



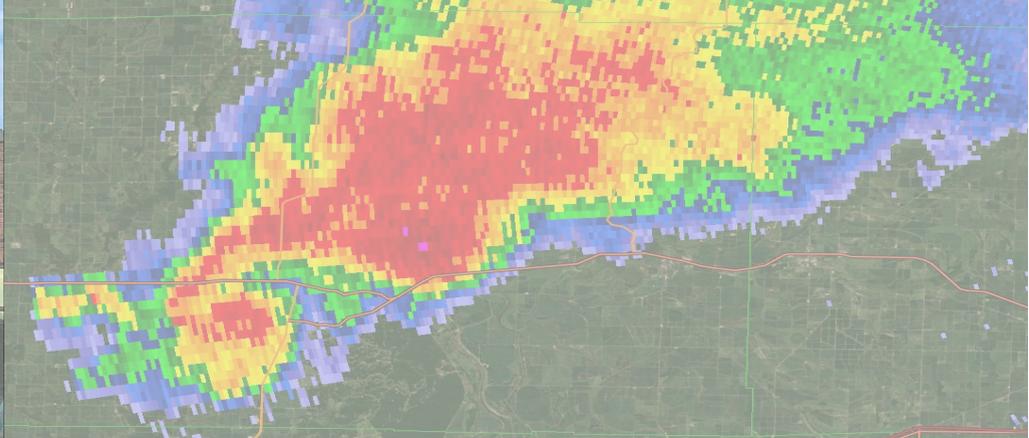
National Weather Service

Boston, MA

Emergency Management Briefing

Winter Storm Feb 22 - Feb 23

Friday 2/20/2026





Potential Coastal Storm Sun Night-Mon

February 20, 2026
2:00 PM

For Southern New England

Key Messages:

- Coastal storm likely impacts the South Coast, Cape Cod, and the Islands.
 - Cannot rule impacts further north and west into southern New England.
- Magnitude and extent/footprint of impacts will be very sensitive to storm track, which is still uncertain.



New Information/Updates

- Winter Storm Watches issued for the South coast, Cape Cod and the Islands.
- High Wind Watches issued for Cape Cod and the Islands.
- Storm Watches issued for all coastal waters except Boston Harbor (Gale Watch).
- Coastal Flood Watch issued for eastern MA coast.

