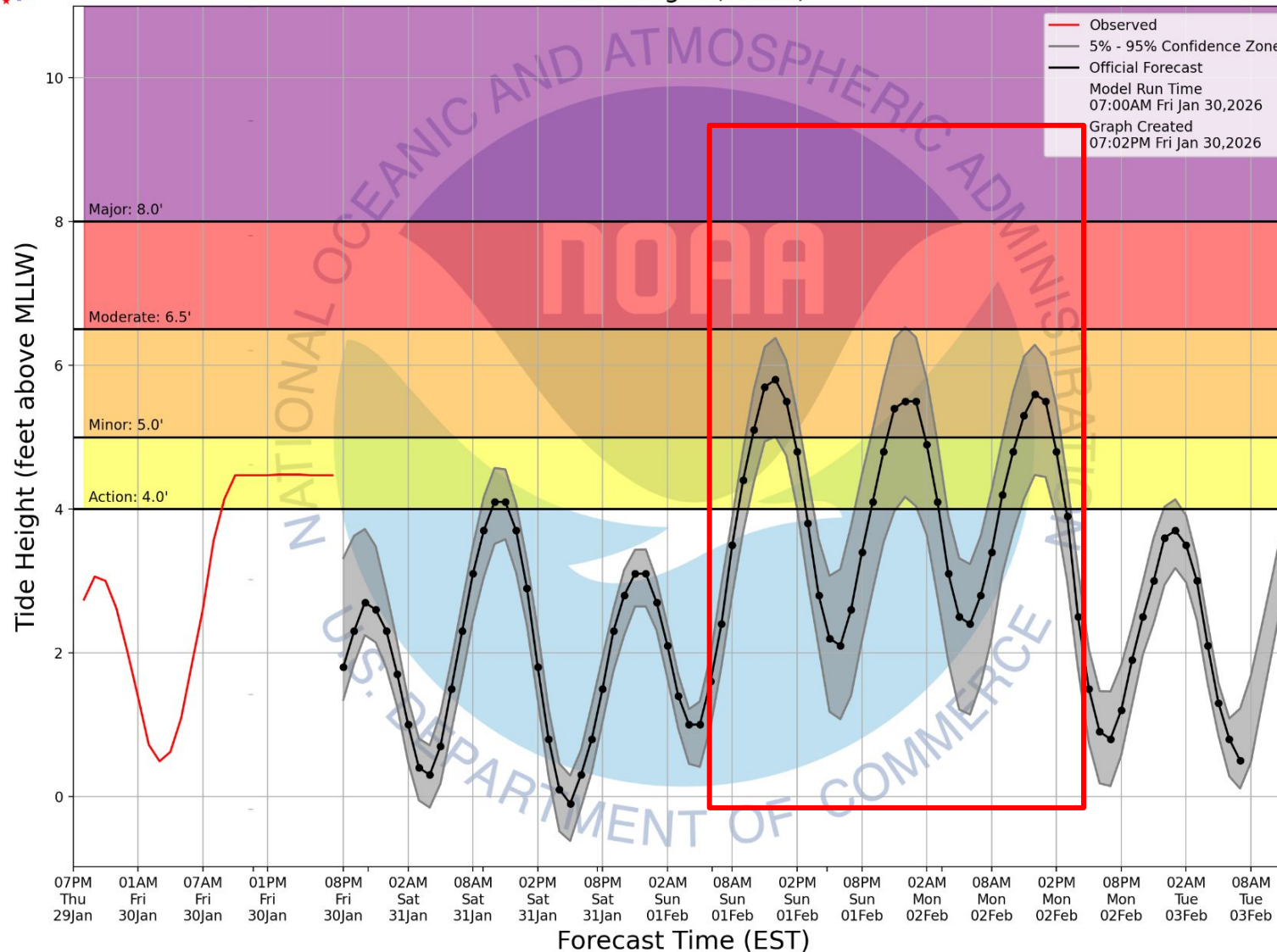


# Nantucket - Water Level Forecast

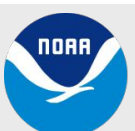
January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM



Nantucket Harbor at Nantucket, MA  
Tide Height (MLLW)



- High tides Sunday into Monday are of greatest concern
- Potential for Moderate flooding
  - Water 1-3 feet deep
- Note there is still a fairly large possible range which implies uncertainty
  - Storm track
  - Timing of highest surge
- NWS Boston [Coastal Flood Threat](#) page has additional information







