Winter Storm, January 3, 2018

Decision Support Briefing #2
As of: January 2, 2018, 10 AM EST

What has Changed?

✓ Winter Storm Watch issued.

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Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Snow	Accumulating snow and sleet may cause hazardous travel	East of I-95. Highest amounts coastal NC	Most likely during Wednesday afternoon and night
Ice	Very light sleet and freezing rain possible	Along the immediate coast	Early in the event...Wednesday morning through afternoon. Thereafter all snow.
Wind	No significant wind impacts are forecast	-	-
Coastal Flood	No coastal flooding is expected	-	-
Marine	Small Craft Advisory conditions likely with seas 5 to 8 feet.	All coastal waters	Late Wednesday morning through Thursday night

Summary of Greatest Impacts

Snow

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme

Moderate Confidence

Ice

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme

Low Confidence

Wind

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme

Nearly Certain

Coastal Flood

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme

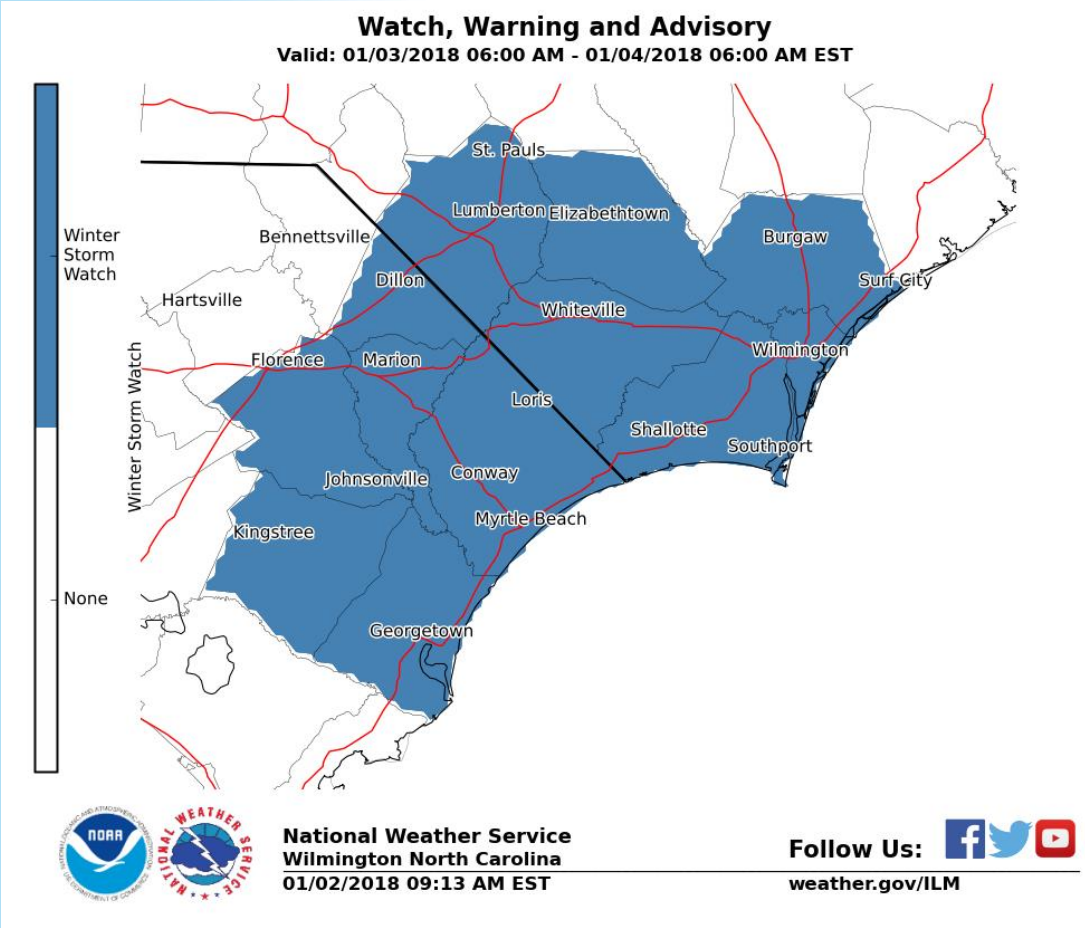
Nearly Certain

Marine

None	Limited	Elevated	Significant	Extreme

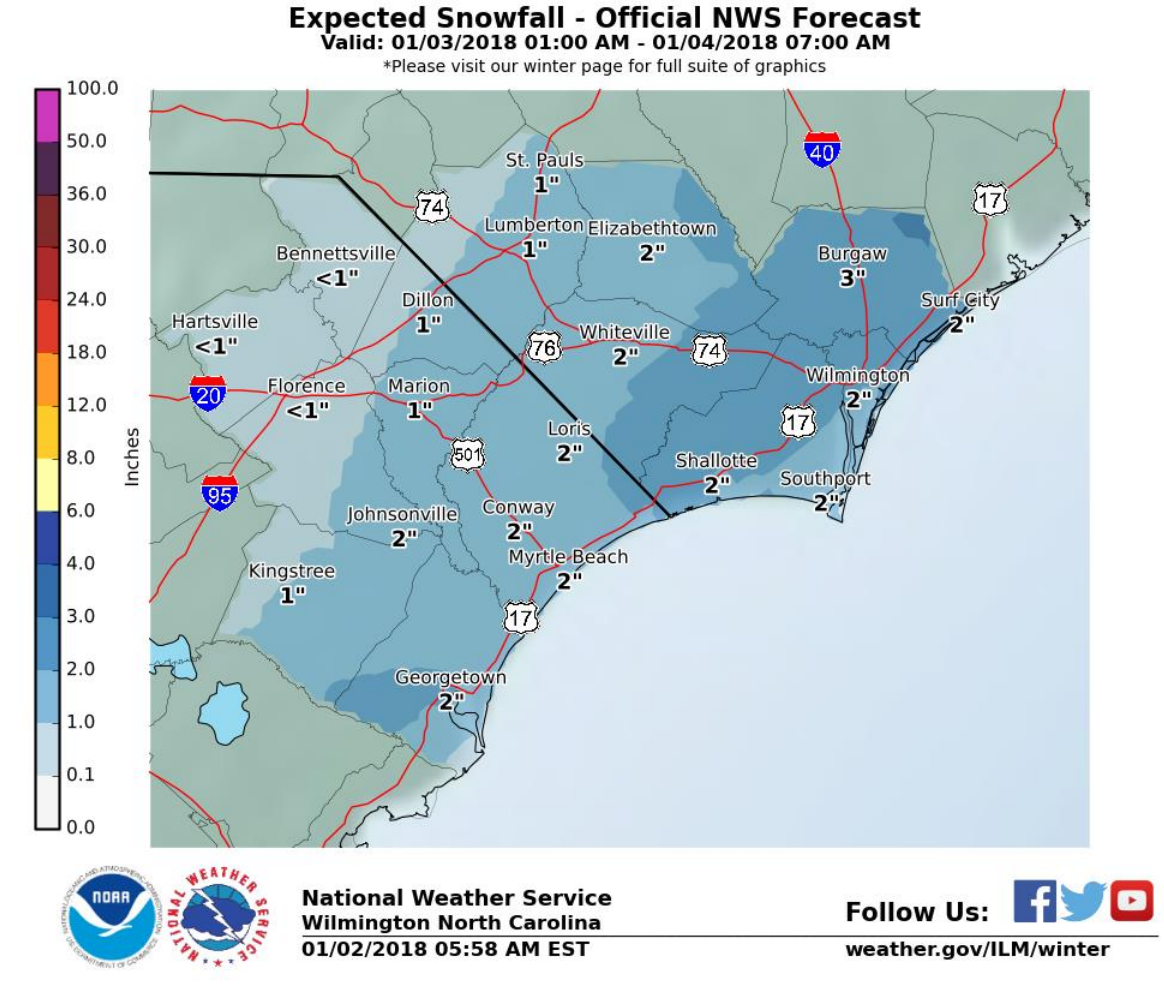
Moderate Confidence