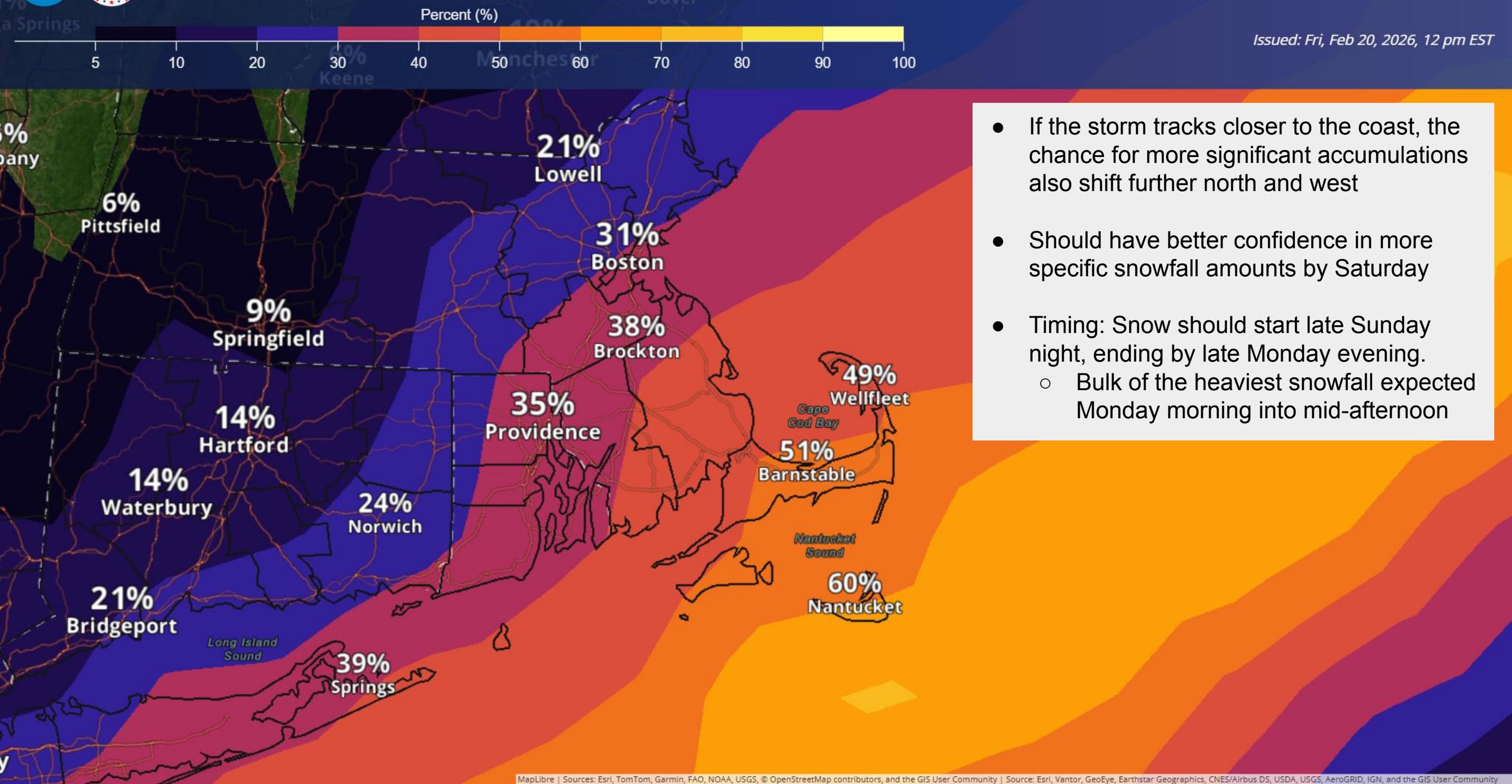




Probability of 6 inches of Snow or Greater Sun Night-Mon

Mon, Feb 23, 2026, 7 pm EST

Issued: Fri, Feb 20, 2026, 12 pm EST



- If the storm tracks closer to the coast, the chance for more significant accumulations also shift further north and west
- Should have better confidence in more specific snowfall amounts by Saturday
- Timing: Snow should start late Sunday night, ending by late Monday evening.
 - Bulk of the heaviest snowfall expected Monday morning into mid-afternoon



