

# Coastal Storm Sunday through Monday

Decision Support Briefing # 3  
As of: 8 AM Friday, Dec 15, 2023





Briefing applies to the  
Morehead City/Newport, NC  
Area Only



## What Has Changed?

- Impacts coming into better focus, with increasing confidence in Moderate to Major Coastal Flooding
- Storm and Gale Watches in effect for

# Main Points

Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
<b>Marine &amp; Rip Currents</b> 	<p>Large, dangerous seas and rip currents.</p> <p>Winds with gusts up to storm force.</p>	<p><b>Seas and Rip Currents:</b> All coastal marine zones and area beaches.</p> <p><b>Storm Force Winds:</b> Offshore waters from Surf City to Oregon Inlet.</p> <p><b>Gales:</b> Waters north of Oregon Inlet, Pamlico/Croatan/Roanoke Sounds.</p>	<p>Starting Sunday and peaking Sunday evening.</p>
<b>Winds</b> 	<p>Windy conditions could damage outdoor items, bring at least isolated power outages, and result in hazardous driving conditions for high-profile vehicles.</p>	<p>Greatest wind threat for Outer Banks and sites along the western Pamlico Sound.</p>	<p>Highest winds Sunday night.</p>
<b>Coastal Flooding</b> 	<p><b>Coastal Flooding:</b> Moderate to major inundation possible.</p> <p><b>Ocean Overwash:</b> Large surf will bring beach erosion and the potential for overwash in vulnerable areas.</p>	<p>*See map on slide 7*</p> <p><b>Soundside Coastal Flooding:</b> Worst conditions along the Pamlico River, but also impacting spots along the western Pamlico Sound and soundside Outer Banks.</p> <p><b>Oceanside Overwash:</b> Duck to Cape Lookout.</p>	<p><b>Coastal Flooding:</b> Minor coastal flooding threat begins Sunday morning, with the highest inundation Sunday night into Monday morning.</p> <p><b>Ocean Overwash:</b> Greatest impacts possible Sunday night.</p>
<b>Rainfall Amounts</b> 	<p>2 to 4 inches of rainfall could bring localized flooding of poor drainage areas and hazardous travel conditions.</p>	<p>All of Eastern NC.</p>	<p>Heaviest rainfall on Sunday night.</p>