Watches/Warnings in Effect



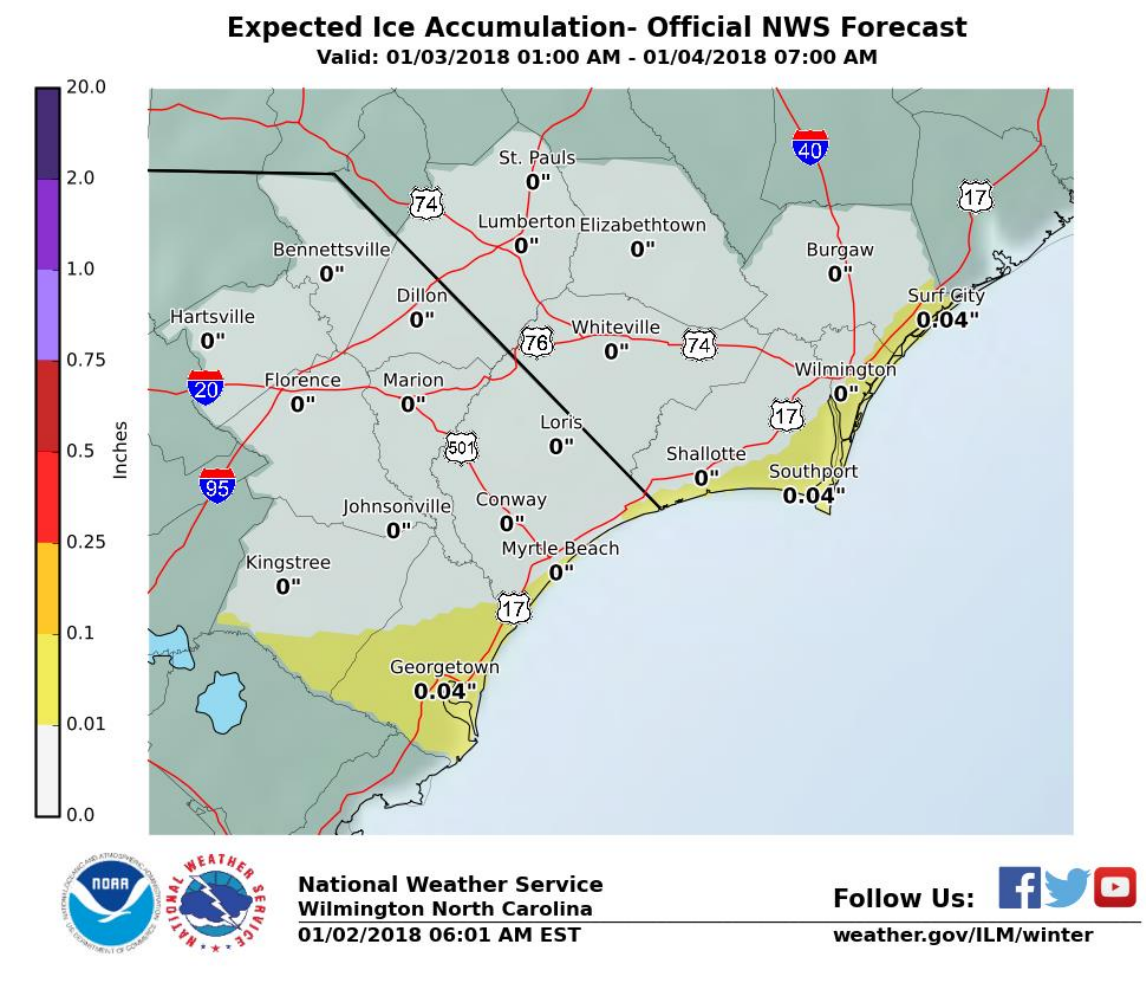
- ✓ Winter Storm Watch (potential for 2” or more of snow) in effect for areas shown. Some or all of the Watch likely upgraded to Winter Storm Warning later today.
- ✓ These changes and upgrades will be outlined in the 5 PM briefing.

Expected Snowfall



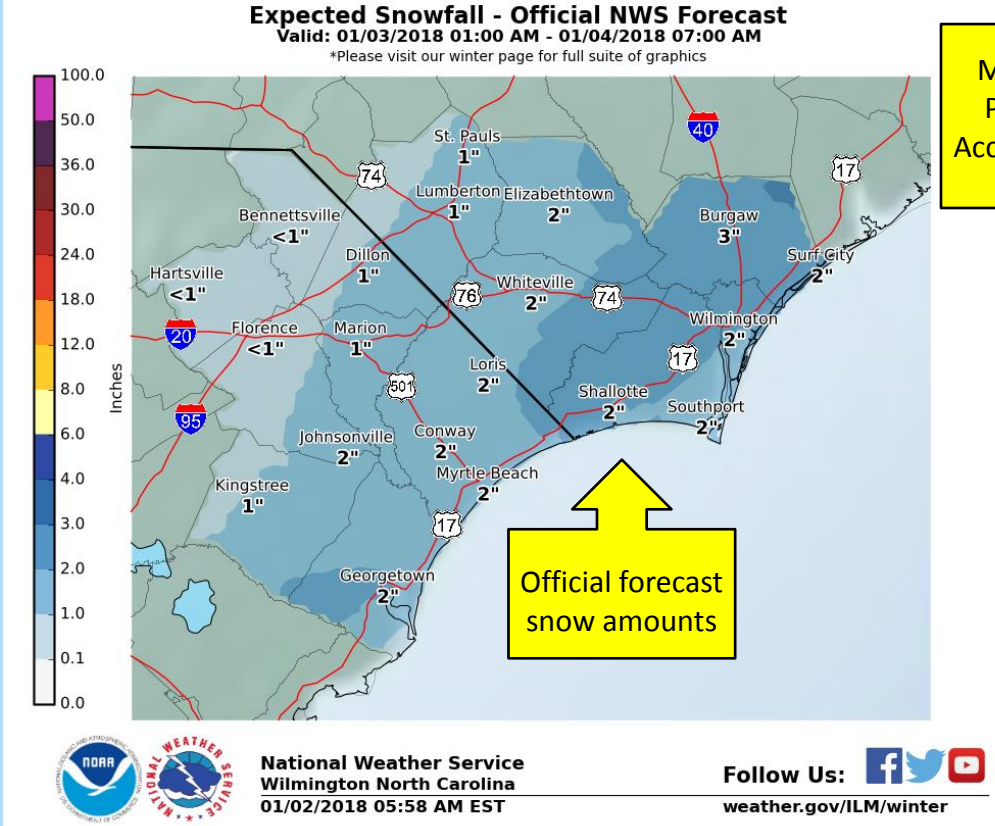
- ✓ **Timing:**
  - Precipitation will likely overspread the area from south to north beginning late Wednesday morning through Wednesday night.
- ✓ **Impacts:**
  - 1 to 3” of snow and sleet accumulation is possible on all surfaces.
  - Travel will become hazardous during the afternoon and evening.