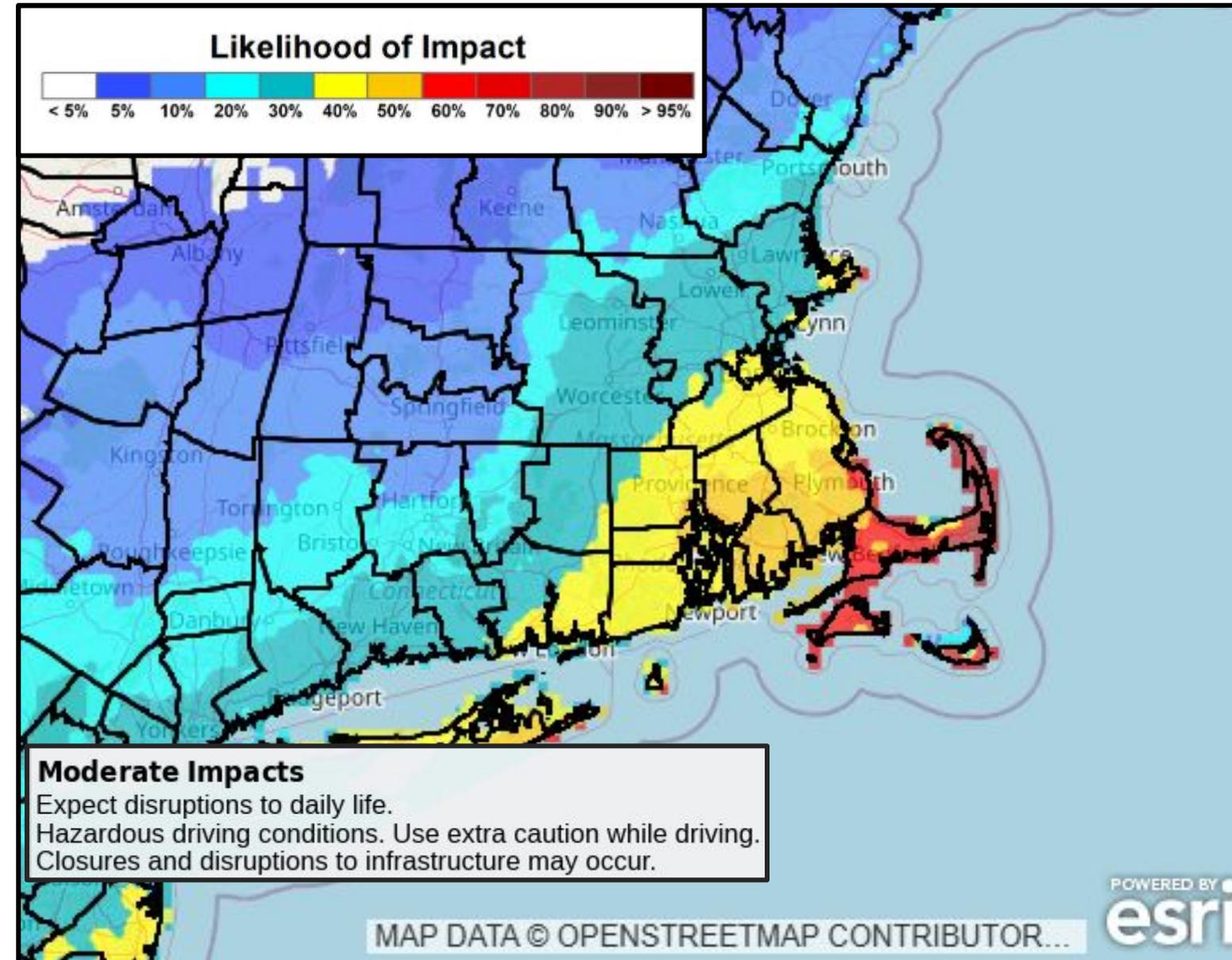
Potential Impacts

February 20, 2026
2:00 PM

Probabilistic Winter Storm Severity Index (P-WSSI)

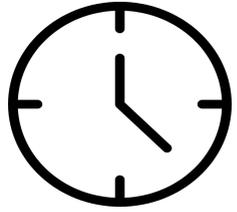
- Increasing likelihood of at least moderate impacts for South Coast and southeast MA, especially for Cape Cod and Islands.
 - Still uncertainty with regard to exact areas that will ultimately experience the most impact, due to uncertainty in track the storm will take
 - A shift in the track closer to the coast would result in impacts being seen further north and west.
- Snow is expected to be wet and dense.
- Combination of strong winds with wet snow on trees will increase risk for tree damage and power outages.

Probability of Moderate Impacts (Sun Night-Mon)



Coastal Flood Watch

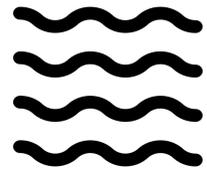
Valid 12 AM Tuesday through 7 AM Tuesday



