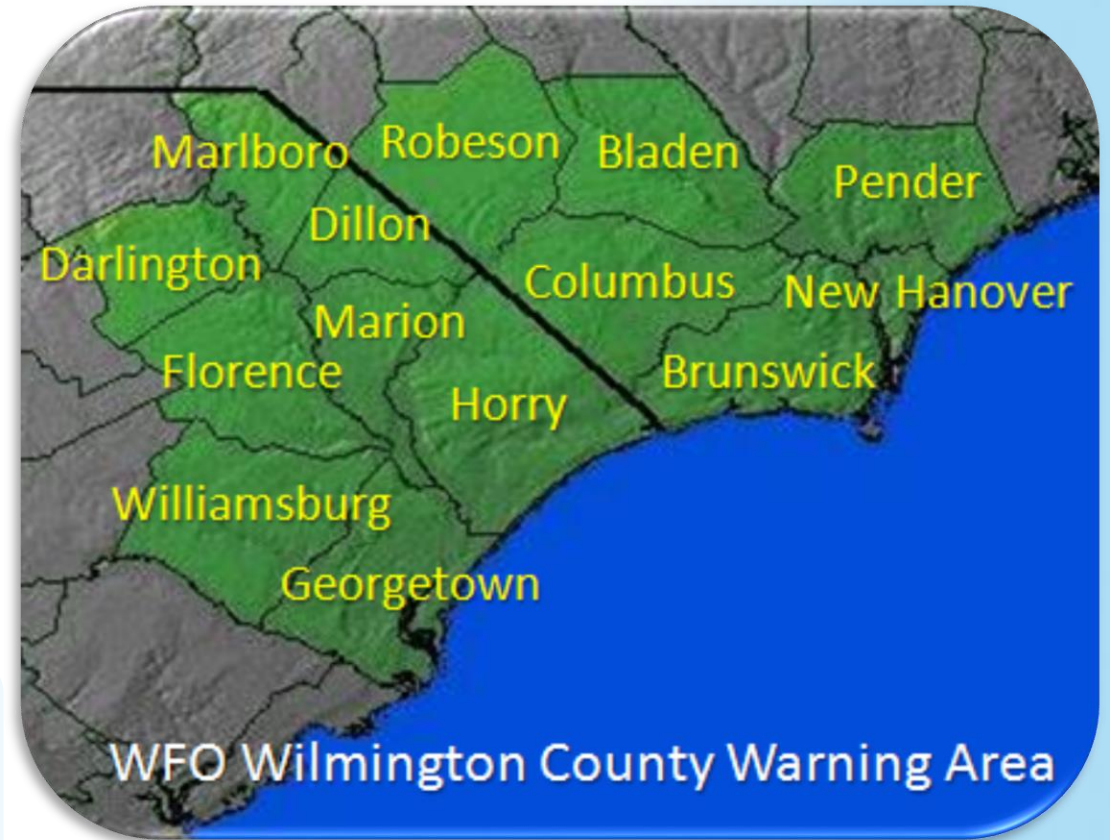


# January 21-22 Ice Storm

Decision Support Briefing #6  
As of: 1015 AM January 21, 2022



## What has Changed?

- ✓ Winter Storm Warning now in effect for Robeson, Marlboro, and Darlington counties
- ✓ Updated snow/ice accumulation graphics
- ✓ Inclusion of the HRRR model depiction
- ✓ Removed potential for coastal flooding at downtown ILM