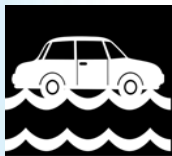
# Summary of Greatest Impacts



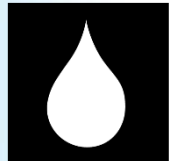
## Marine: All Marine Areas



## Strong Winds: See Maps to Follow



## Coastal Flooding: See Maps to Follow



## Rainfall: See Maps to Follow



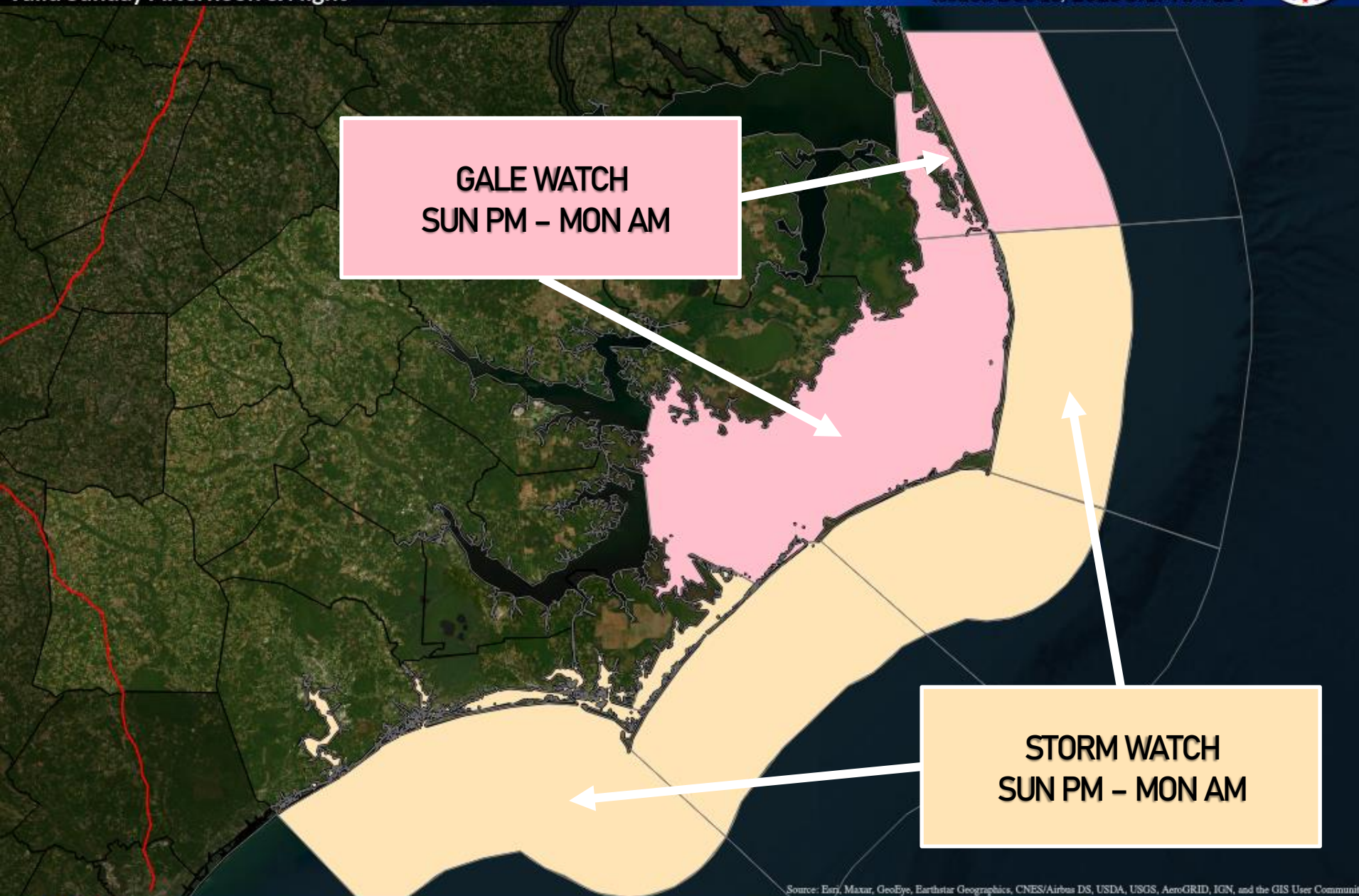


# Marine Headlines

Valid Sunday Afternoon & Night