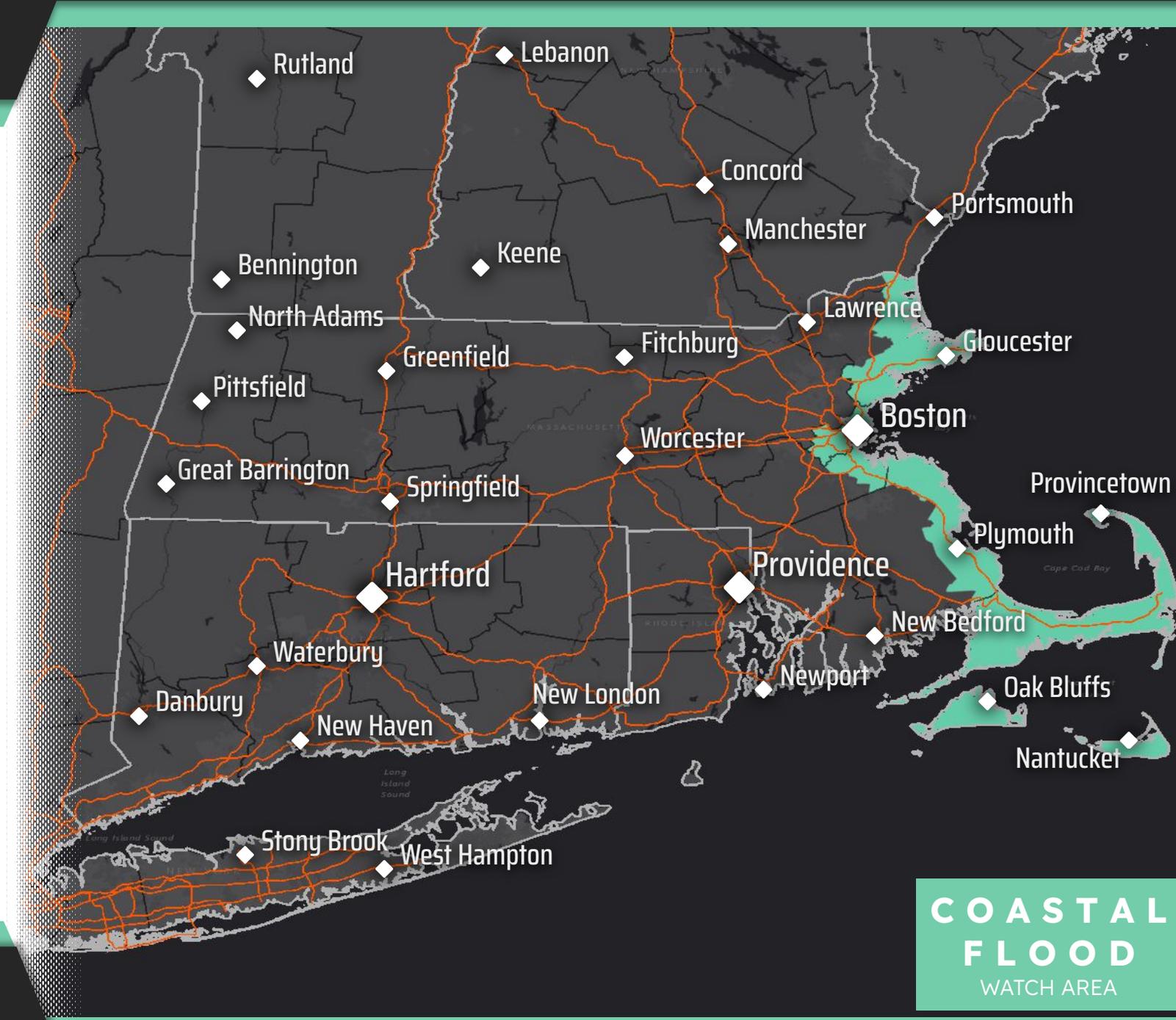
Monday & Tuesday High Tides



Eastern MA Coastline, Islands



- **Minor to moderate flooding of 2-3' possible.**
- **Beach Erosion & Minor Coastal Inundation Possible.**



**COASTAL
FLOOD
WATCH AREA**



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE - BOSTON

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Updated: February 20, 2026

- **Minor to Moderate coastal flooding for Monday and Tuesday high tide cycles.**
- **Potential storm surge 2-3 feet with offshore waves as high as 20 feet.**
- **[Refer to this webpage for more information](#) on coastal flooding and water levels**



Minor Coastal Flooding:

- Minor flooding of near shore roads, but most roads remain open and passable.
- Very few vulnerable basements and shore roads will see some flooding, but depth is shallow.
- Coastal Flood Advisories issued. Coastal Flood Statements issued if impacts are even less than this (ie. Splashover onto water adjacent roads/areas).



Moderate Coastal Flooding:

- Flooding of near shore roads, many closed around high tide.
- Many vulnerable basements flooded. Water may be 1-3 feet deep.
- Some damage of structures such as decks, porches, or weakened sea walls.
- Coastal Flood Watches or Warning are issued.



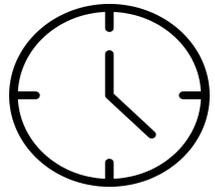
Major Coastal Flooding:

- Significant flooding of many shore roads & basements, more than 3 feet deep.
- Many roads impassable and may be washed out, isolated some neighborhoods
- Evacuations may be needed in areas! There is a significant threat to life and property.
- Coastal Flood Watches or Warnings are issued.