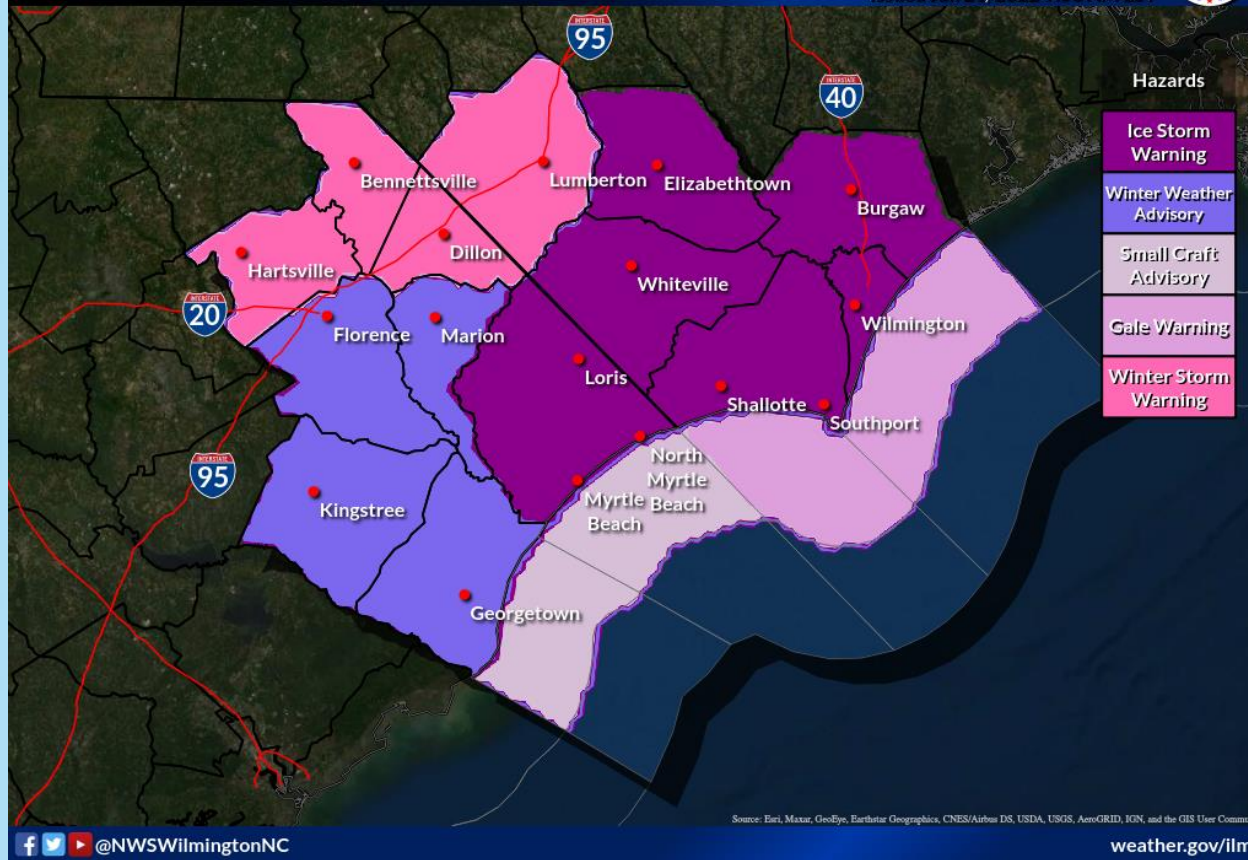
## January 21-22 Ice Storm - Key Points

- ✓ Freezing temperatures have begun to spread south into the area. Much of the initial precipitation has moved offshore, with mainly spotty activity near the coast as of 10 am.
- ✓ However, we have high confidence that wintry precipitation will redevelop through the afternoon and tonight -- initially starting as freezing rain before transitioning to sleet and/or snow.
- ✓ Ultimately, the impacts will increase through this afternoon and tonight, starting with bridges, overpasses, and elevated roadways. Travel will become increasingly dangerous through this afternoon!
- ✓ Downed trees/limbs, power outages and hazardous travel are expected. Temperatures especially Saturday night and Sunday night will be dangerously cold. Prolonged impacts are possible through the weekend, especially for those without power.