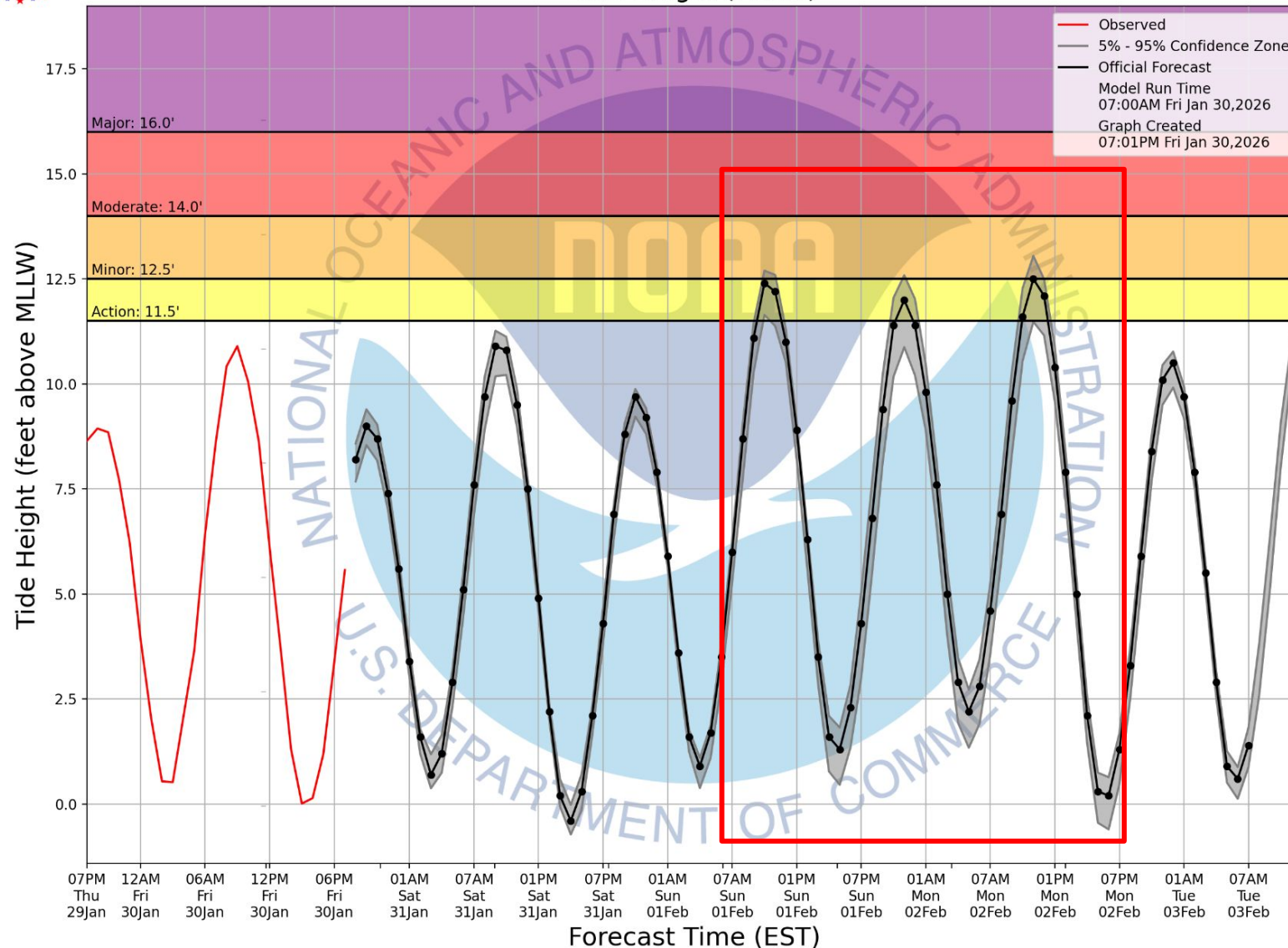
# Boston - Water Level Forecast

January 31, 2026

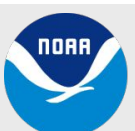
4:37 AM



Boston Harbor at Boston, MA  
Tide Height (MLLW)



- High tides Sunday into Monday are of greatest concern
- Lower water levels due to lower surge than Nantucket
- Minor flooding most likely
  - Up to 1 foot deep
- Offshore seas may result in pockets of Moderate flooding south of Boston
  - Water 1 to 3 feet deep in spots
- NWS Boston [Coastal Flood Threat](#) page has additional information







# Key Messages

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

- **Hazardous wind chills expected through Saturday morning.**
- **Strong coastal storm likely to pass offshore Sunday into Monday.**
  - Greatest chance for accumulating snow and strong winds Sunday and Sunday night for Cape Cod and the Islands, as well as the southern part of South Shore.
  - Minor coastal flooding and some beach erosion along eastern Massachusetts coast, with Minor to Moderate coastal flooding for the Cape and Islands.
  - Storm force winds and dangerous seas on the coastal waters.







