

Coastal Low Wednesday-Thursday March 6-7 2013

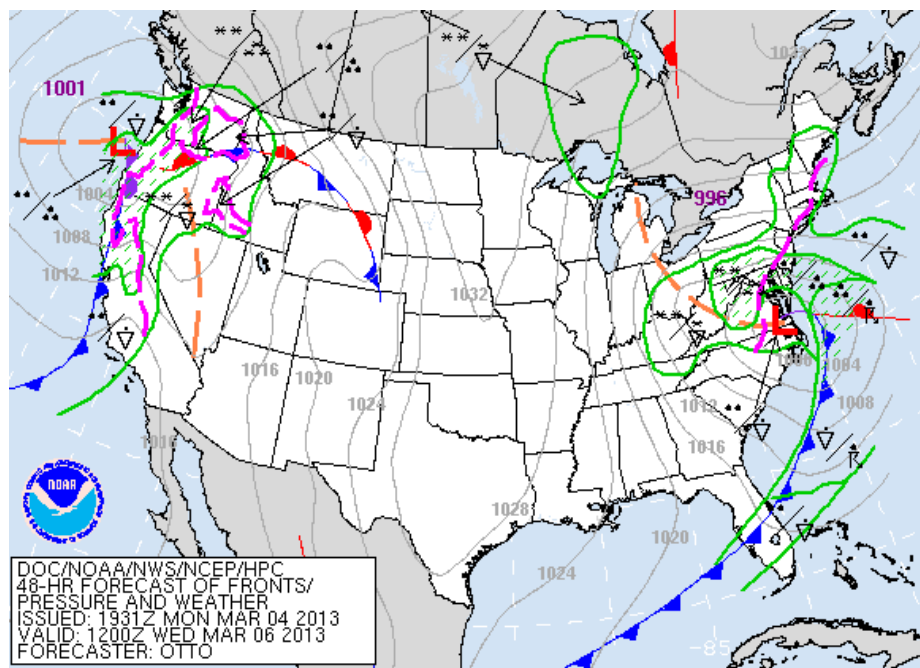
Eastern North Carolina
Threat Assessment