## Current Warnings and Advisories

Weather Forecast Office  
Wilmington, NC  
Issued Jan 21, 2022 9:53 AM EST

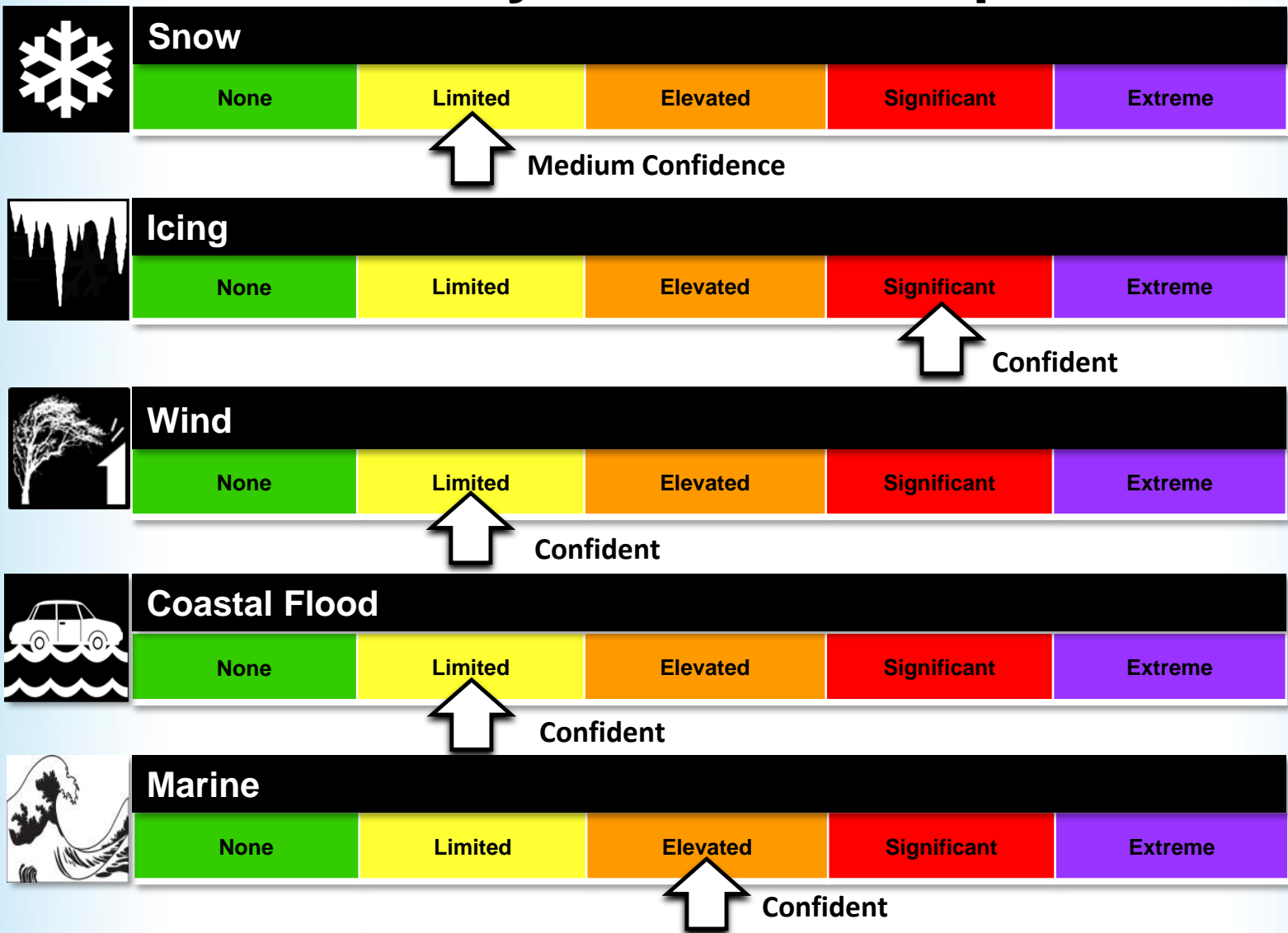


- \*\*\* **Winter Storm Warning** now in effect for Robeson, Marlboro, and Darlington counties\*\*\*
- **Ice Storm Warning** remains in effect for Horry, Columbus, Brunswick, Bladen, New Hanover and Pender counties.
- **Winter Weather Advisories** for Georgetown, Williamsburg, Florence, Marion, and Dillon counties.
- **Gale Warning** for the Cape Fear coastal waters and a **Small Craft Advisory** for the northeast SC coastal waters.

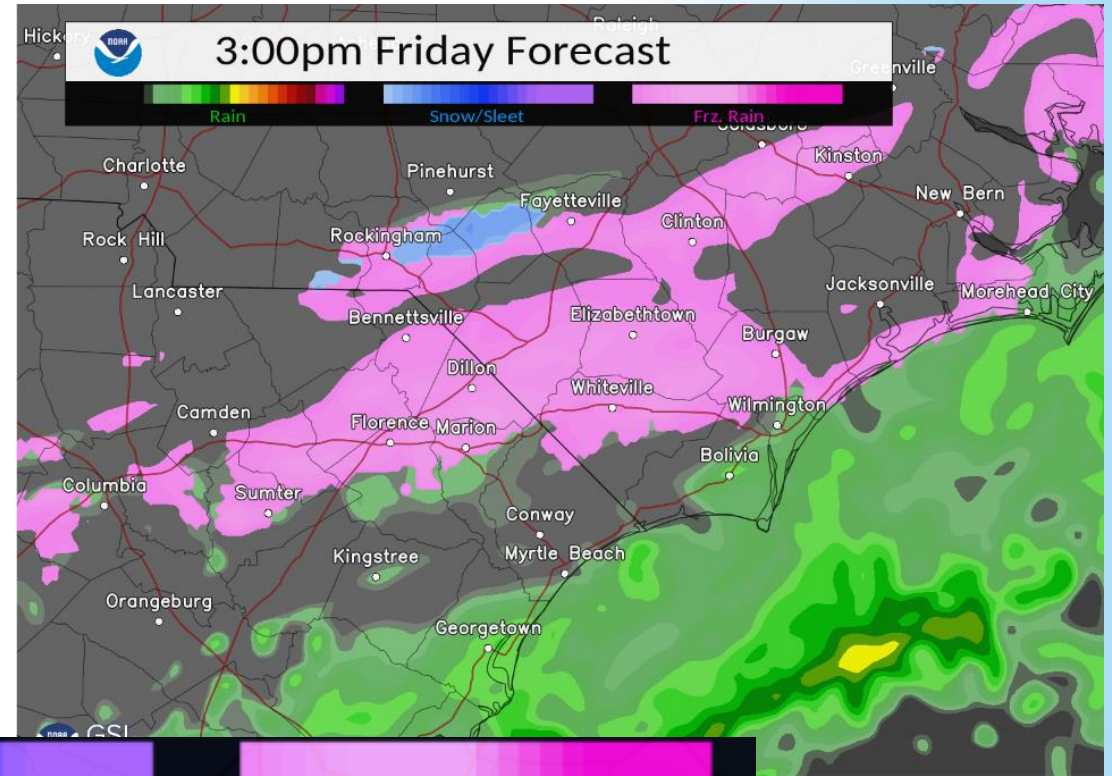
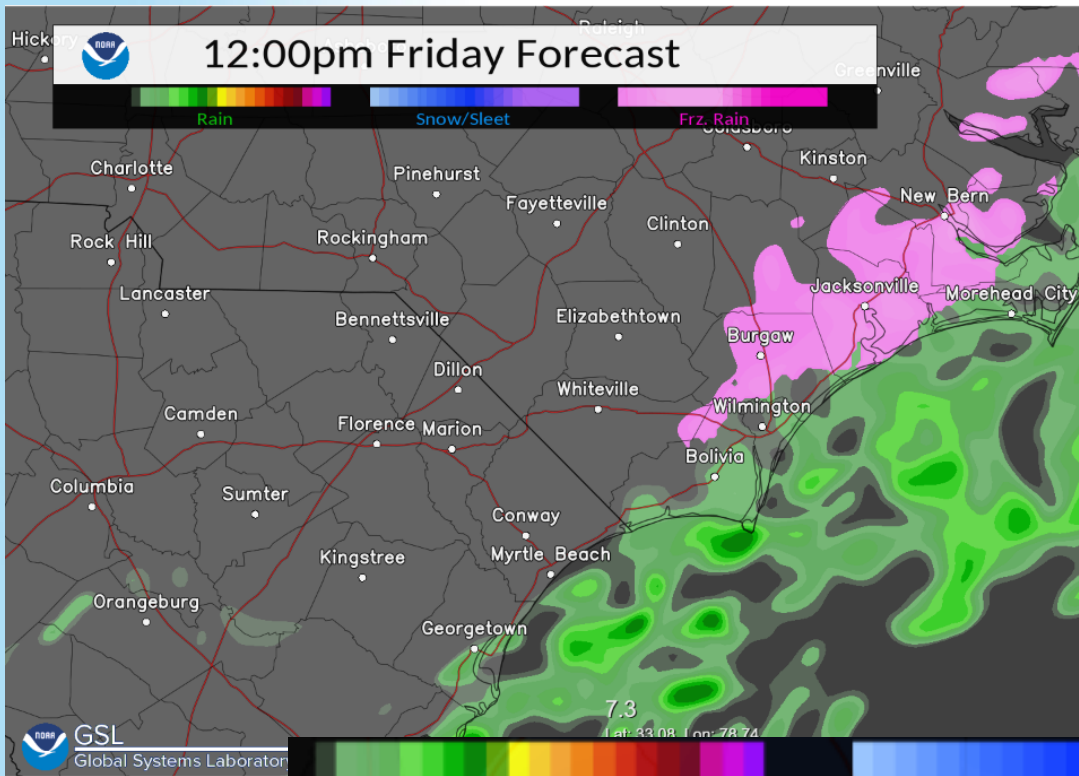
# Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Icing</b> 	Significant impacts are expected. Heavy ice accumulation could cause downed trees/limbs and power outages.	All of northeast SC and southeast NC. Highest ice accumulations in the Ice Storm Warning areas.	Especially Friday afternoon through Friday Night. Icy conditions continuing through Saturday after precipitation has ended. Refreezing on roadways possible Saturday night.
<b>Snow</b> 	Some impacts expected. Snow will add to driving hazards.	Mostly north of a Kingstree to Wilmington line, highest amounts across the northwestern areas.	Friday night into early Saturday morning.
<b>Wind</b> 	Winds up to 15-20 mph with gusts up to 25 mph. This could add stress to ice-covered trees and power lines.	All of northeast SC and southeast NC.	Friday through Saturday evening
<b>Coastal Flood</b> 	None	N/A	N/A
<b>Marine</b> 	N winds 20-25 knots with gusts up to 35 knots and 4 to 8 ft. seas. Gale conditions expected for NC waters	Southeast NC and northeast SC nearshore waters out to 20 nm.	Tonight through Saturday evening