# Contact and Next Briefing Information

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

For Southern New England



## Next Briefing

→ By email Saturday afternoon.



## Contact Information

### Web

→ [weather.gov/box](https://weather.gov/box)

### Phone

→ (508) 622-3280

### Email

→ [box.operations@noaa.gov](mailto:box.operations@noaa.gov)

### Facebook

→ [www.facebook.com/NWSBoston](https://www.facebook.com/NWSBoston)

### X

→ [@NWSBoston](https://twitter.com/NWSBoston)



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

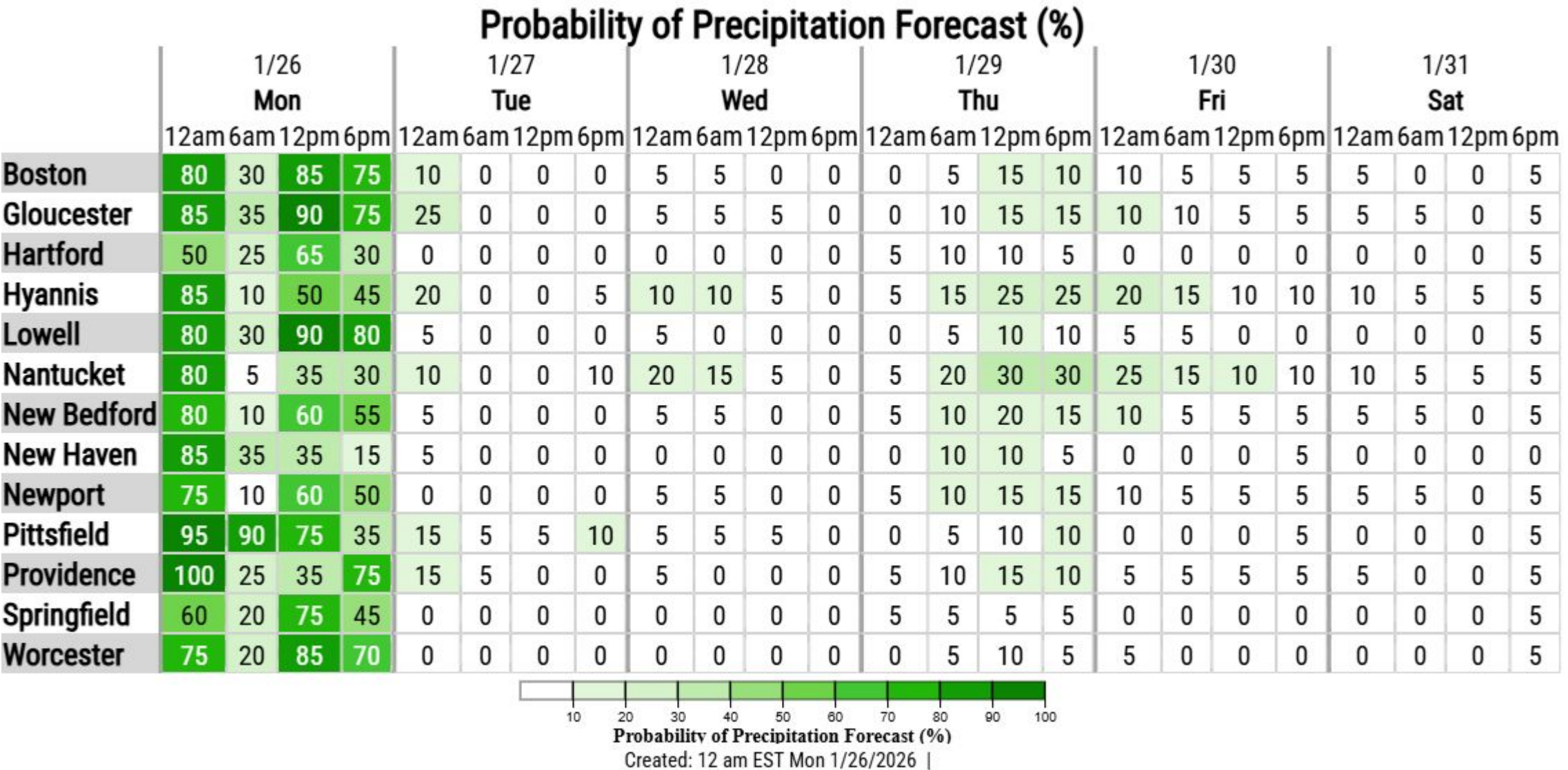
National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA





# Precipitation Chances

Low chances for precipitation late-week, otherwise mainly dry this week after the storm.



