

Weather Briefing Nor'easter February 8, 2013

Prepared 500 PM EST – Thursday February 7, 2013

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NOAA's National Weather Service

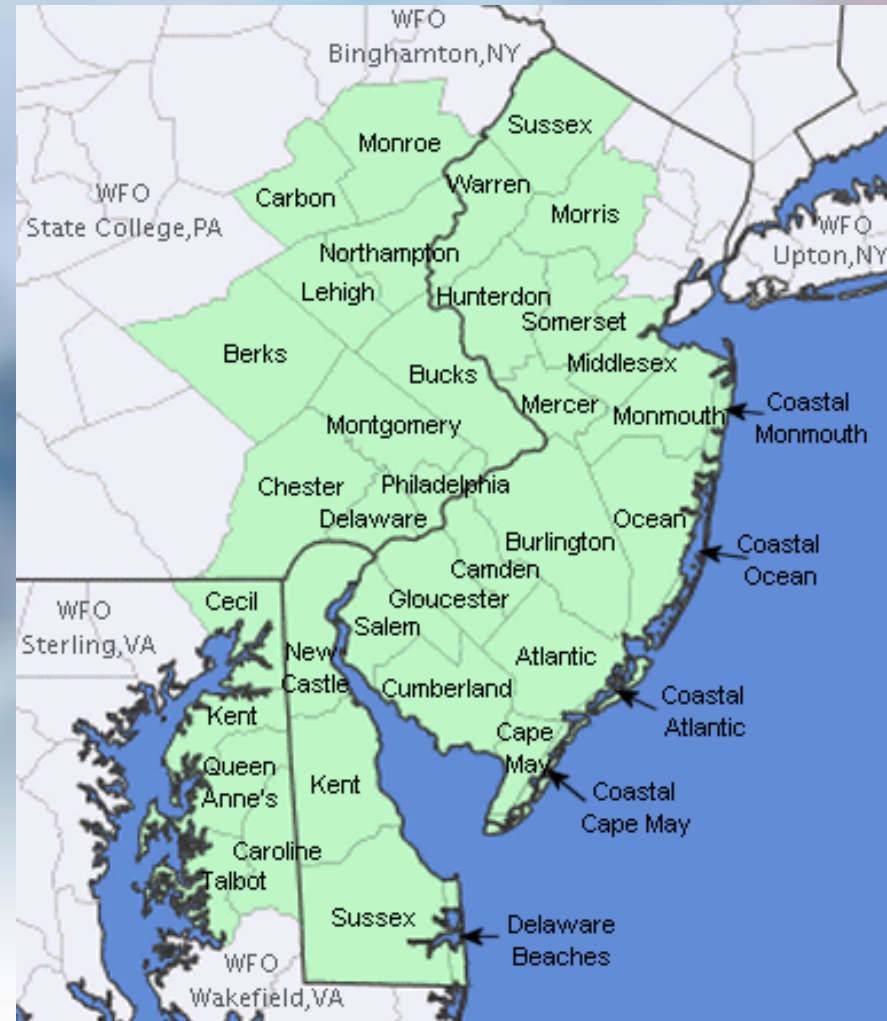
Philadelphia/Mt. Holly NJ Forecast Office

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>



Purpose of Briefing

- Briefing #5 for event
- Promote situational awareness for emergency management community & partners
- Provide guidance for planning efforts
- Briefing applies to Mount Holly service area – shaded in green on map