# Summary of Greatest Impacts

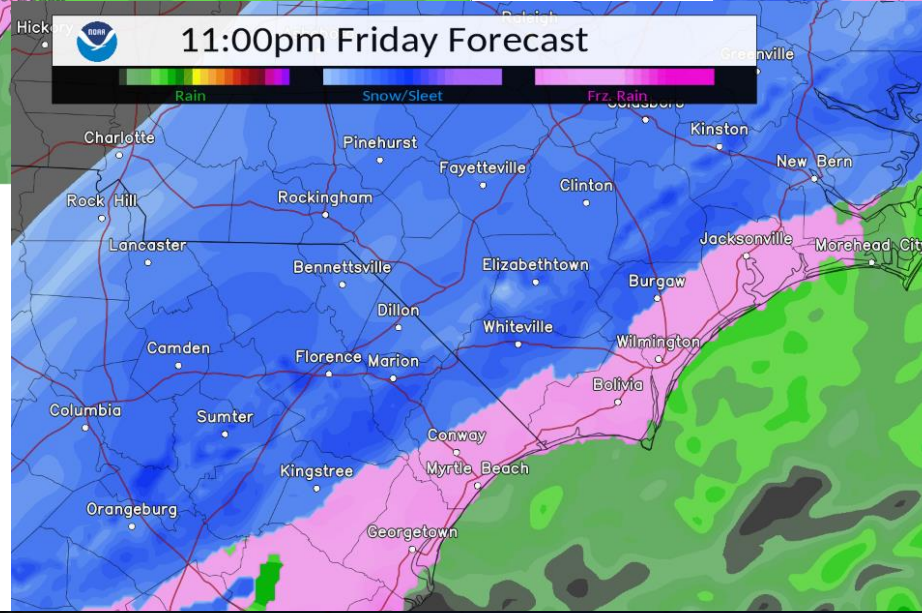
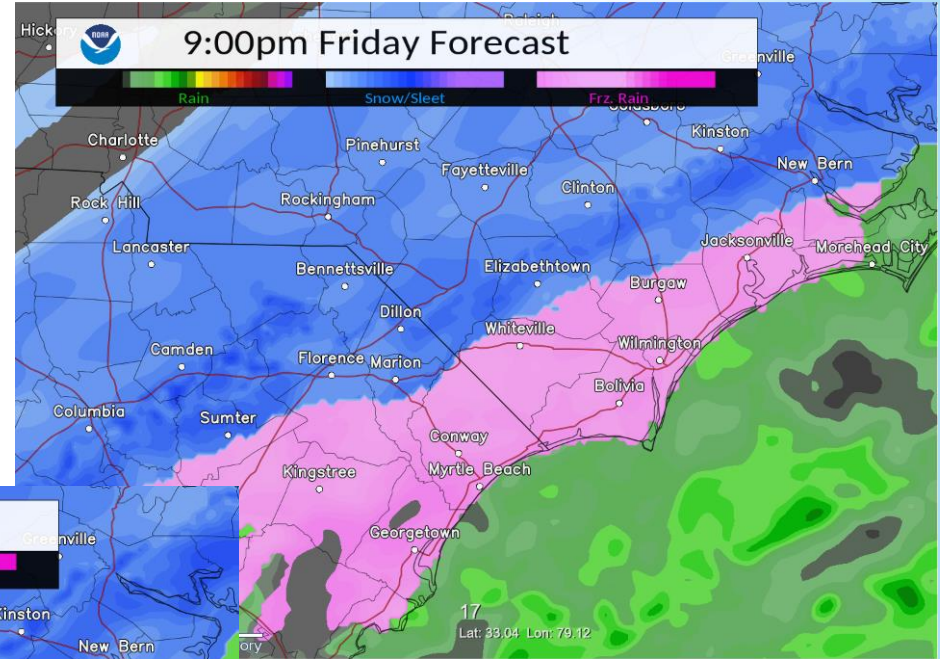
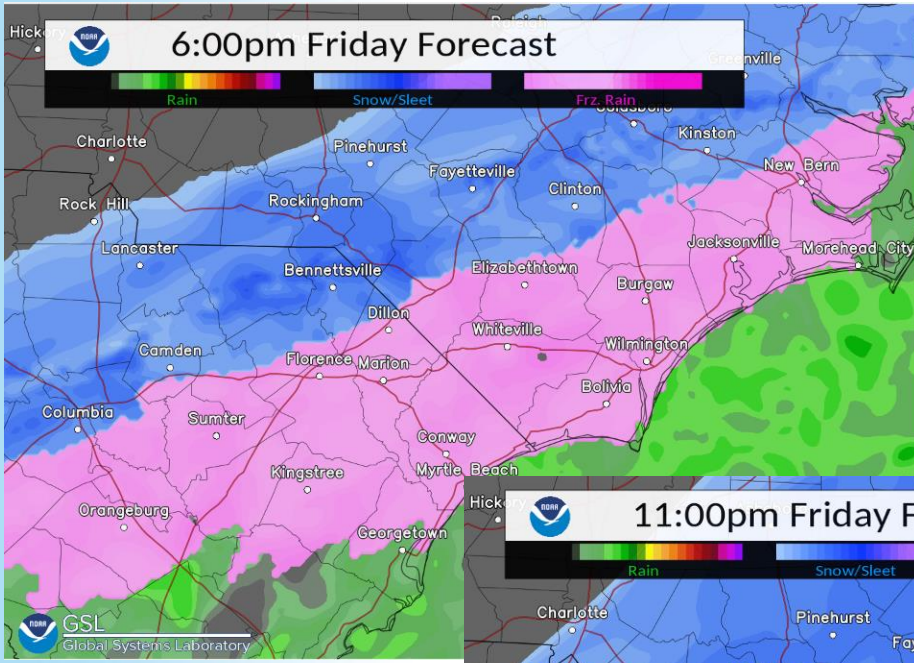


