

**Winter Weather Threat
Friday night and Saturday
January 7, 2017**

National Weather Service
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Winter Weather Threat Summary

Tonight and Saturday

- **A winter storm warning is in effect for Greene, Pitt, Martin, Washington, Beaufort and Tyrrell Counties, with a Winter Weather Advisory for the remainder of the area.**
- **Snow and Ice Accumulations:** Warmer model trends have resulted in a reduction of expected snowfall totals across much of the area however significant snow and sleet accumulation remains possible across far northwest sections. A large area expected to experience more of a mixture of freezing rain, sleet, and snow through the event, beginning late Tonight and lasting into Early Saturday Evening. In the warning area 3 to 8 inches of snow and sleet is possible, highest in western Martin County. In the large transition area 1 to 3 inches of sleet and snow mixture is possible, with freezing rain accumulations of one to two tenths of an inch possible. Along the southern coastal areas and Outer Banks south of Oregon Inlet and Ocracoke, most of the event will likely be rain with a brief period of snow, sleet or freezing rain with minor accumulations as the event ends.
- **Impacts:** Primary impacts will be to roadways affecting travel. Bridges & overpasses will be especially vulnerable. There could be some accumulations on trees resulting in downed limbs and sporadic power outages. Travel tonight into Sunday could be hazardous.
- **Timing:** The onset of the winter precipitation will likely begin as rain or rain/snow/sleet mix inland tonight. The wintry precipitation will likely transition to snow far northwest inland late tonight and early Saturday, with a wintry mix across the central area and Outer Banks north of Oregon Inlet. There could be a brief period of wintry precipitation along other coastal areas as the event ends Saturday Afternoon or early Evening.
- Please continue to monitor the weather forecast for updates, as this is an evolving situation with continued uncertainty.

Additional Impacts

- **Wintry precipitation is expected to end Saturday evening, but roadways will likely remain hazardous into Sunday, possibly into Monday depending on snowfall amounts.** Temperatures will drop into the teens and 20s Saturday night, and highs will struggle to reach freezing for many locations Sunday and Monday. Snow and ice covered roads could become a serious issue.
- **Wind Chill values in the single digits Sunday and Monday mornings.** Very cold temperatures in the teens to low 20s combined with north/northwesterly winds will result in wind chill values in the single digits Sunday and Monday mornings.
- **Minor to Moderate coastal flooding for areas adjacent to the Pamlico Sound, high surf and minor erosion is possible along the Outer Banks ocean side.** Strong north to northwest winds are expected to develop Saturday, and produce minor to moderate coastal flooding for soundside areas on the Outer Banks from around Buxton south through Ocracoke to Downeast Carteret Counties. Water levels could be two to three feet above normal with a foot or two above ground possible in low lying areas . High surf and minor erosion may also occur along the northern and central Outer Banks, particularly during times of high tide. Winds will diminish slightly Sunday.

Winter Weather (Late Friday Night-Early Saturday Eve)

Graphic created: 1/6 @6am

Forecast trend was warmer with lower snow totals most areas and a large area of mixed precipitation.



Zone A

- Best chance for significant snow
- Accumulation of 3 to 8 inches possible
- May start as a mix of rain, sleet and freezing rain, then transitions to snow early Saturday