Change from previous briefing

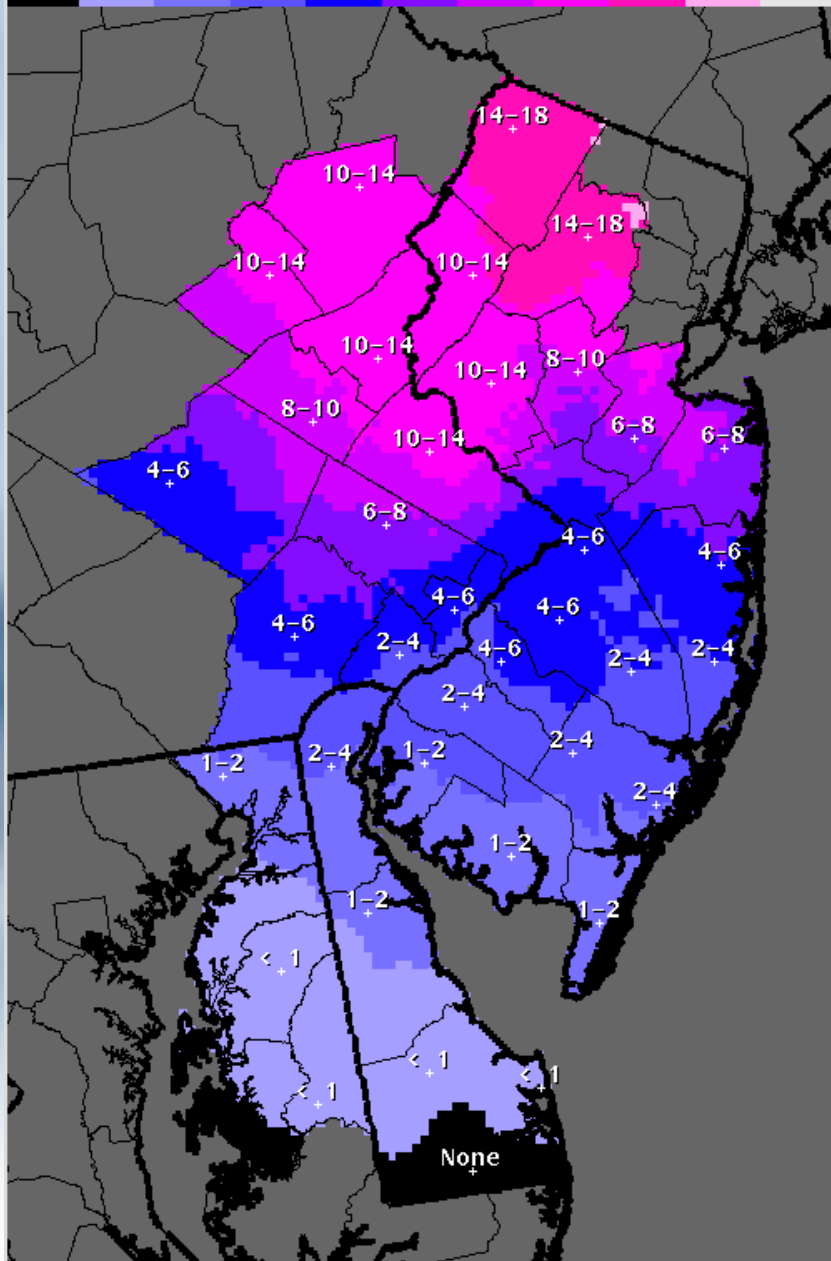
- Threat of heavy snowfall has increased; total amounts and geographic area impacted have increased.
- Coastal flooding threat has increased; moderate coastal flooding is now likely. Moderate to major beach erosion is expected.



Executive Summary

- A Nor'easter will affect the region starting late Thursday night February 7th and going into Saturday morning February 9th.
- Threats from the storm include snow, coastal flooding, and wind.
- **Snowfall amounts of 12+ inches** are possible with the storm, with highest amounts over the Poconos and northern NJ.
 - **Heavy snowfall is likely to affect the Friday PM commute in the Poconos, Lehigh Valley and northern & central NJ**
- Along the Atlantic Coast of NJ and DE, **moderate coastal flooding is likely; moderate to major beach erosion is likely.**
- Wind will gust up to 40 mph inland and **55 mph in coastal areas.**
- **Combination of high winds and wet snow will produce a threat of significant power outages.**
- **Next briefing package will be issued by Noon Friday, February 8th**
- For the latest forecast & warning information, monitor our website at:
<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>