\*HRRR model output – use to show trends, do not focus on specific times and outcomes

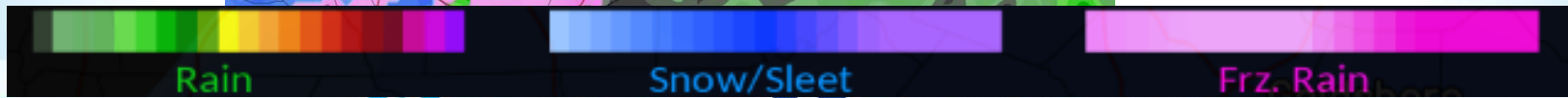


- The initial round of precipitation has fortunately shifted off the coast this morning as freezing temperatures continue to spread southward **however...**
- A second round of precipitation is expected to develop and overspread the area during the afternoon. Note the increase in precipitation coverage interacting with the cold air this afternoon and tonight (next slide)

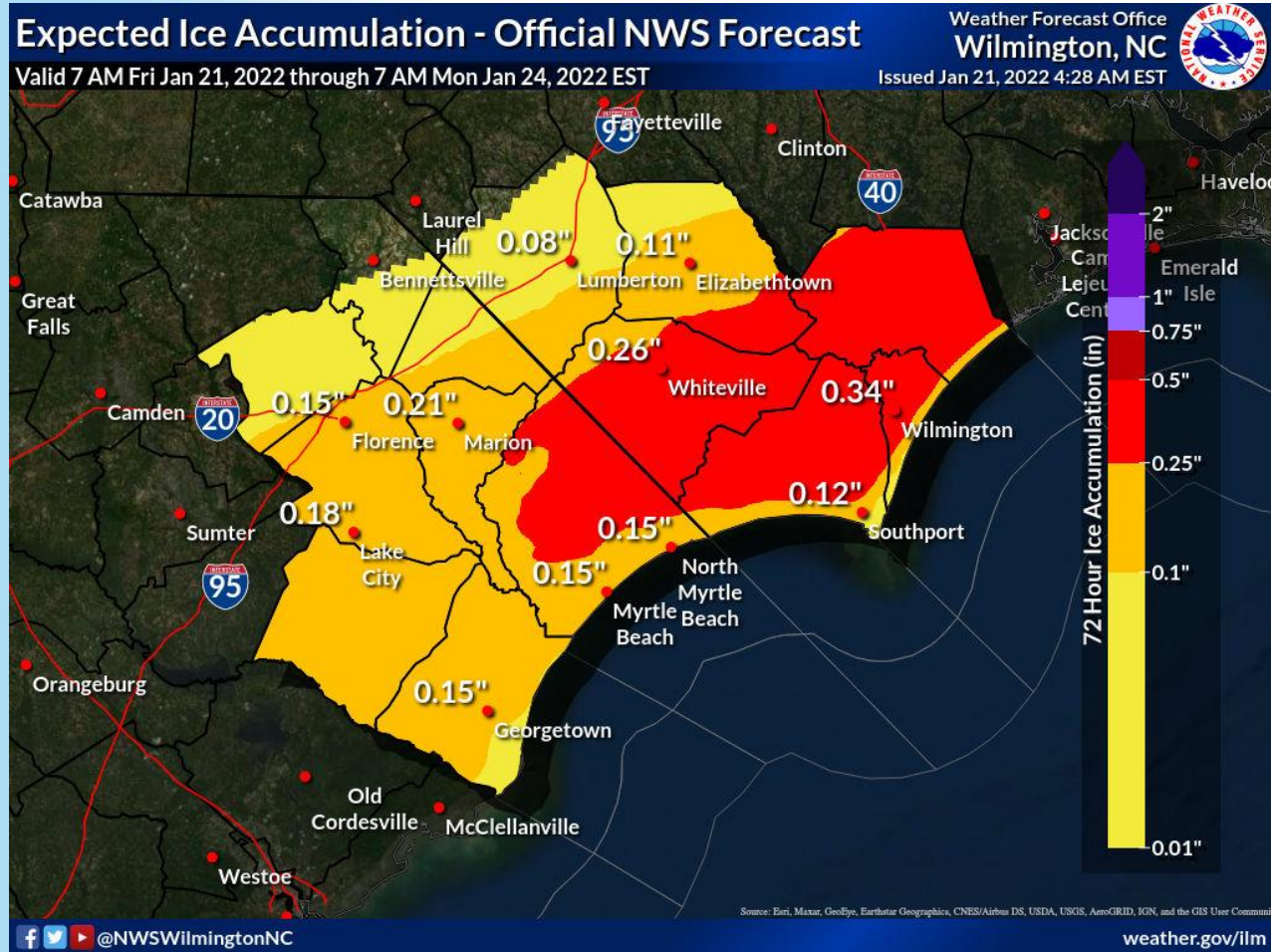
\*HRRR model output – use to show trends, do not focus on specific times and outcomes