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Dec 15, 2023 5:17 AM EST



**GALE WATCH**  
SUN PM – MON AM

**STORM WATCH**  
SUN PM – MON AM

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

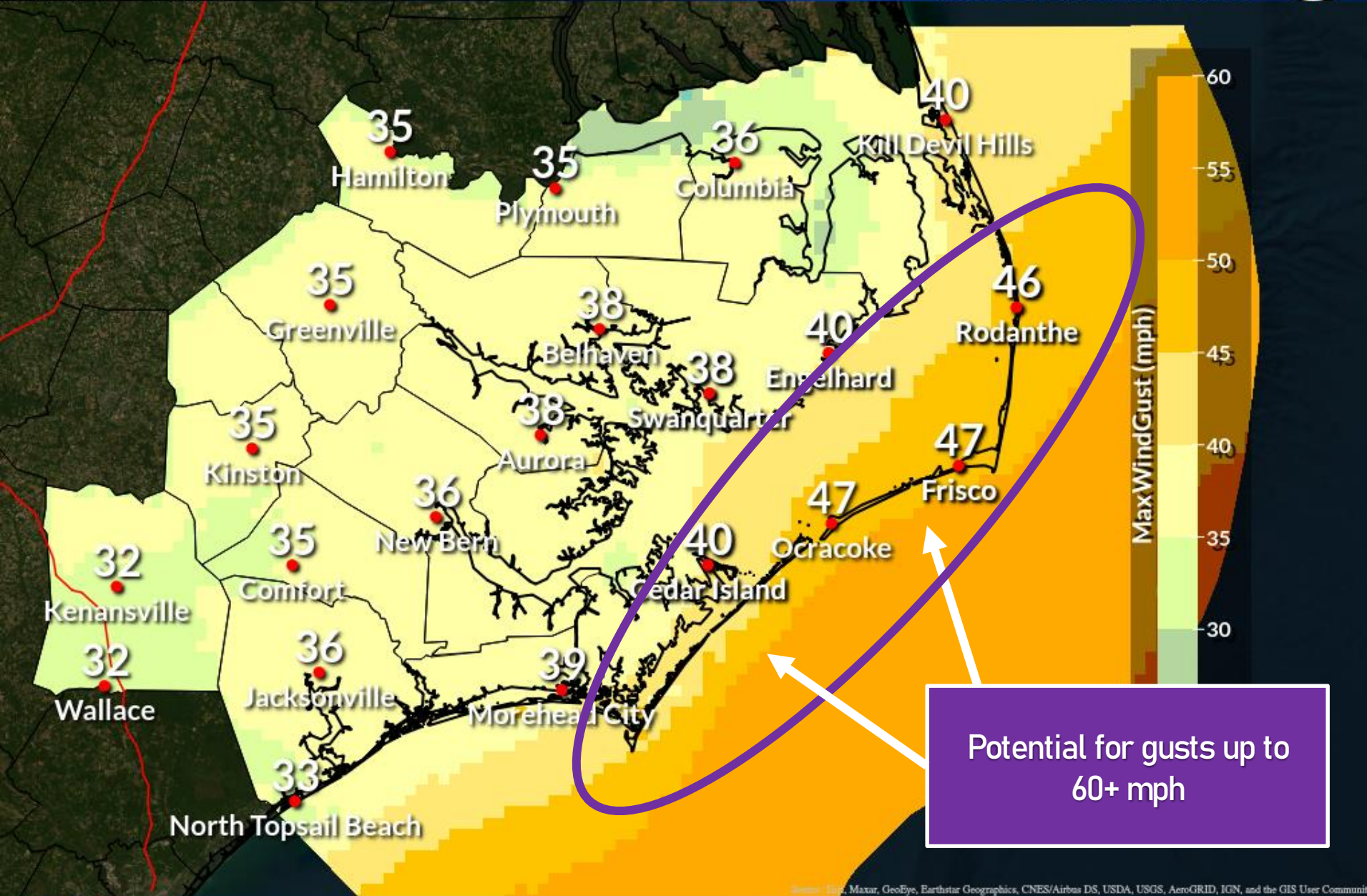


# Max Wind Gusts

Sunday and Monday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Dec 15, 2023 7:34 AM EST