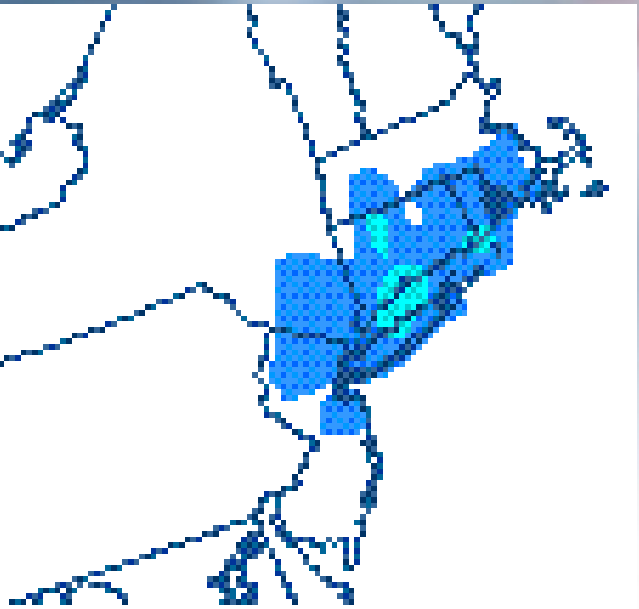
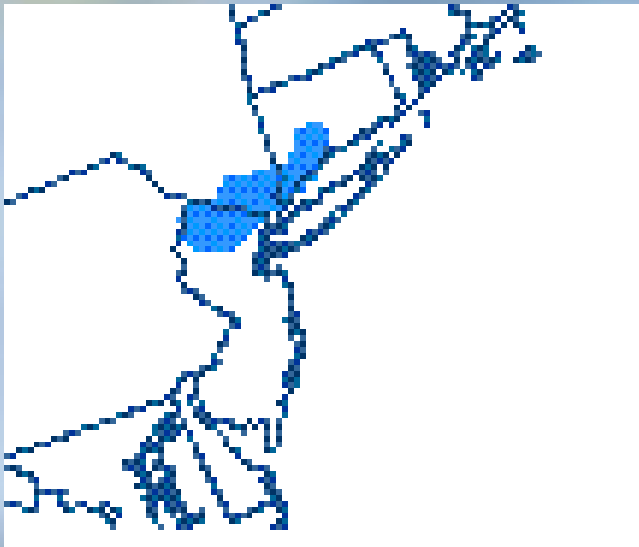


Snowfall - totals

- **Snowfall amounts of over 12 inches are possible with this storm, with highest amounts over the Poconos and northern NJ.**
 - **Heavy snowfall is likely to affect the Friday PM commute in the Poconos, Lehigh Valley, and northern and central NJ**
 - **Snowfall rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour are possible near and north of the I-78 corridor Friday evening.**