National Weather Service
Newport/Morehead City, NC

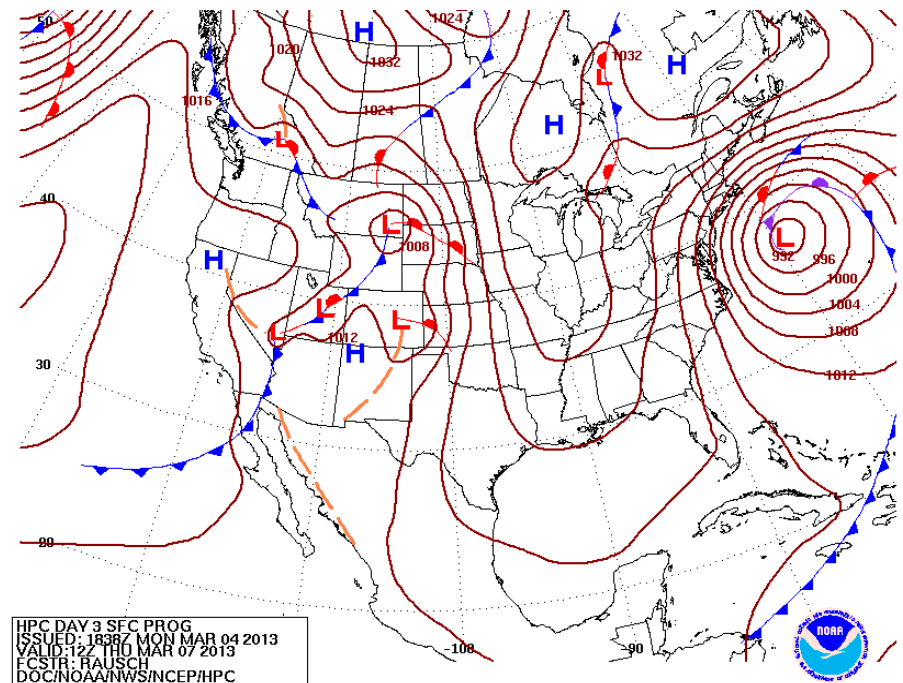
Threat Summary

- Low pressure is forecast to move east near the Virginia border Tuesday night, then move offshore and strengthen later Wednesday into Thursday. The computer models are now coming more in line with this track and timing of the low.
- This system will produce a variety of impacts for eastern NC but the main threat will be gusty west-southwest winds Wednesday afternoon that become northwest to north and remain strong Wednesday night and Thursday. Wind advisories along the coast will likely be needed...especially Wednesday night into Thursday.
- The strong winds will produce a threat of coastal flooding. It now appears coastal flooding that develops will be mainly minor with water levels increasing 2 to 3 feet above normal over the southern and eastern Pamlico sounds as well as the beaches north of Cape Hatteras. Given the prolonged duration of this event the closing of Highway 12 at the typical vulnerable areas will be possible.
- High surf will produce a threat of beach erosion, mainly on the Outer Banks north of Cape Hatteras.
- Precipitation with this system is currently expected to remain all rain for eastern NC through Wednesday, but precipitation could end as a mix of rain and snow showers Wednesday night. Low level temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing and with the ground rather warm little or no accumulations are expected. The far northern tier will have the best chance to see the snow.
- Precipitation amounts at this time look to range from one half to one inch over eastern North Carolina. Heavier precipitation upstream may be enough to produce some minor river flooding inland as most rivers are currently running high.