High Wind Watch

Latest info at weather.gov/boston

Valid 6 AM Monday through 12 AM Tuesday



**Monday Morning through
Midnight Tuesday**



Cape Cod & the Islands



- Sustained winds 25-35 MPH
- Peak gusts up to 50-55 MPH



*Secure Loose
Objects*



*Difficult driving
In high-profile vehicles*



**HIGH
WIND
WATCH AREA**



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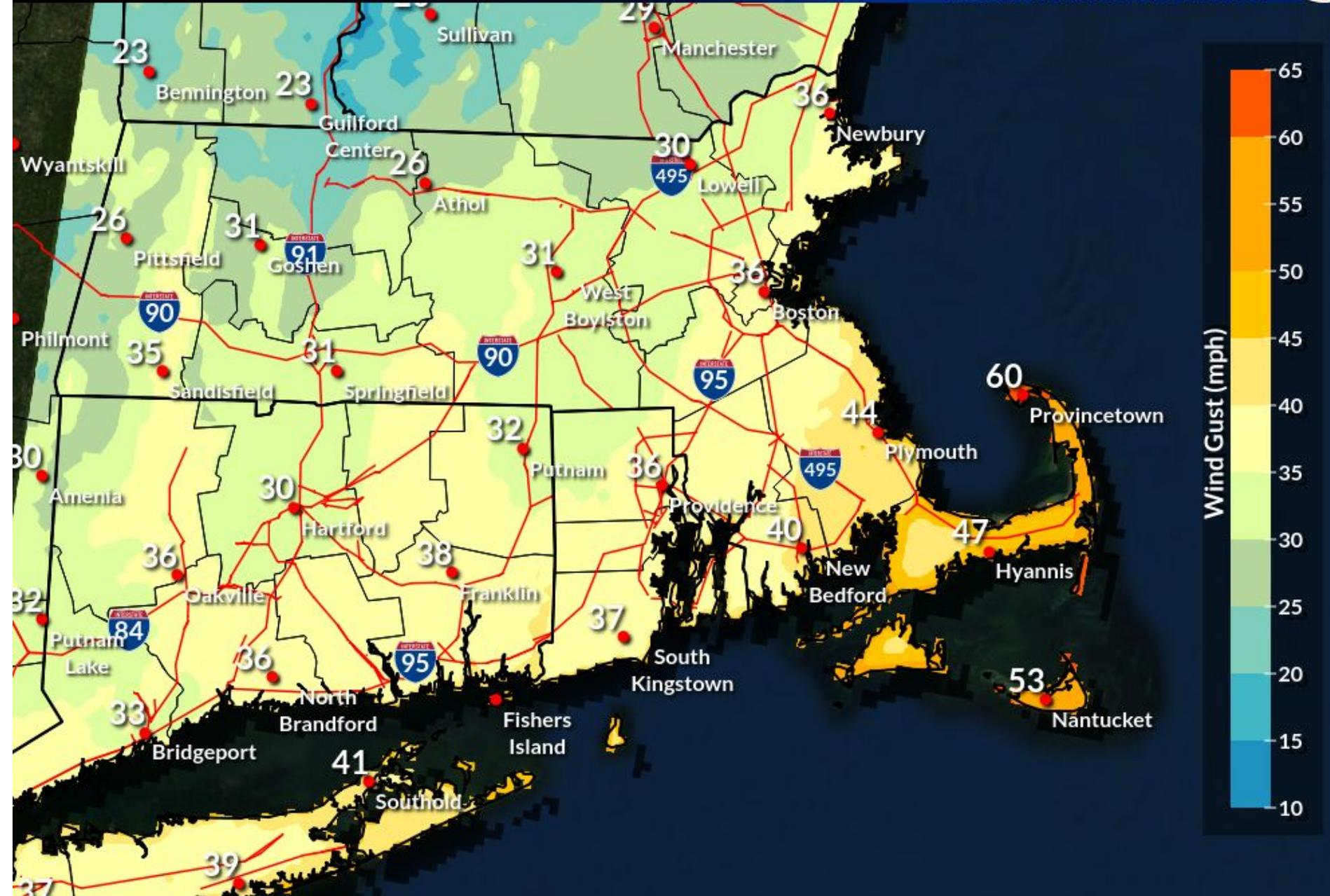
Strong North/Northeast Winds Expected