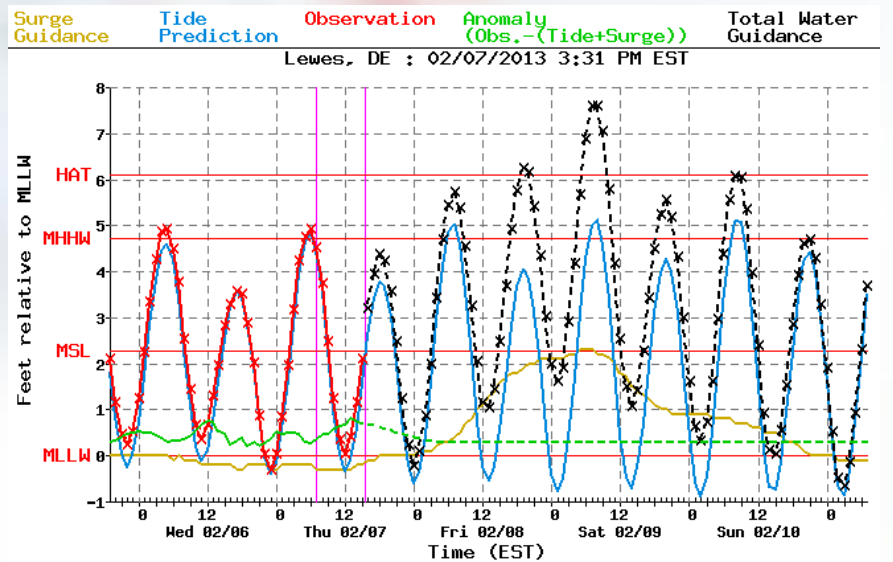
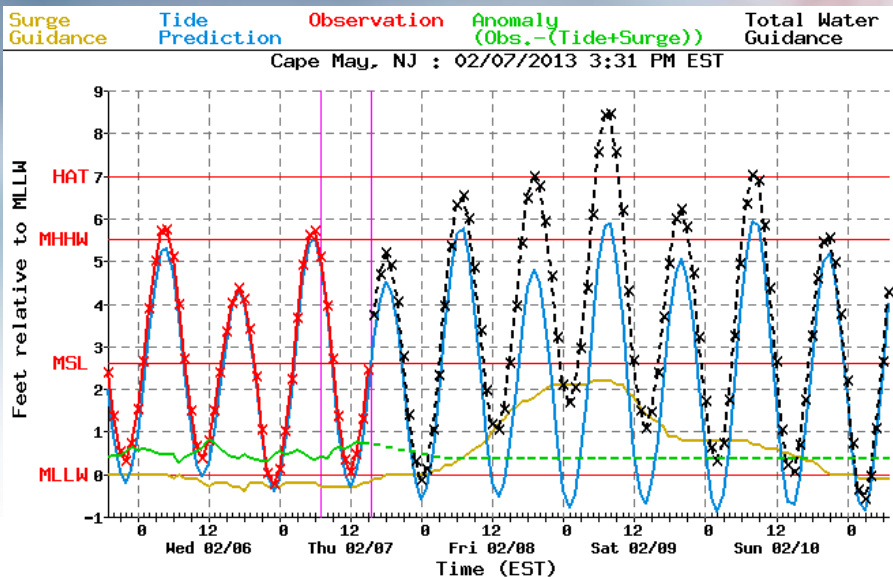
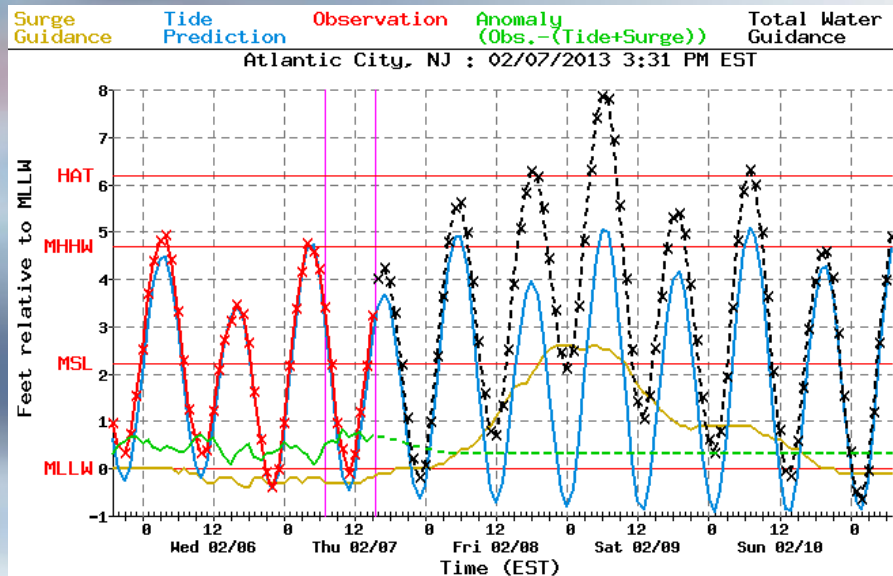