- Not shown – precipitation ending Saturday morning

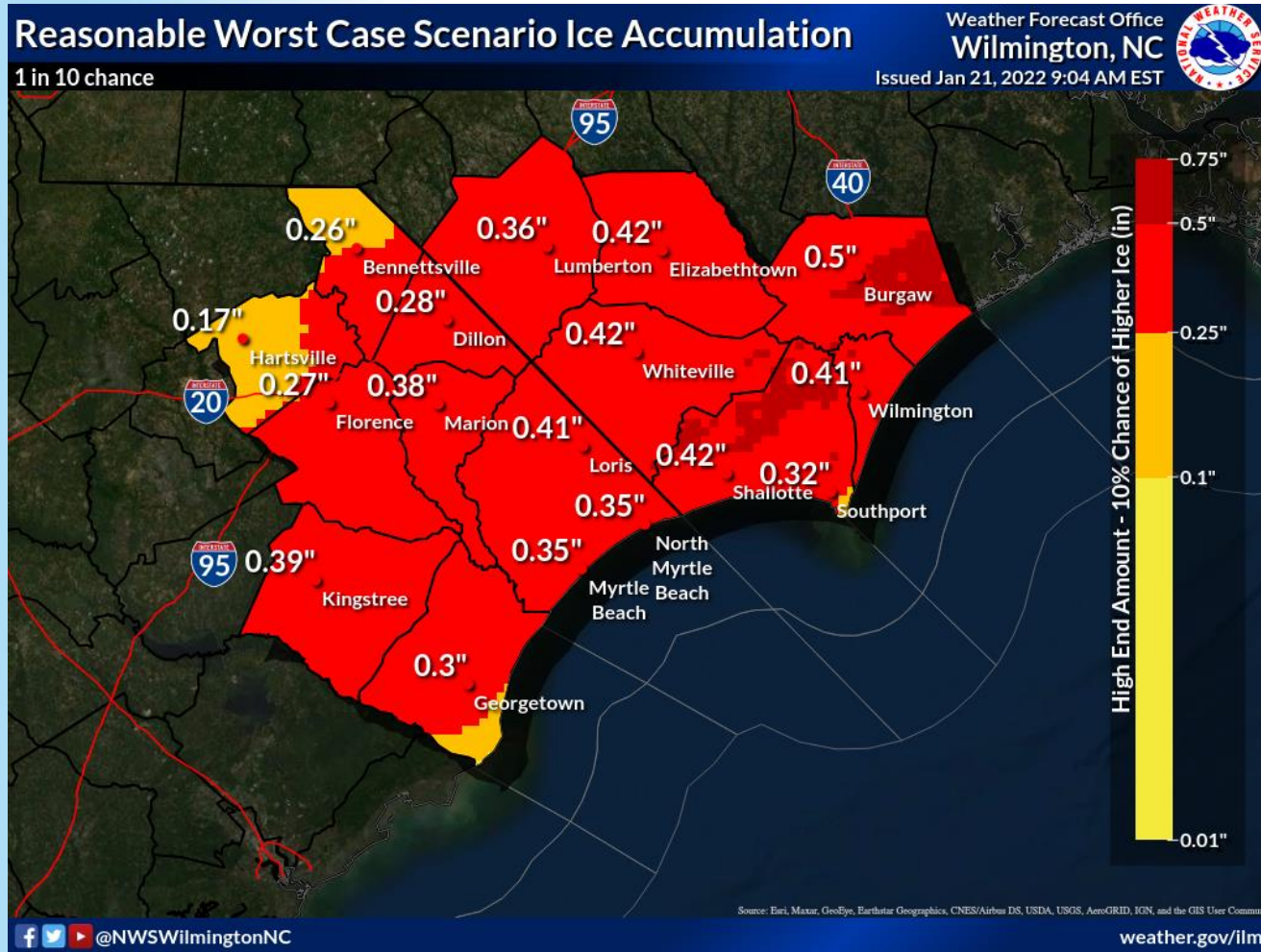


# Potential Storm Total Ice Accumulation



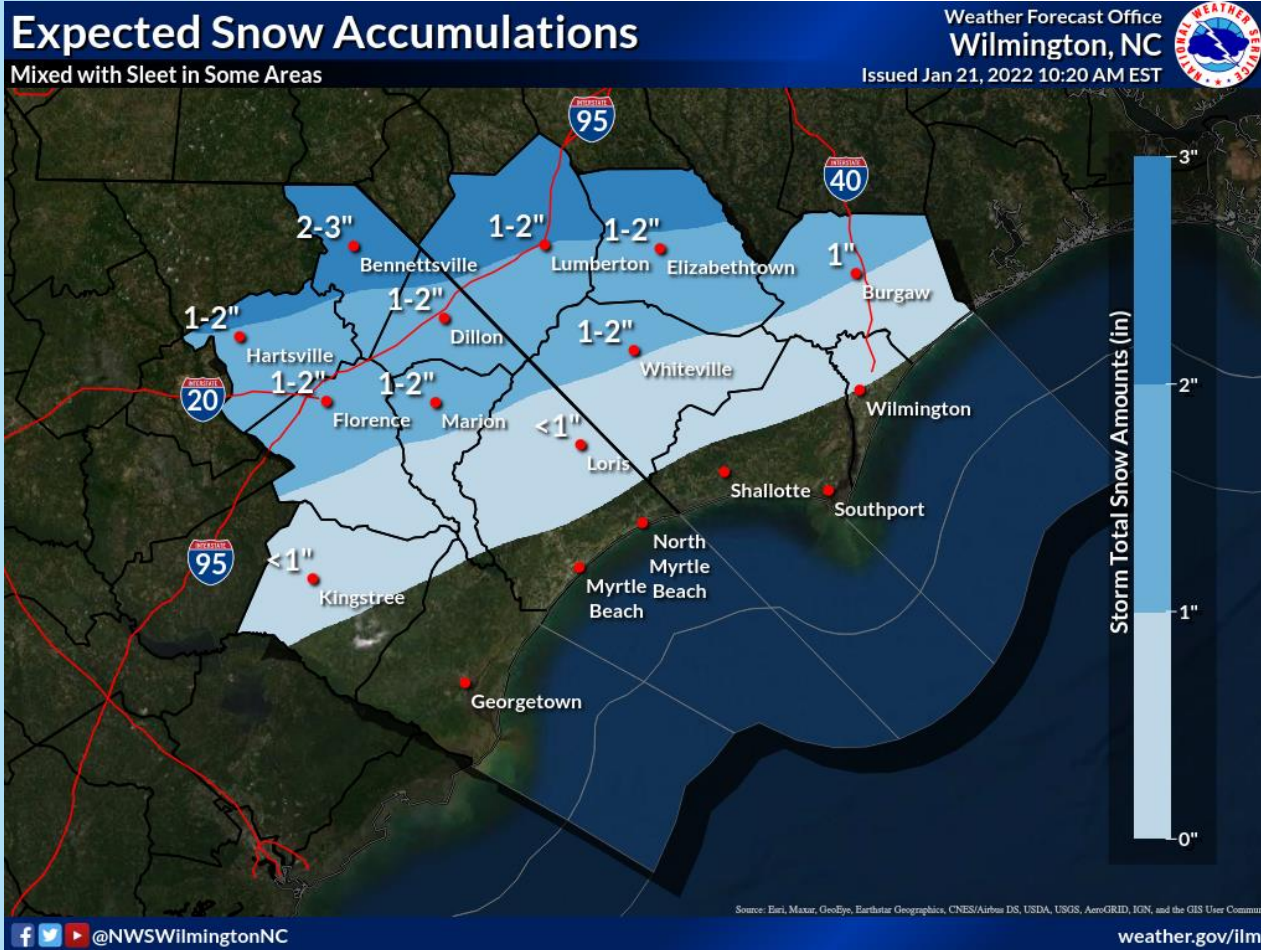
- Significant ice accumulations possible across portions of southeast NC and northeast SC.
- This amount of ice is likely to cause downed trees/limbs, power outages, and hazardous travel conditions.
- Remember that even a quarter inch of ice can add a tremendous amount of weight to trees and power lines.

# A Reasonable Worst Case Scenario (1 in 10 chance)



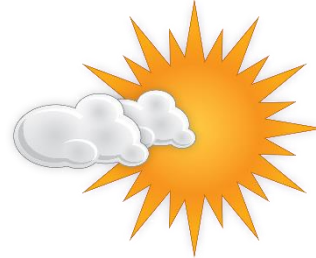
- Given some forecast uncertainty there is a **1 in 10 chance** these amounts of ice accumulation will occur.
- If the worst case scenario occurs then a larger area of ice accumulations of ¼ to ½" would be the result and the highest axis focused across portions of southeast NC.

# Mostly Likely Snow Accumulations



- Snow/sleet accumulations are now expected to be 1 to possibly 3 inches for the northwestern areas. Other areas to the east could see minor accumulations as well.
- Some impacts are expected from snow/sleet accumulations - especially hazardous driving conditions.