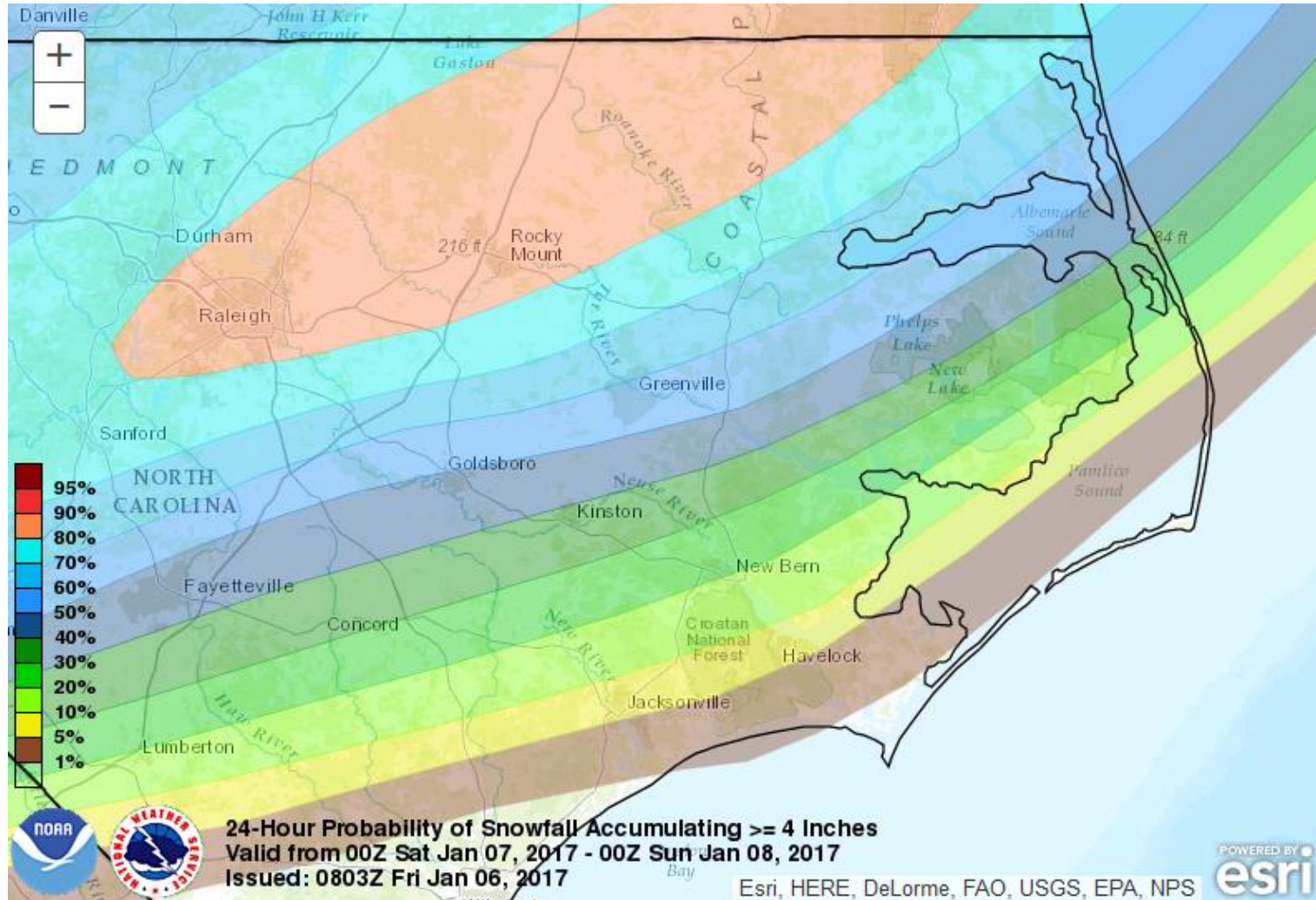
Zone B

- Transitional Zone
- Rain likely initially, then changing to a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain.
- Accumulations of snow and sleet of 1 to 3 inches is possible and one to two tenths of an inch of freezing rain.

Zone C

- Minimal accumulation of snow, sleet or ice.
 - Initially rain, then possibly changing to a period of light snow, sleet, and/or freezing rain late Saturday

Snow Accumulation Probabilities



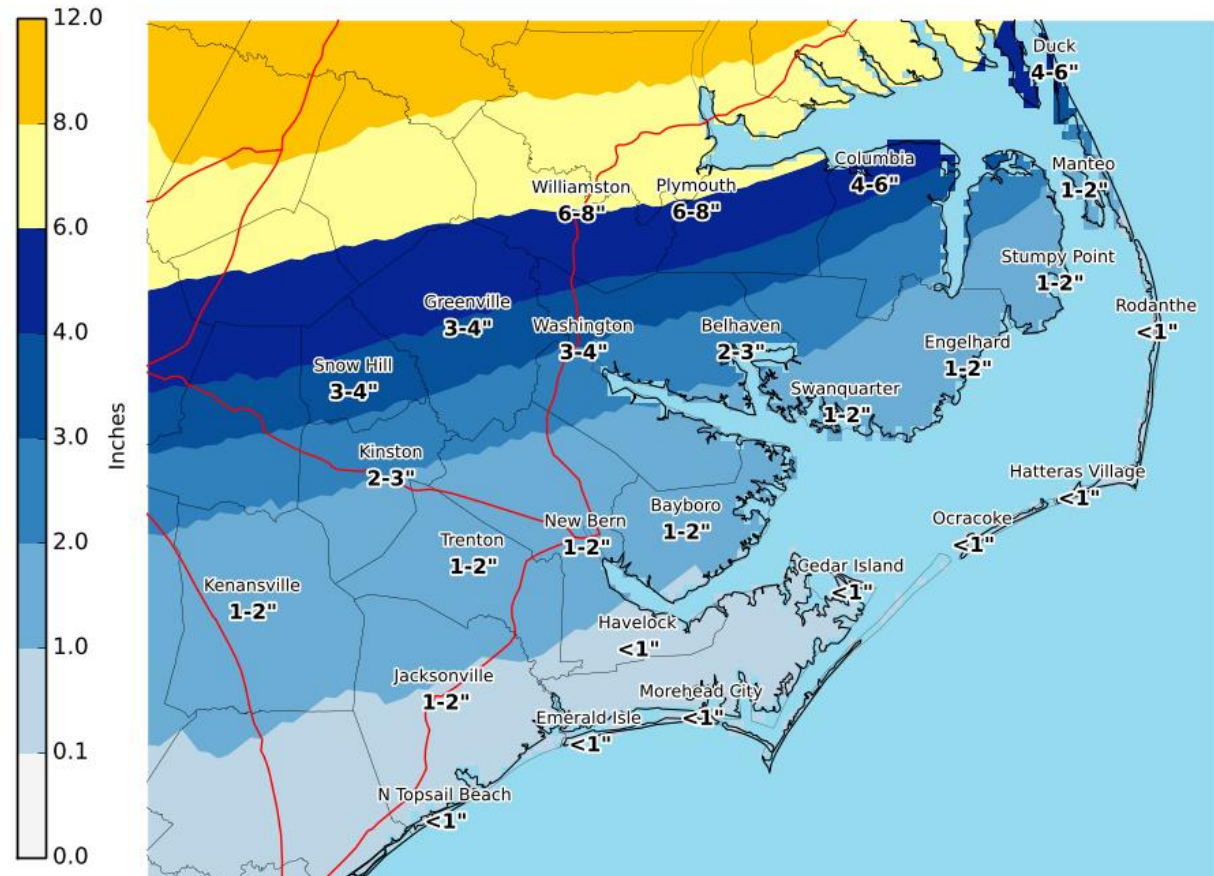
http://origin.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pwprof/wwd/accum_probs.php?ftype=probabilities&fpd=24&ptype=snow