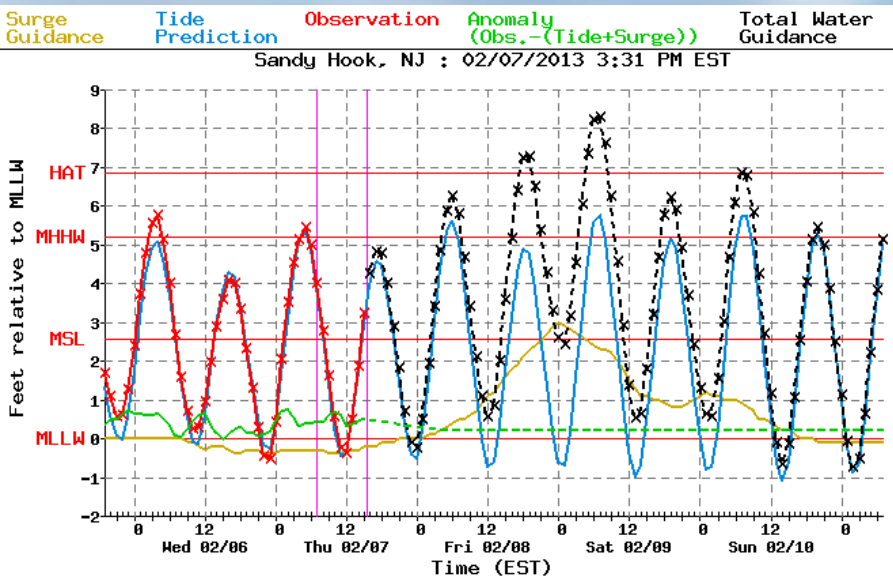
Storm Total Snow Range Forecast (in): Ending at 08 AM Sat Feb 09 2013