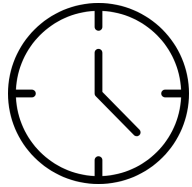




# Winter Weather Advisory

January 31, 2026

4:37 AM



**Bulk of the snow accumulation late tonight into Sunday morning, but lingers into the afternoon across southeast New England**



**The south coast of both Rhode Island and Massachusetts including Cape Cod and the Islands.**

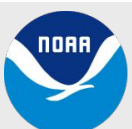
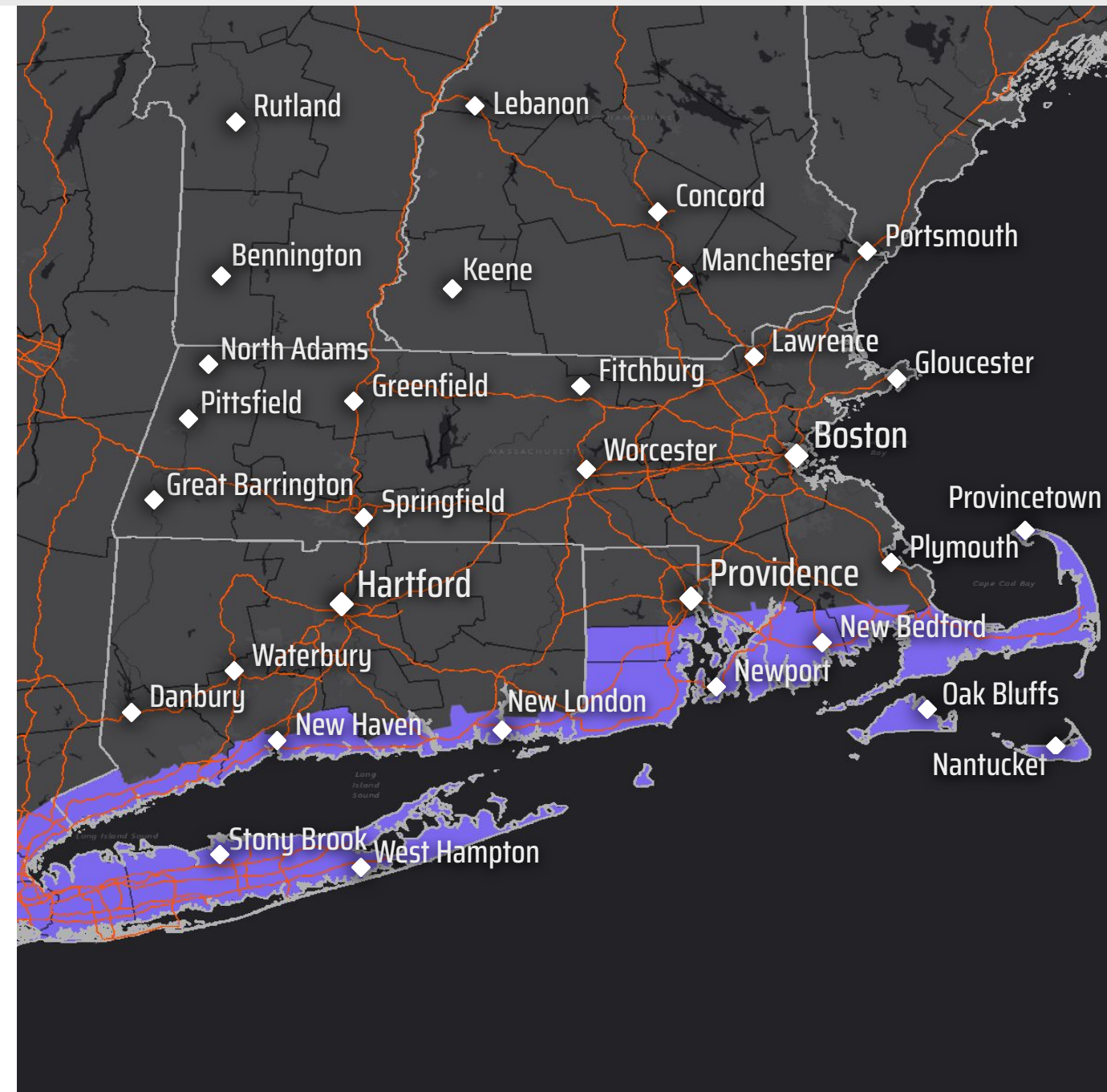