Forecast Maps - Fronts and Pressure



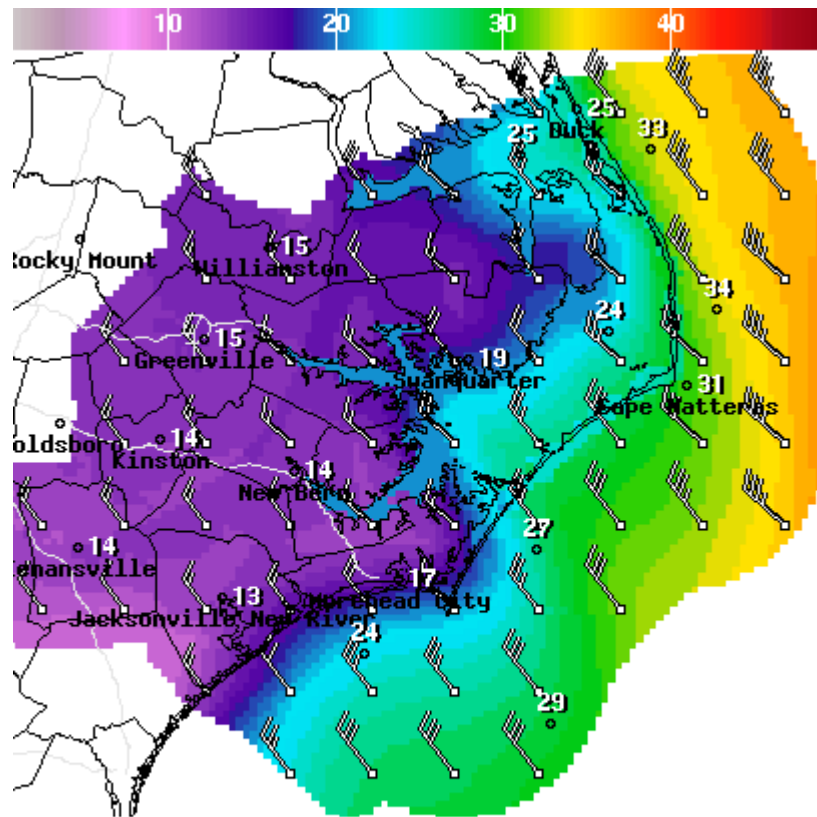
7 am Wednesday



7 am Thursday

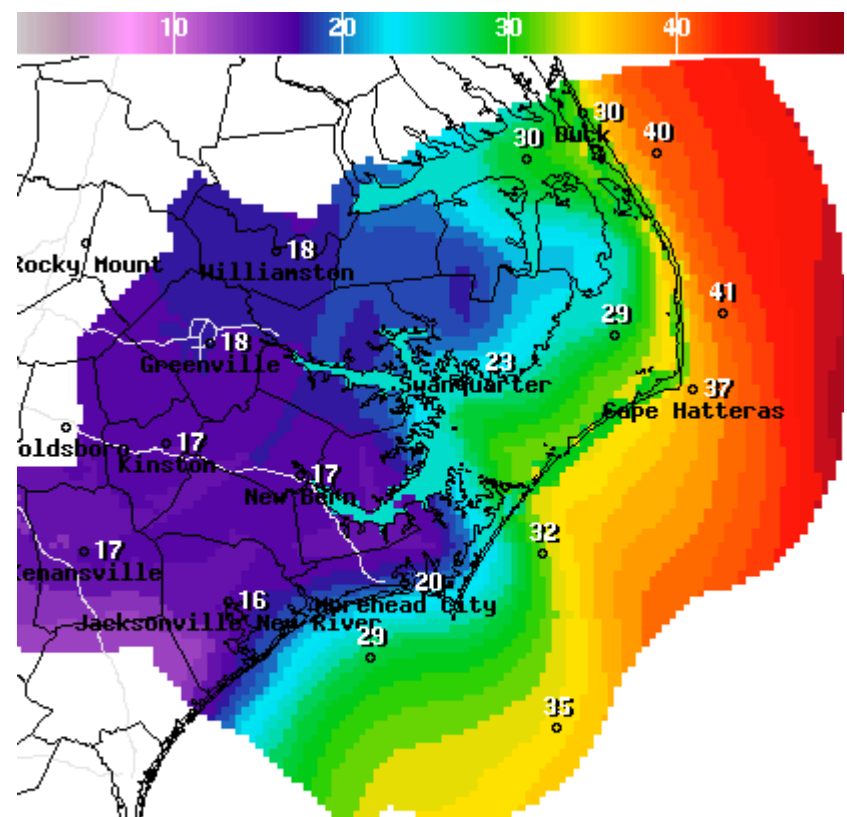
Low pressure is forecast to strengthen as it moves off the NC coast Wednesday into Thursday.

Wind Speed and Gusts (in knots)



WindSpd(kts) & WindDir For Thu Mar 07 2013 7AM EST
(Thu Mar 07 2013 12Z)
NWS Newport/Morehead City, NC
Graphic Created Mar 04 2:05PM EST