Snow - impacts



- Expected rapid deterioration of travel conditions late Friday afternoon into Friday evening
- Top map shows threat area for snowfall rates of two inches per hour at 400 PM Friday. Travel becomes very difficult with these very heavy snowfall rates. Visibility is sharply reduced.
- Bottom map shows two inch per hour area for 700 PM Friday.

Coastal flooding - graphics



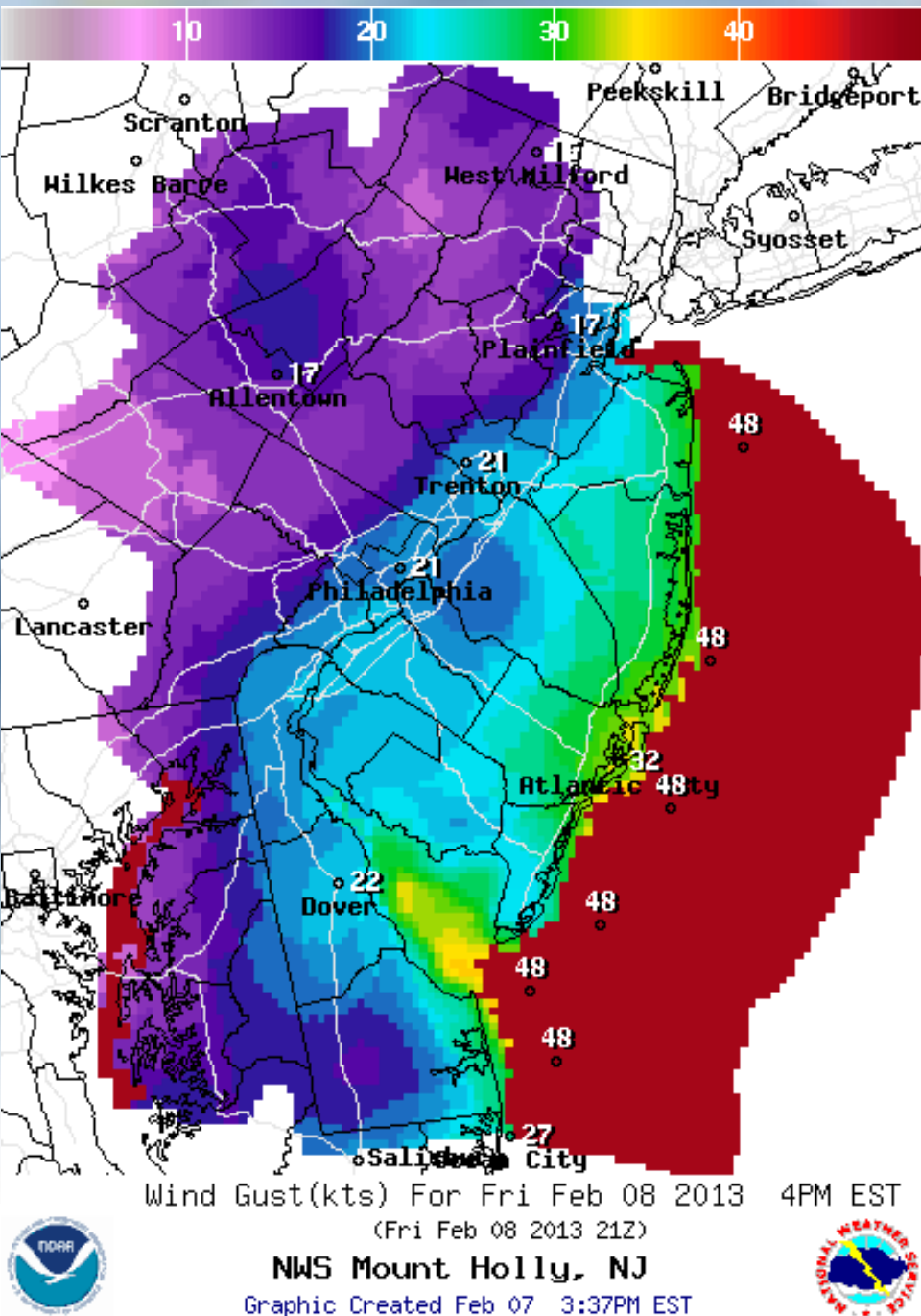
Coastal Flooding – impacts

- **Along Atlantic Coast of NJ & DE, as well as Delaware & Raritan Bays, moderate coastal flooding is now likely. Moderate beach erosion is likely; major beach erosion is possible. Along Chesapeake Bay, no coastal flooding is expected.**
- **Timeline –**
 - **Friday sunrise high tide – minor coastal flooding is possible, minor beach erosion is possible, waves in surf zone 3-5 feet along Atlantic coast.**
 - **Friday sunset high tide – minor coastal flooding will occur; minor beach erosion will occur, moderate beach erosion is possible, waves in surf zone 5-7 feet along Atlantic coast.**
 - **Saturday sunrise high tide – moderate coastal flooding is likely; moderate beach erosion will occur, major beach erosion is possible, waves in surf zone 6-8 feet along Atlantic coast**