Snow Accumulation

Storm Total Snow and Sleet through Saturday

Valid: 01/06/2017 07:00 PM - 01/08/2017 01:00 AM EST

Given model guidance trending warmer through the event, forecast snow amounts have been cut back most areas. However, amounts have increased across northwest sections where cold air will be in place the longest.

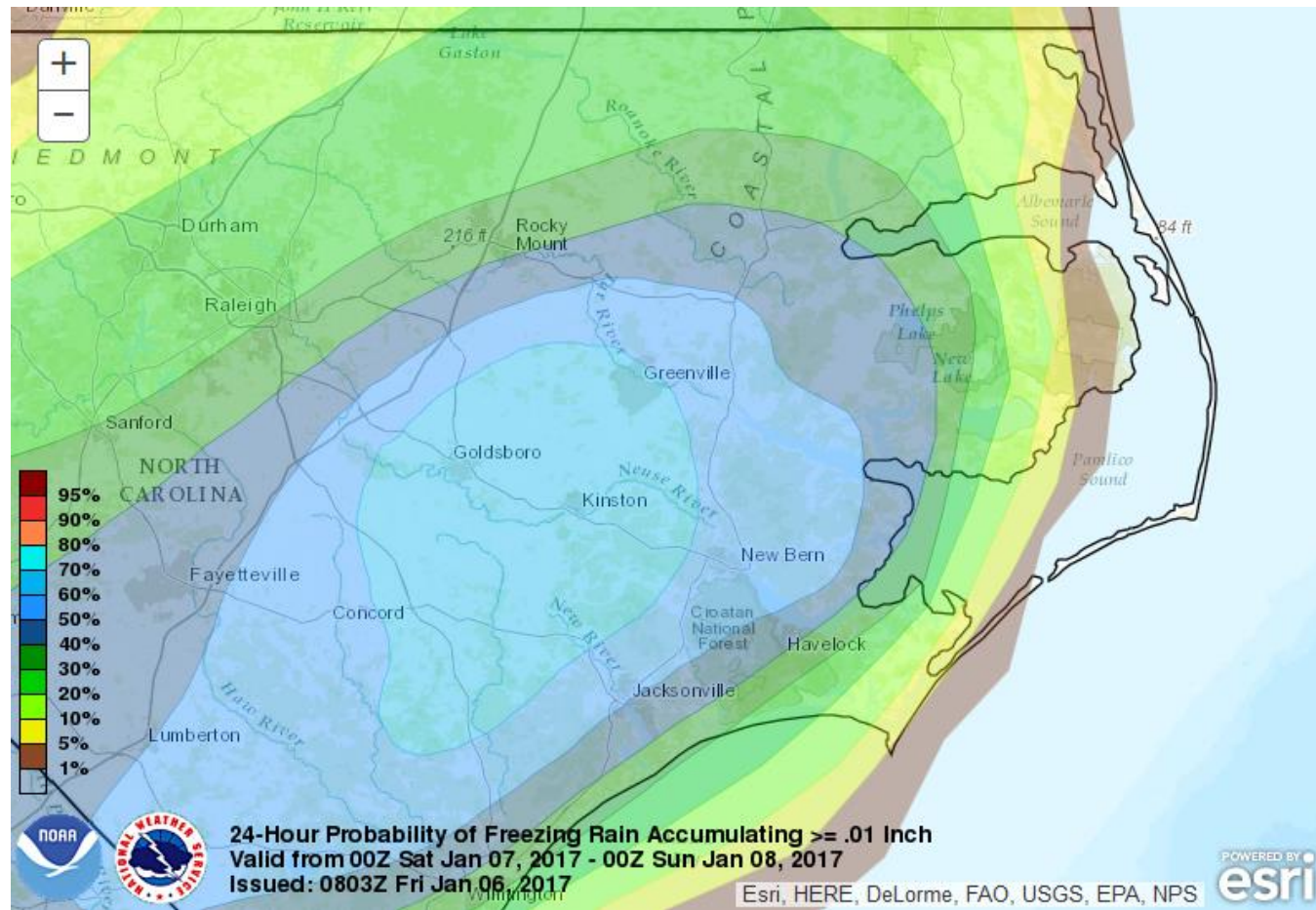


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Probability of Ice Accumulations

Freezing rain with one to two tenths of an inch of ice accumulation will be possible tonight through Saturday afternoon.



http://origin.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/pwpf/wwd_accum_probs.php?ftype=probabilities&fpd=24&ptype=icez

Probability of Ice $>$ 0.01 inch

Ice Accumulation

Warm air just above the surface will allow for a more prolonged period of freezing rain tonight into Saturday morning before the change over to sleet and snow occurs.