Potential for gusts up to 60+ mph

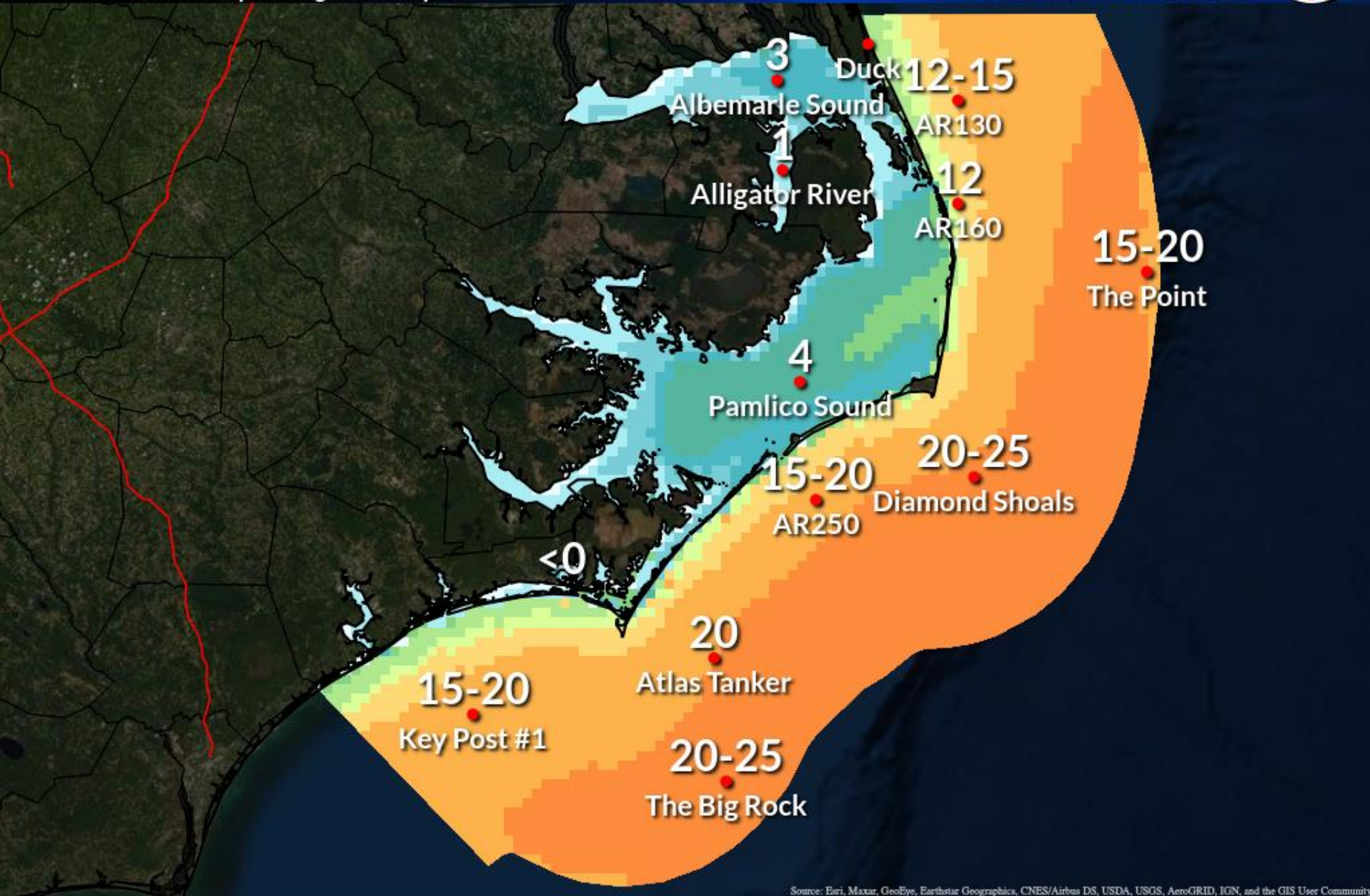


# Maximum Wave Heights (ft)

Forecast Valid: Sunday through Monday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Dec 15, 2023 3:45 AM EST