→ **Snow overspreads the region between 9 pm tonight and 1 am Sunday morning.**

→ **Snow accumulations of 2-4" expected.**



→ **Untreated roads will become snow covered and slippery very late tonight into Sunday morning.**



National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

**National Weather Service  
Boston / Norton, MA**

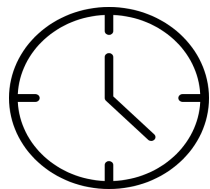




# Wind Headlines

For NWS Boston County Warning Area

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM



9 AM - 4 PM Monday



All of Southern New England



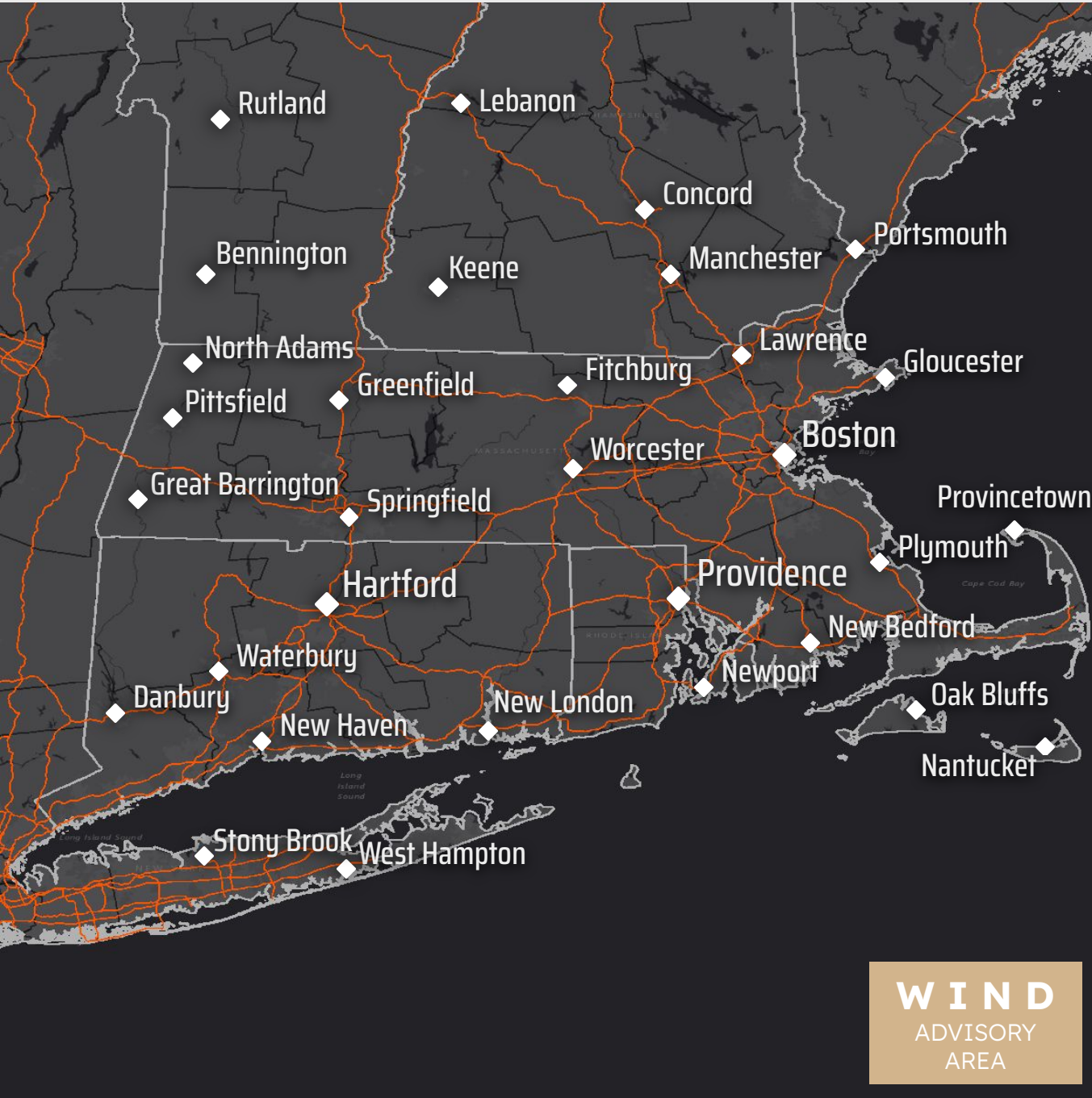
- Sustained winds 30-40 MPH
- Peak gusts 45-55 MPH