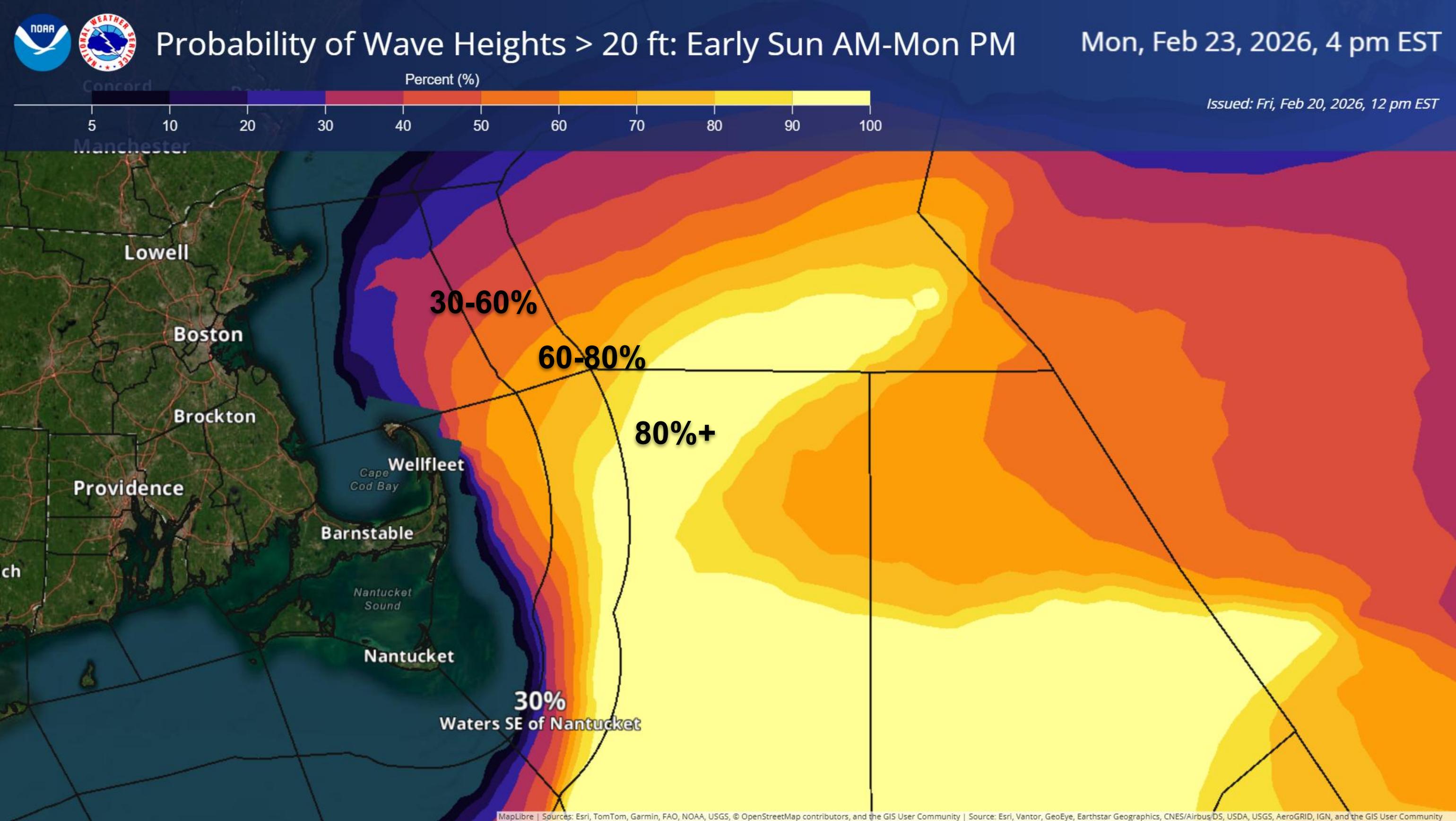
February 20, 2026
2:00 PM

- **Gusty winds expected to accompany offshore storm.**
 - Highest gusts over the water, south coast, and southeast MA, especially Cape Cod & Islands.
- **Timing:**
 - Peak gusts early Monday morning through Monday Night.
- **Uncertainty:**
 - A storm track closer to the coast would shift the area potentially seeing gusts over 50 mph further north and west
- **Impacts:**
 - Tree damage, especially in areas that receive significant accumulation of wet snow on trees.
 - Power outages