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

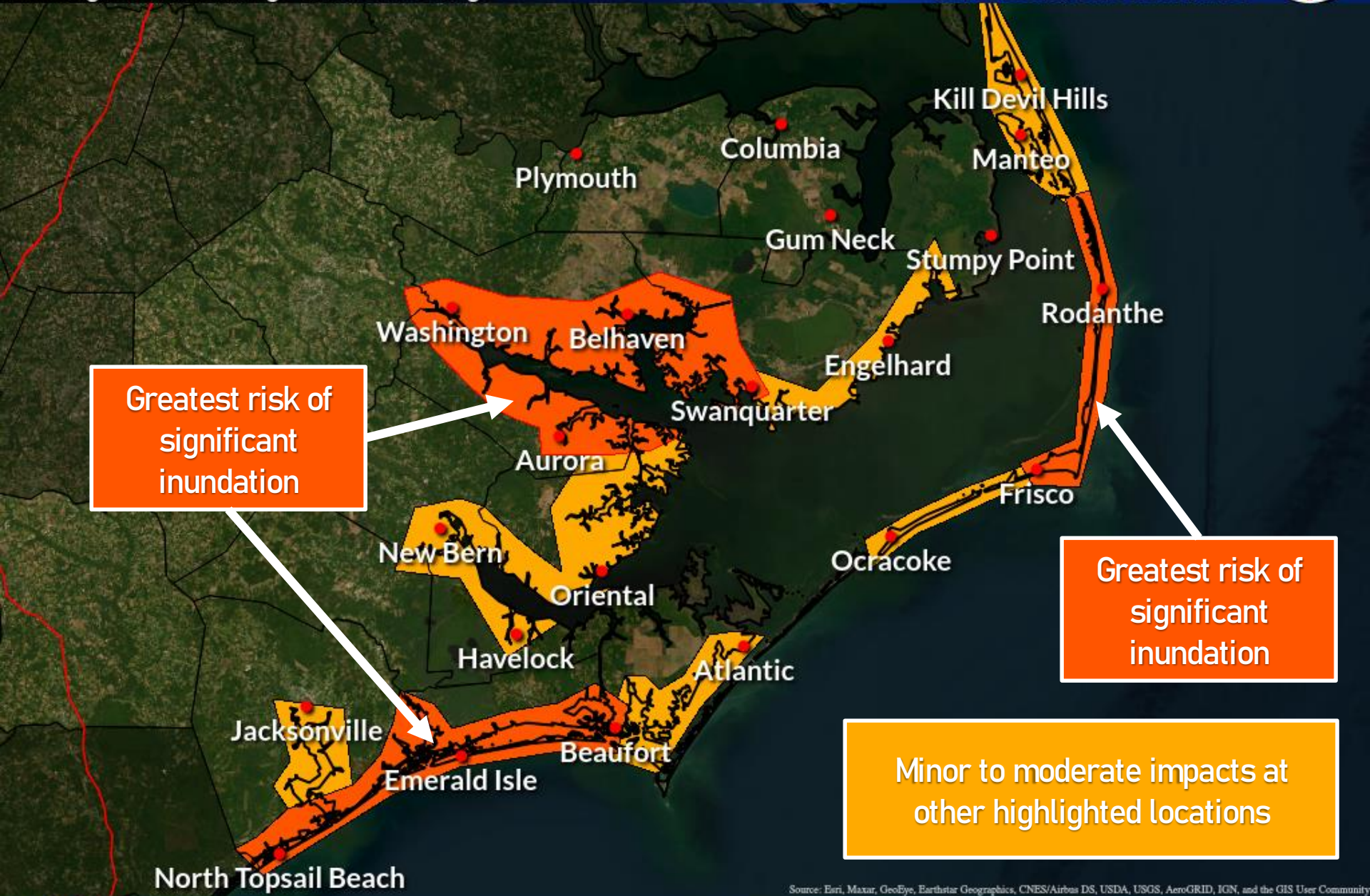


# Coastal Flooding Threat

Most Significant Flooding Potential in Orange

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Dec 15, 2023 6:24 AM EST



Greatest risk of significant inundation

Greatest risk of significant inundation

Minor to moderate impacts at other highlighted locations

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

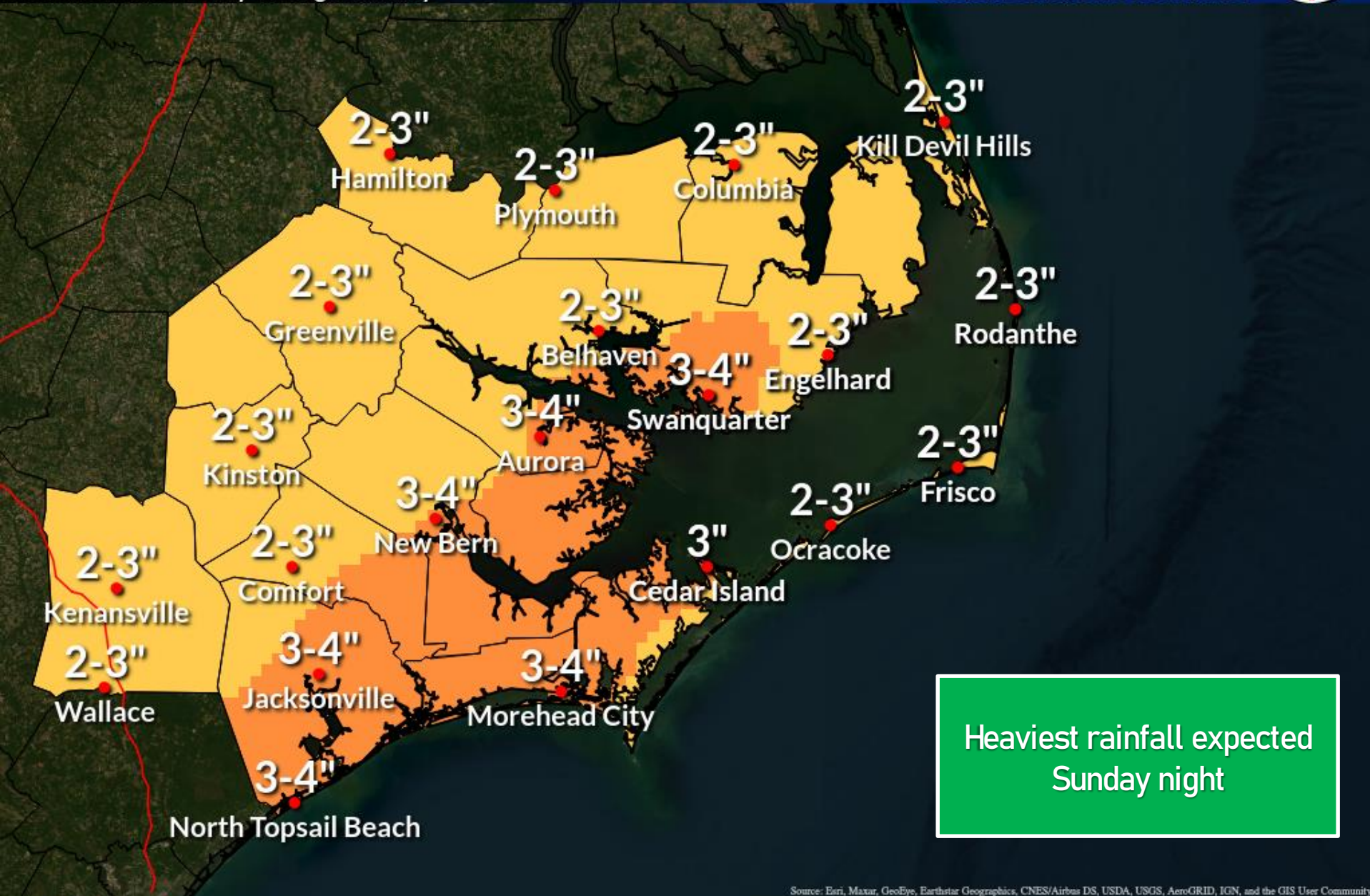


# Storm Total Rainfall (in.)

Forecast Valid: Sunday through Monday

Weather Forecast Office  
Newport/Morehead City, NC

Issued Dec 15, 2023 3:50 AM EST



Heaviest rainfall expected  
Sunday night

Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community





# Event Summary

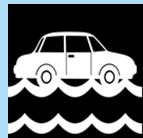
✓ Confidence is **HIGH** that this event will occur, and we are expecting **MODERATE to MAJOR** impacts.



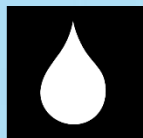
**Very Dangerous Marine Conditions:** Dangerous seas 15-20 ft with up to Storm Force winds Sunday through Monday. Dangerous surf conditions especially north of Cape Lookout.



**Winds:** Windy conditions could damage outdoor items, bring isolated power outages, and result in hazardous driving conditions for high-profile vehicles. Most vulnerable locations along the Outer Banks on Sunday night.



**Coastal Flooding:** Moderate to major soundside flooding possible on Sunday night along the Pamlico River and associated tributaries while lower water impacts the eastern Pamlico Sound. Behind the storm, moderate soundside flooding along the Outer Banks is possible.



**Ocean Overwash:** Large surf is expected for beaches from Duck to Cape Lookout, particularly late Sunday through Monday, leading to potential beach erosion and overwash in vulnerable areas.

**Rainfall:** 2 to 4 inches of rainfall across most of eastern NC. Slight risk of excessive rainfall.

# Contact and Next Briefing Information



The next briefing will be sent out by 5 PM Friday 12/15/2023



[Briefing Webpage](#)



**Web:**

<http://www.weather.gov/mhx/>



**Phone (public):**

(252) 223-5737 ext. 6



**E-mail:**

[wxobs.mhx@noaa.gov](mailto:wxobs.mhx@noaa.gov)



**Facebook:**

[NWS Newport/Morehead City](#)



**Twitter:**

[@NWSMoreheadCity](#)



**YouTube:**

[NWSMoreheadCity](#)