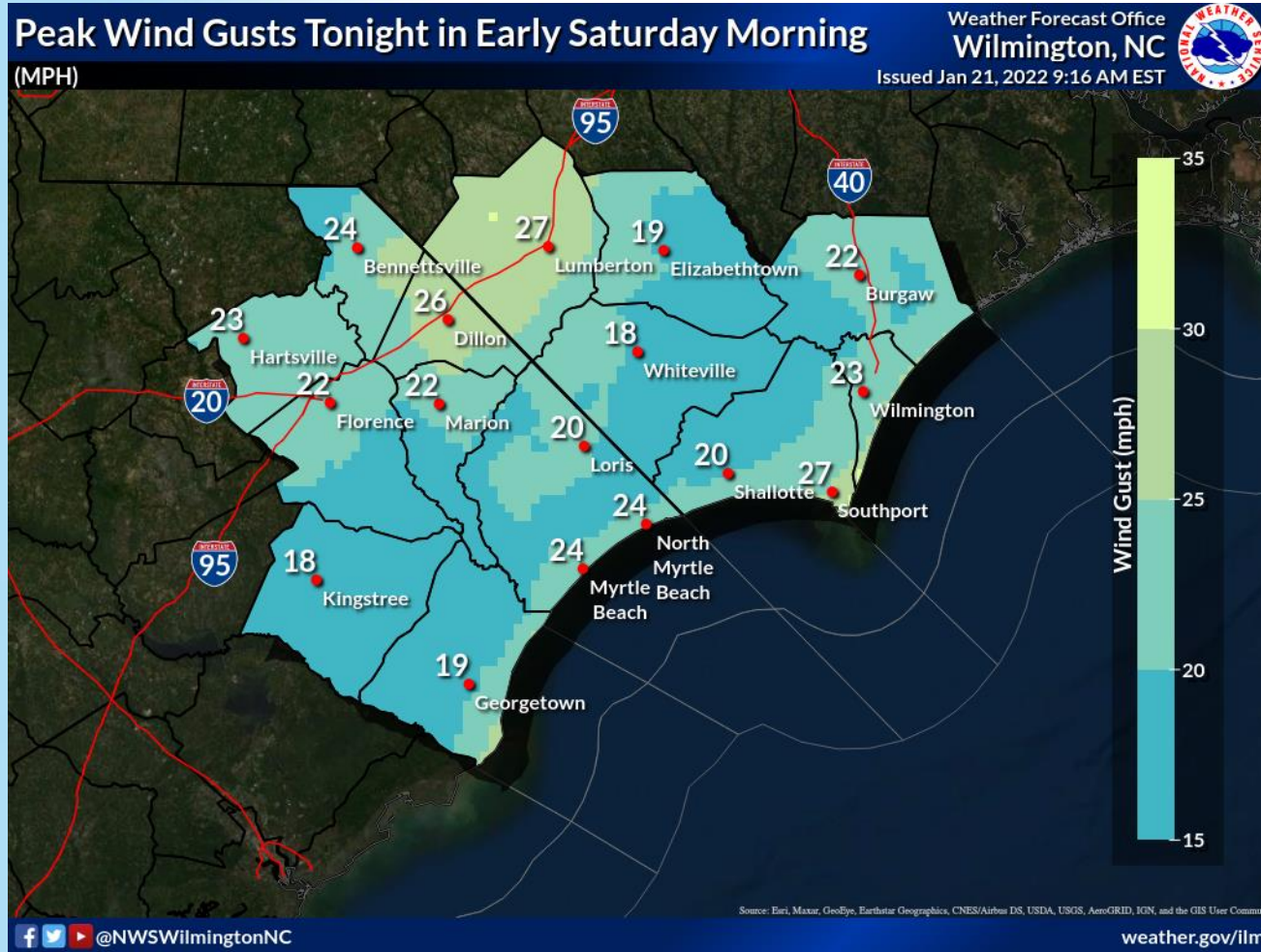
# Cold Temperatures Likely to Follow the Storm



	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	
High Temp	Mid/Upper 30s	Mid 40s	Upper 40s/50	
Morning Low		Teens/Lower 20s	Lower-Mid 20s	Lower-Mid 30s

- Temperatures behind the system could become dangerously cold for those without power
- Any accumulated precip will likely re-freeze Saturday night and melt slowly during the following days.
- Temperatures will be coldest away from the coast.

# Potential Max Wind Gusts



- Wind gusts generally up to 20 or 25 mph are expected. Highest along the immediate coast and around the Lumberton area. Higher winds offshore: A Gale Warning remains in effect for the NC coastal waters and a Small Craft Advisory for the northeast SC coastal waters.
- Timing: Through early Saturday morning.
- **These wind gusts could add some stress to ice-covered trees and power lines.**

# Ice Storm Considerations



- In areas where power outages occur, it may be difficult to stay warm even after the wintry weather has ended.
- Ice storms lead to harm in many ways including: Fallen trees/large limbs/power lines, dangerous driving conditions, exposure to the cold, and carbon monoxide poisoning. Never use grills indoors (or garages), make sure generators are away from the building and properly ventilated, and never place heaters near flammable objects.
- Injuries from slips/falls frequently occur in areas where walkways, patios, roadways have a glaze of ice on them – which may be difficult to see.
- Travel can be especially hazardous with vehicles sliding off the roadway. Bridges, overpasses, and other elevated roads will be particularly dangerous as these spots typically ice-over before other roads. Any trees, limbs, and/or power lines that fall across the road would increase travel hazards.

# Contact and Next Briefing Information



## Next Briefing

*When: By 5 PM Fri. Jan 21, 2022*

Briefing Webpage:

<http://weather.gov/ilm/briefing>



Web:

<http://weather.gov/ilm>



E-mail:

[nws.ilm.operations@noaa.gov](mailto:nws.ilm.operations@noaa.gov)



Facebook:

[NWSWilmingtonNC](https://www.facebook.com/NWSWilmingtonNC)



Twitter:

[@NWSWilmingtonNC](https://twitter.com/NWSWilmingtonNC)

**Disclaimer:** *The information contained within this briefing is time-sensitive, do not use after 2 PM Friday Jan. 21, 2022*