Forecast Max Wind Gust: Sun Night-Mon Night

Weather Forecast Office
Boston, MA
Issued Feb 20, 2026 1:34 PM EST



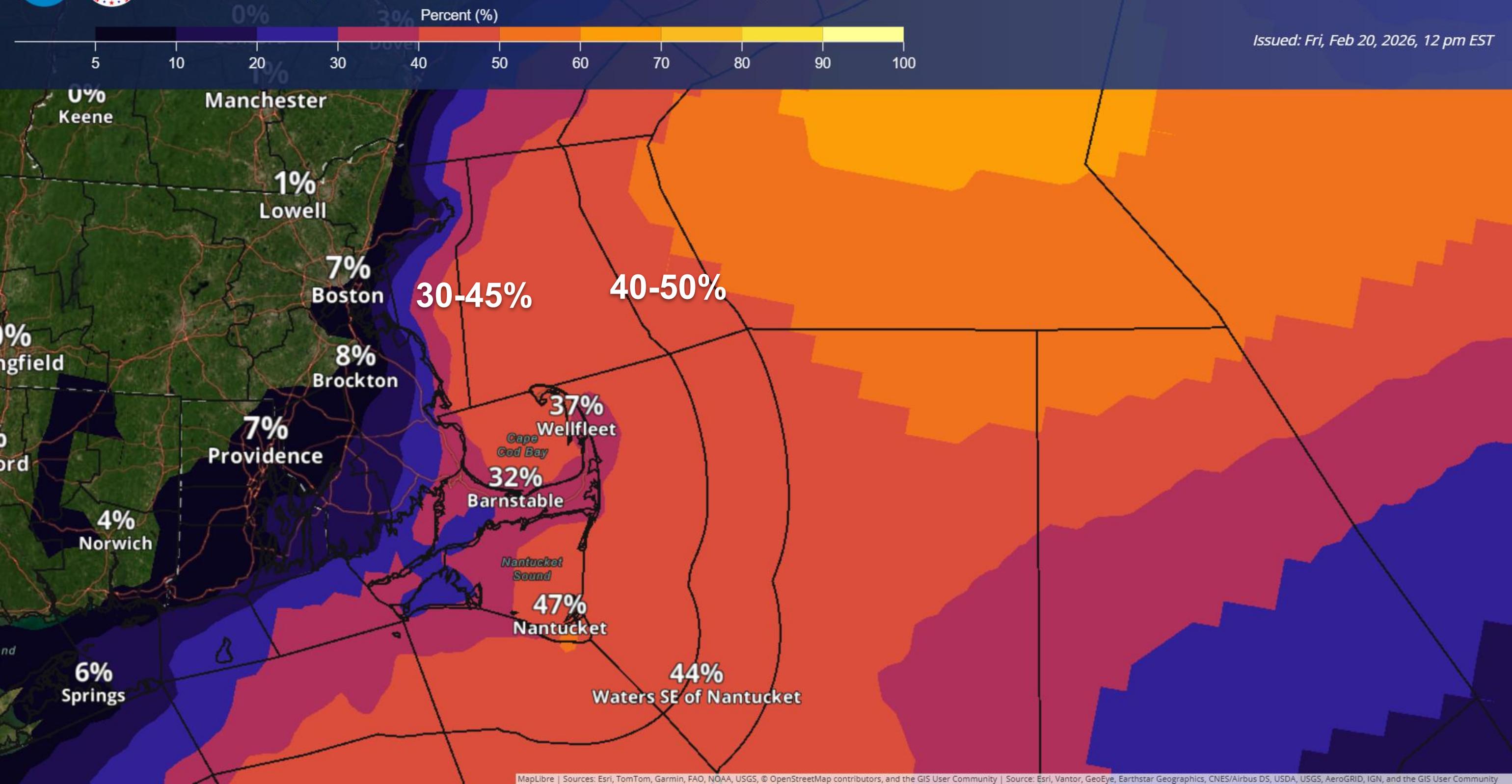




Probability of Wind Gusts > 45 kts: Early Sun AM-Mon PM

Mon, Feb 23, 2026, 1 pm EST

Issued: Fri, Feb 20, 2026, 12 pm EST



Storm Watch | Gale Watch

Valid 2 AM Monday through 12 AM Tuesday



- Storm Watch: Massachusetts and Rhode Island Coastal Waters
- Gale Watch: Boston Harbor