Secure Loose  
Objects



Difficult driving  
In high-profile vehicles









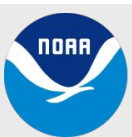


# Main Points

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

**|\*\*Add Weather/Water Message (optional)\*\*|**

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Wind/ Damaging Wind 	Insert Impact Information	Insert Location information	Insert Timing information
Coastal Flooding 	Insert Impact Information	Insert Location information	Insert Timing information
Snow 	Insert Impact Information	Insert Location information	Insert Timing information
Marine 	Insert Impact Information	Insert Location information	Insert Timing information

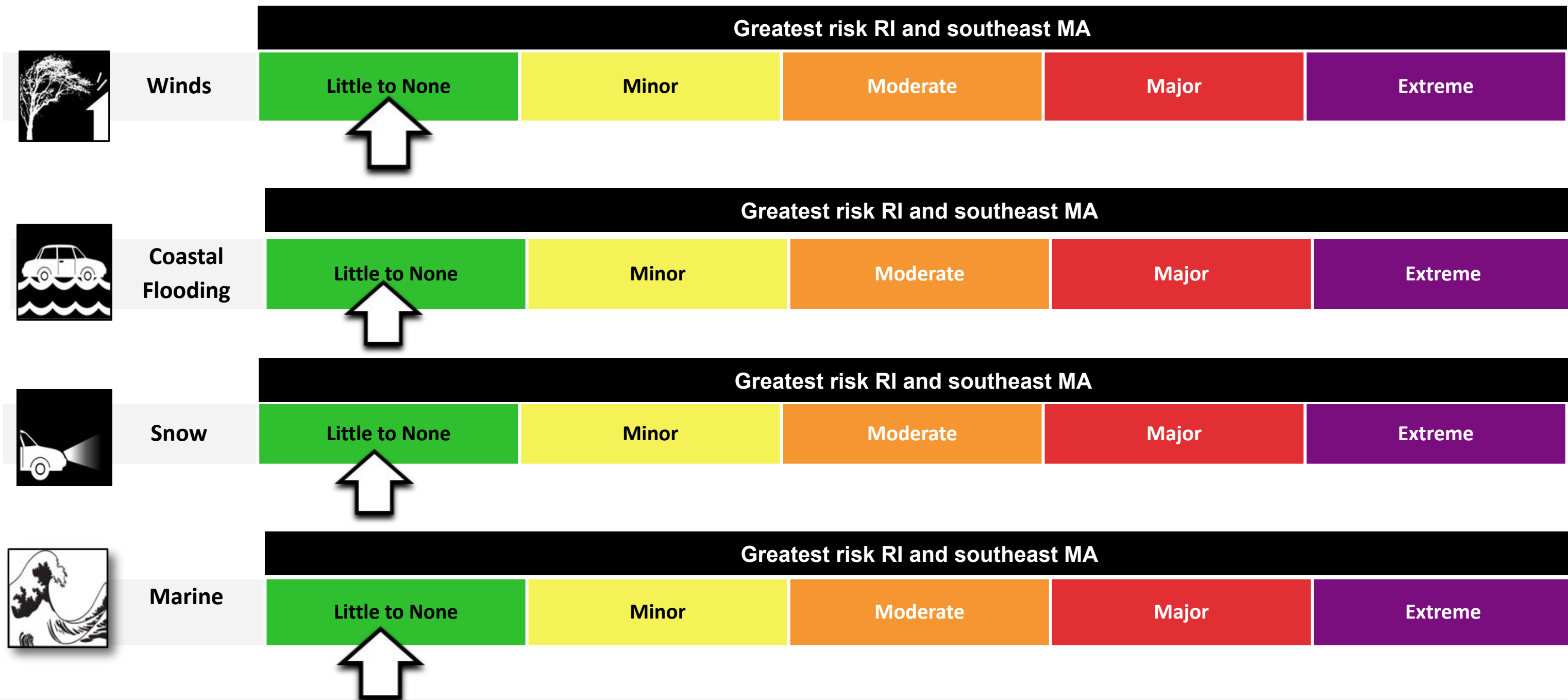






# Summary of Greatest Impacts

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM





# Incoming Cold and Late Weekend Storm

January 31, 2026  
4:37 AM

For Southern New England

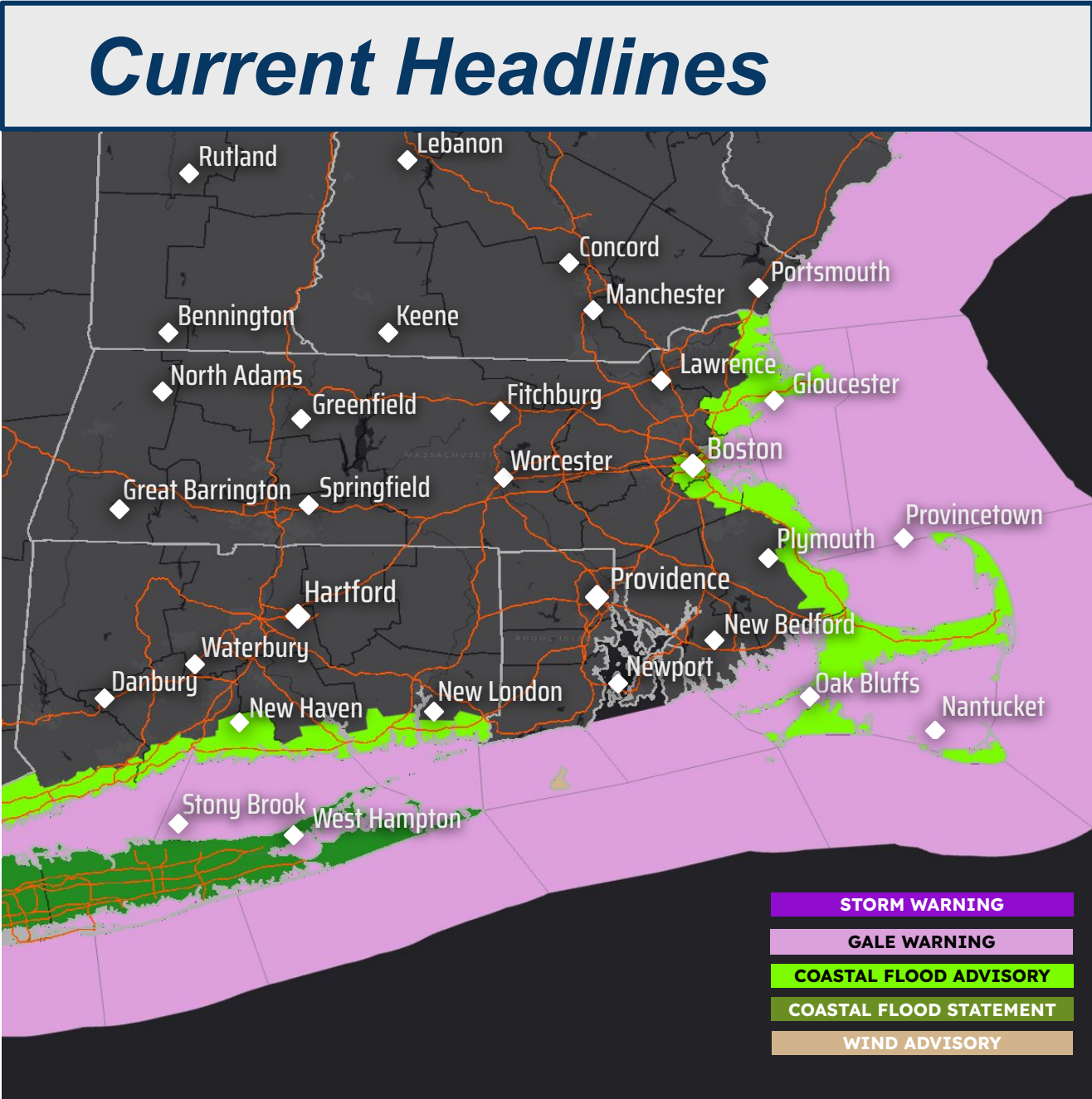
## Key Messages

- 



## New Information

→ No new information

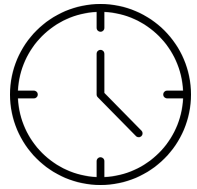




# Cold Weather Advisory

Latest info at [weather.gov/boston](https://weather.gov/boston)

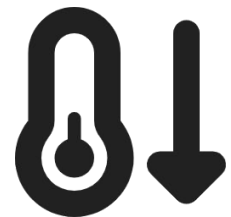
Tonight through Saturday Morning



Tonight through Saturday Morning



Most of Southern New England  
excluding south coast, Cape &  
Islands.