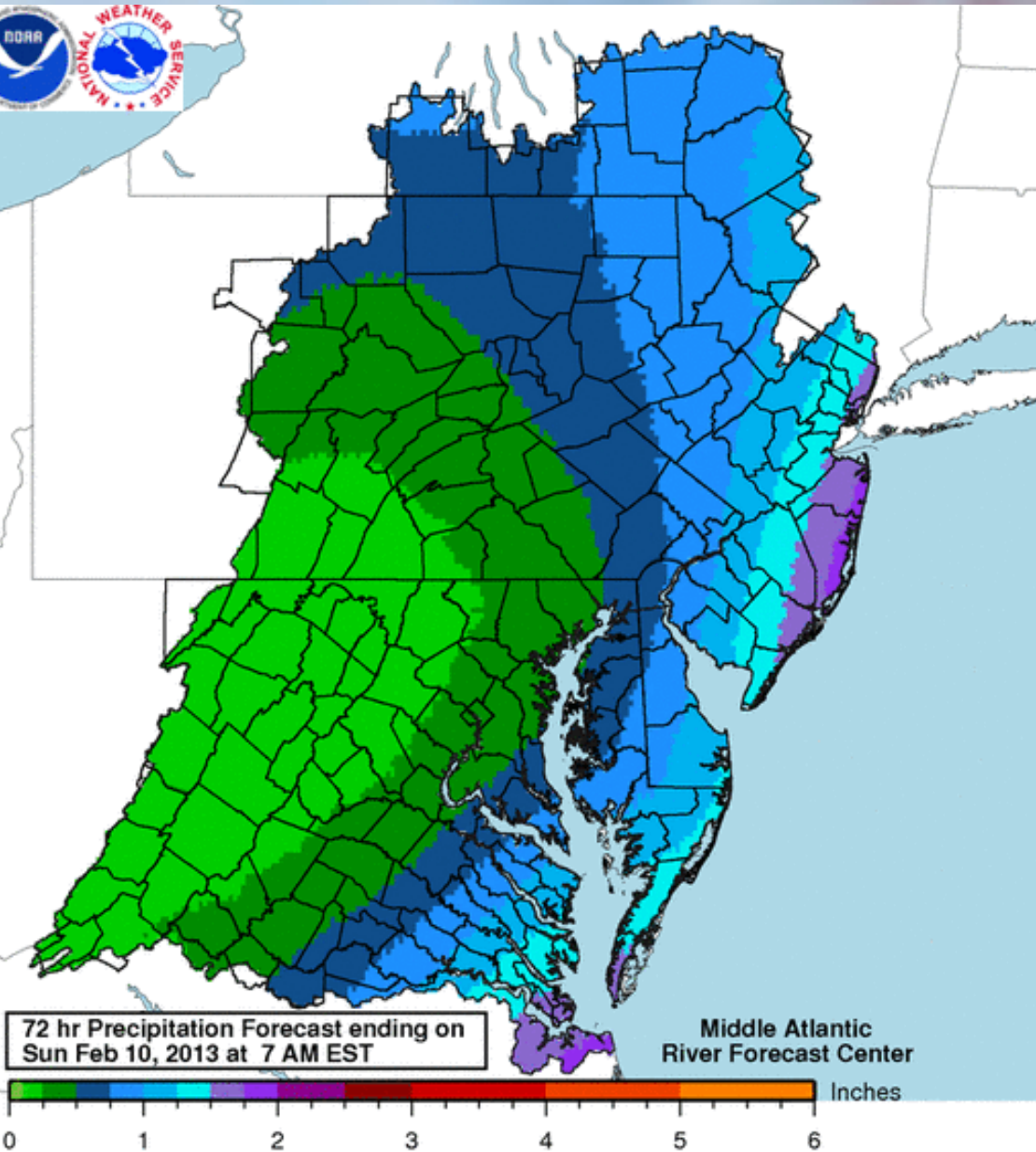


Winds

- Winds will gust up to 40 mph at inland locations and up to 55 mph along coastal sections of New Jersey and Delaware.
- Combination of high winds and wet snow will produce a threat of significant power outages.



Latest Precipitation Forecast



- This map indicates how much liquid water might occur with this event (if all the precipitation fell as rain).
- Generally between 0.5 and 1.5 inches is currently forecast, with the lower amounts in the west, and the higher amounts toward the coast. Over 2 inches is possible along the NJ coast.
- No flooding is expected along the main stem rivers (Lehigh, Schuylkill, Delaware).
- Small streams may see significant rises, as well as the Raritan River basin. However, based on current information, urban and poor drainage flooding looks like the main concern.

Questions?

- For the latest information, visit our website at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/>
- Our latest briefing package is available from our website at:
http://www.erh.noaa.gov/phi/briefing/packages/current_briefing.pdf
- If you wish to be notified when a briefing package is issued, you can follow us on social media where we post the notice.
- You can 'friend' us on Facebook at: US National Weather Service Philadelphia/Mount Holly
- You can follow us on Twitter at: @NWS_MountHolly
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