Wind Speed 7 am Thursday

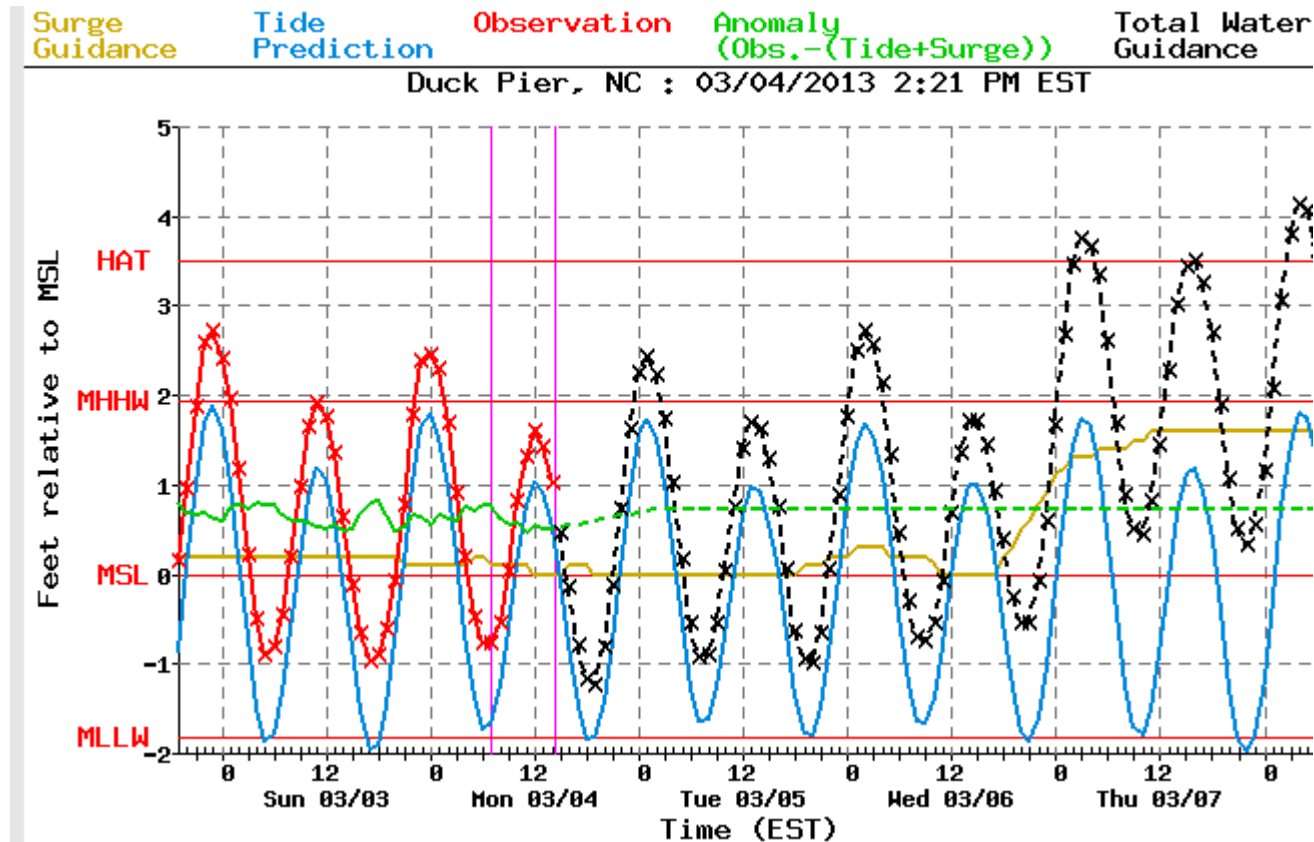


Wind Gust(kts) For Thu Mar 07 2013 7AM EST
(Thu Mar 07 2013 12Z)
NWS Newport/Morehead City, NC
Graphic Created Mar 04 2:05PM EST

Wind Gusts 7 am Thursday

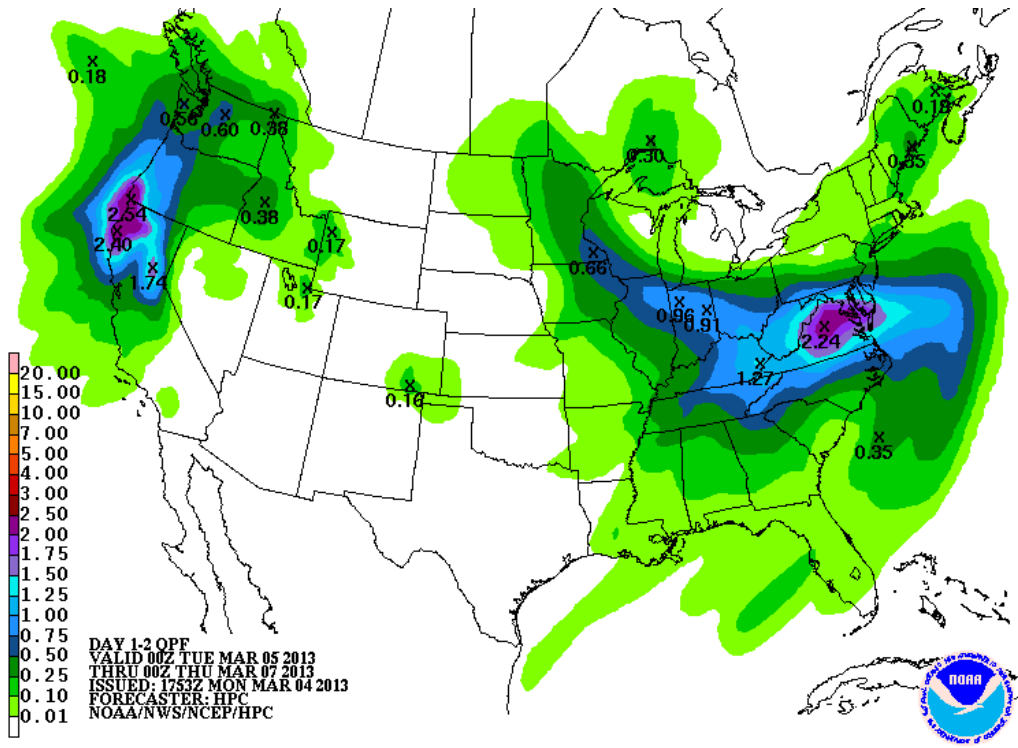
Strong northwest to north winds gusting to 40+ mph can be expected Thursday, highest on the Outer Banks.