1 to 2 tenths of an inch of ice accumulation will be possible most areas with only a light accumulation possible near the coast south of Oregon Inlet.



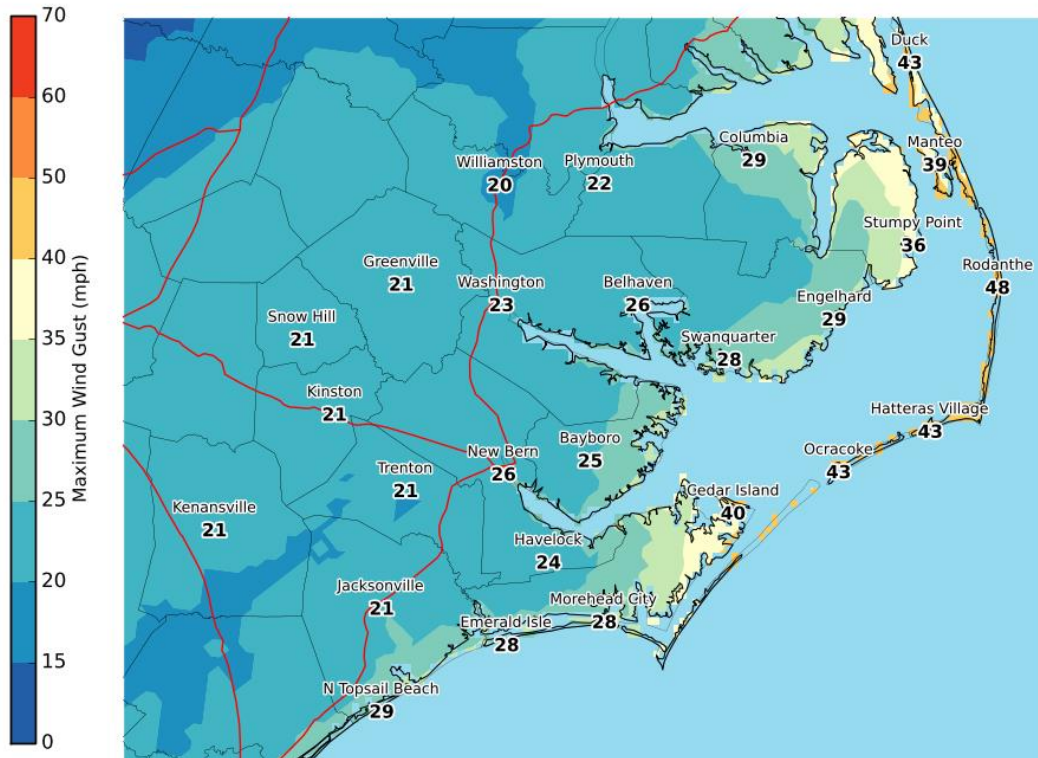
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Strong Winds and Coastal Flooding Threat

Max Wind Gust Forecast

Valid: 01/07/2017 07:00 AM - 01/08/2017 07:00 AM EST



- Strong winds along the coast are anticipated.
- Gale force winds are likely over much of the coastal waters.
- The strong winds will result in minor to moderate coastal flooding along the sound side of the Outer Banks from around Buxton through Ocracoke to Downeast Carteret County.



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

References:

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

WPC Winter Weather Forecasts
http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/wwd/winter_wx.shtml

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