→ Lows: 1°F to -10°F

→ Wind Chills: -5°F to -20°F

Protect:



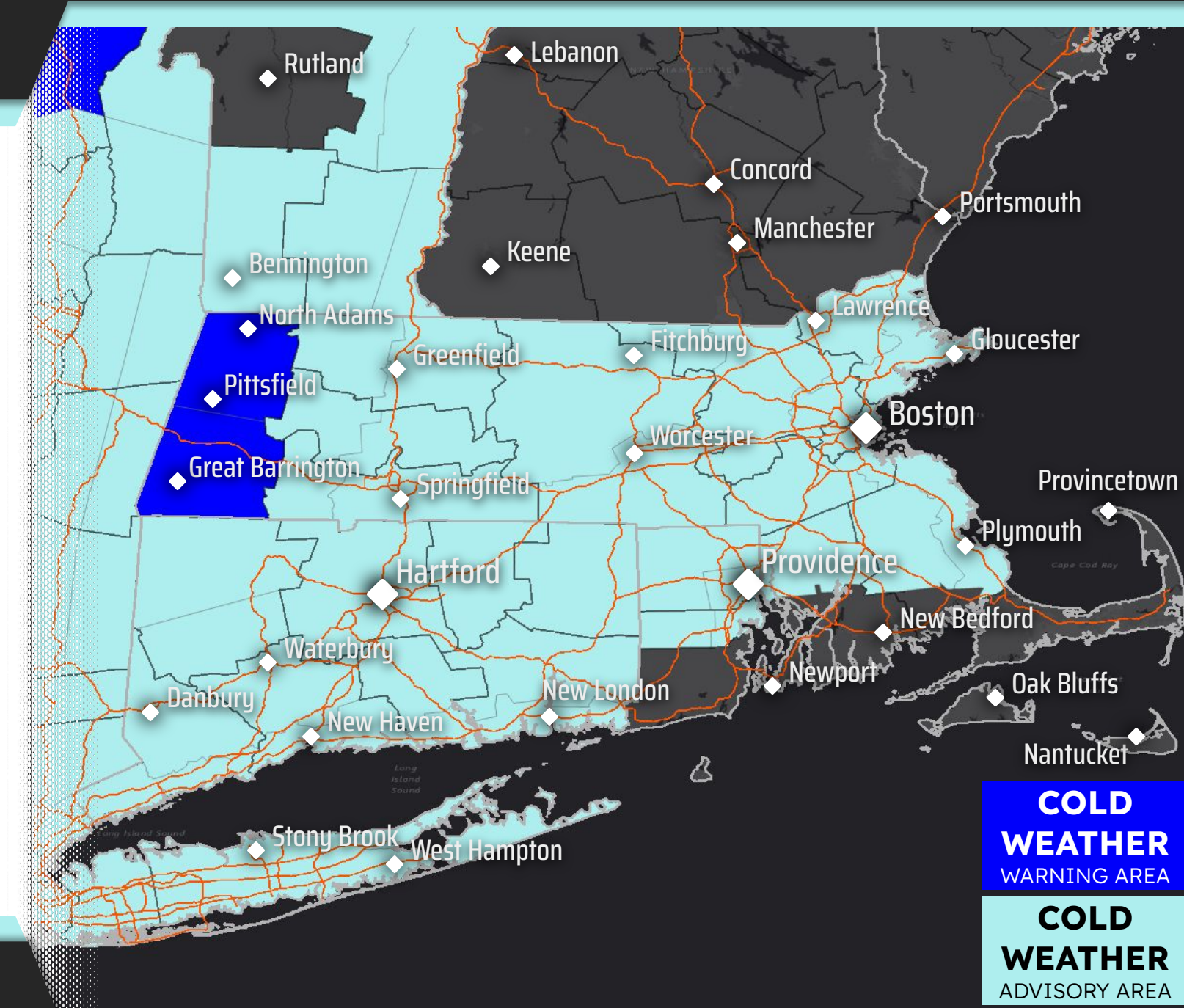
People - Pets - Pipes



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

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Updated: January 31, 2026



**COLD  
WEATHER**  
WARNING AREA

**COLD  
WEATHER**  
ADVISORY AREA