SEAS

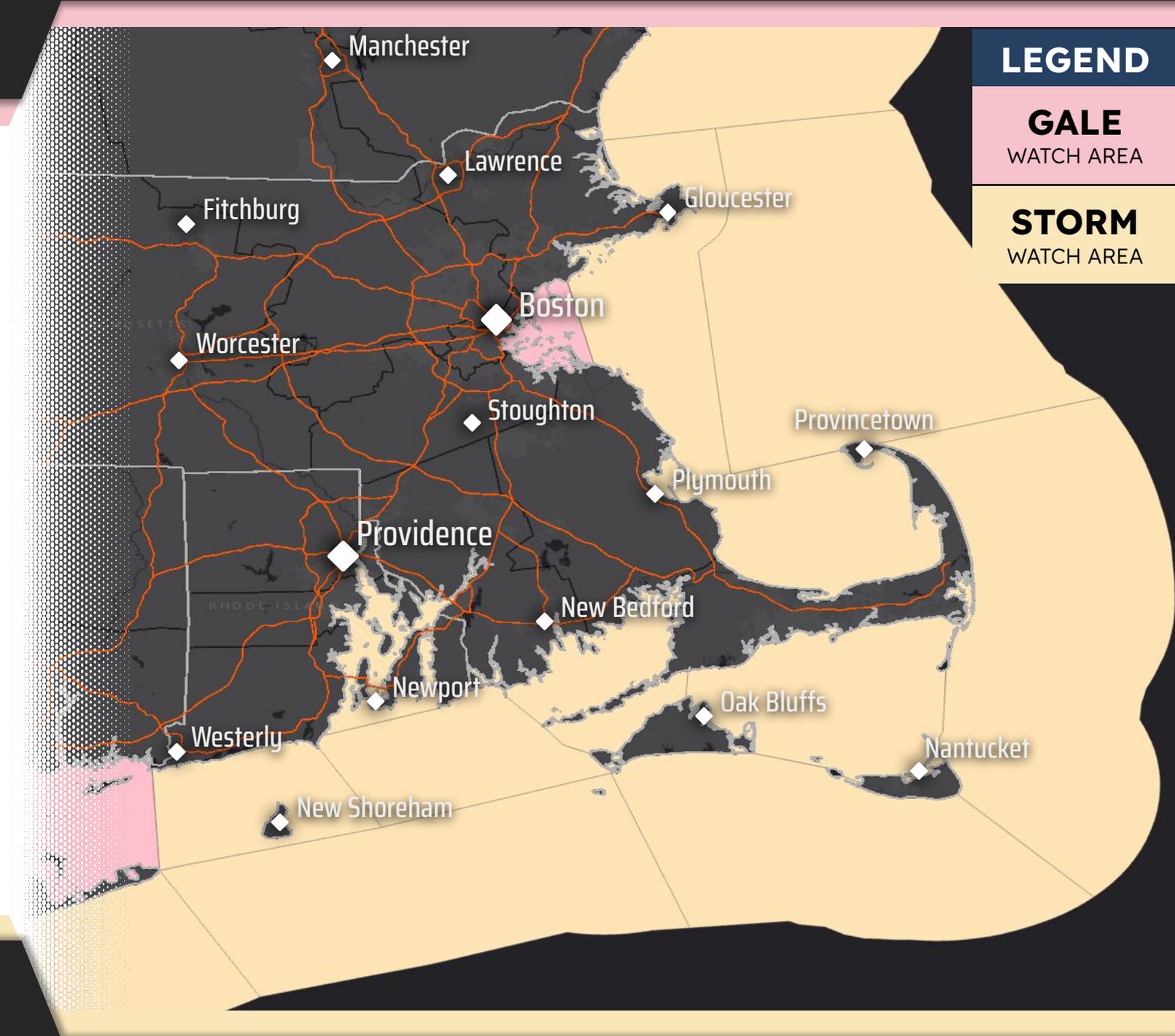
- 15-20 ft

WIND

- Sustained 40-50 knots, gusts to 55 knots



- Mariners should consider altering plans to avoid these hazardous conditions.
- Storm force winds and hazardous seas could capsize or damage vessels and reduce visibility.



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Updated: February 20, 2026



Contact and Next Briefing Information

February 20, 2026
2:00 PM

For Southern New England



Next Briefing

→ Saturday morning



Contact Information

Web

→ weather.gov/box

Phone

→ (508) 622-3280

Email

→ box.operations@noaa.gov

Facebook

→ 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