Expected Ice Accretion



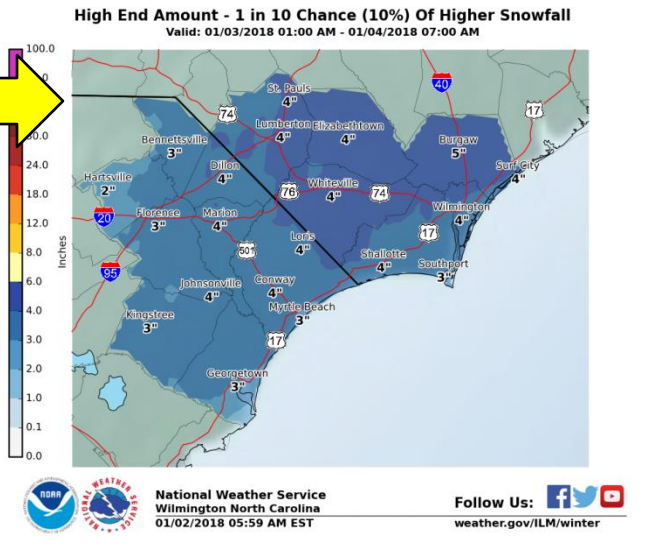
- ✓ **Timing:**
  - Precipitation will overspread the area from south to north beginning late Wednesday morning.
  - Precipitation should transition to all snow during the evening and end from SW to NE Wednesday night.
- ✓ **Impacts:**
  - A trace to 0.04” of freezing rain is expected.
  - Travel will become hazardous during the afternoon and evening.

The Range of Possibilities

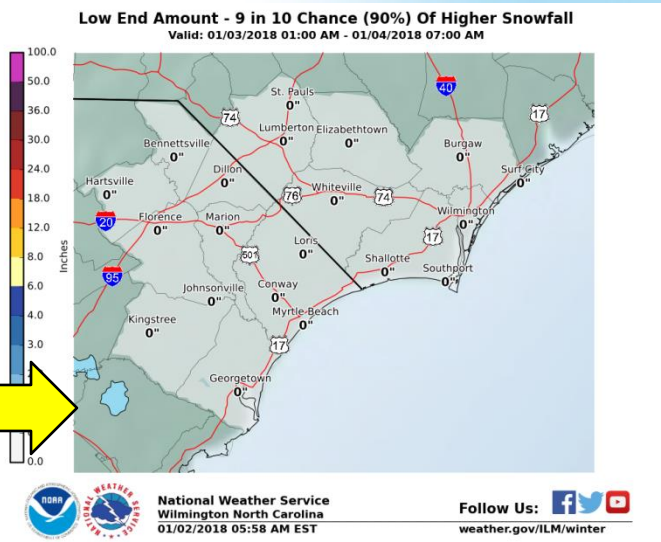


Official forecast snow amounts

Maximum Potential Accumulation



Expect at least this much snowfall



There remains considerable spread in forecast snowfall.
Near the coast, the official forecast is much closer to the maximum potential accumulation, meaning a higher confidence in these higher totals. Inland the forecast is much closer to the "expect this much" meaning there is higher confidence in the lower values.

See more: http://www.weather.gov/ilm/winter

Key Points

- ✓ Increased confidence of a winter storm producing 1-3” of snow and sleet on most surfaces. A trace to 0.04” of freezing rain is possible along the immediate coast.
- ✓ Wintry precipitation is expected to develop late Wednesday morning, and persist through Wednesday night. Travel will become hazardous.
- ✓ The next winter storm briefing will be issued by 5 PM Tuesday.

Contact and Next Briefing Information

Next Briefing

When: *By 5 PM Tue, January 2, 2018*

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