Coastal Flood Threat

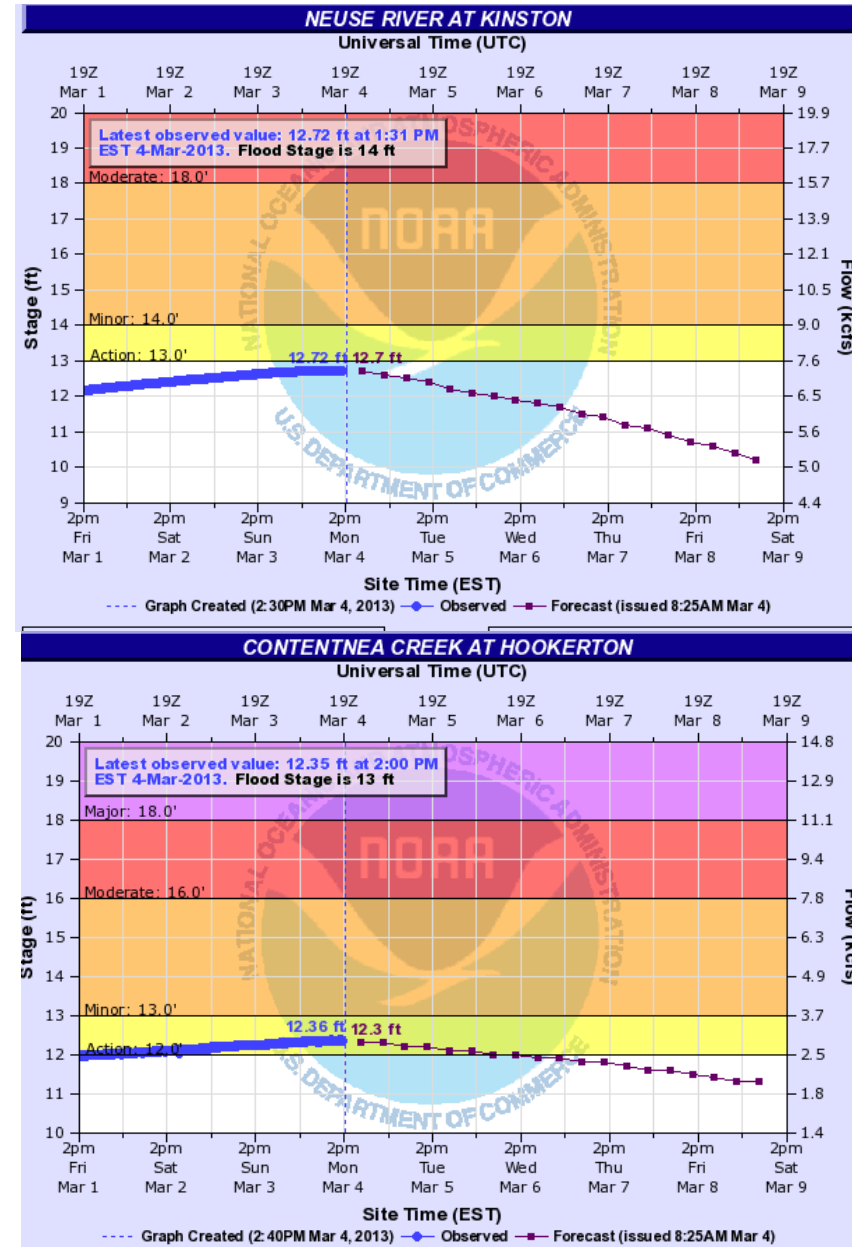


Extra-tropical storm surge forecast for Duck Pier. Water levels of 2 to possibly 3 feet above normal are possible starting Wednesday night and continue through Thursday.

Precipitation may produce River Flooding



Precipitation forecast less than one inch over eastern North Carolina through early Thursday. The current high river levels at Kinston and Hookerton are forecast to fall during the week. However, if heavier precipitation falls upstream it could result in rising river levels possibly reaching minor flood stages later in the week.



For updates call the forecaster on Duty
(252) 223-5122 x5

References: NWS Newport/Morehead City
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/mhx/>

Rainfall Forecasts (QPF)
<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/qpf2.shtml>