

## February 19-20 Winter Storm

**For Central North Carolina** 

# Winter Storm Starting Wednesday

### **Decision Support Briefing #5**

→ As of 5:30 AM Tuesday, February 18

# NEW

### **Important Updates**

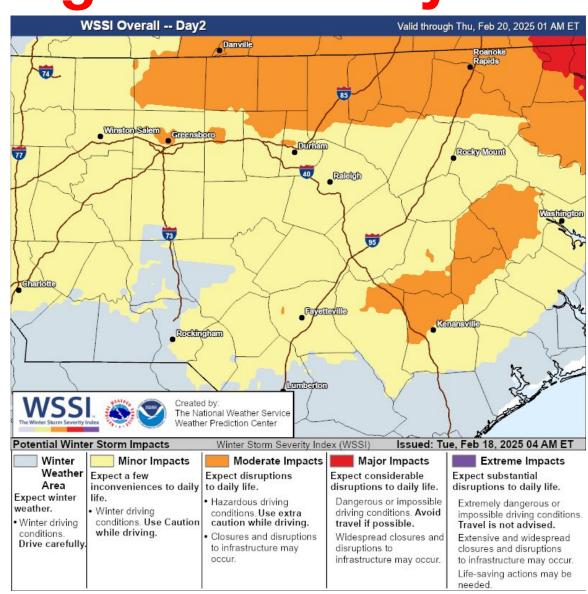
A winter storm warning has been issued for several counties in central NC.

→ A winter storm watch remains in effect for much of central NC.

Be sure to visit

https://weather.gov/Raleigh/Winter

For more details and all the latest updates to the snow and ice maps shown in this briefing





# Summary and Key Messages:

- 1. Confidence continues to increase that a winter storm will affect central NC Wednesday through early Thursday morning with lingering impacts through the remainder of the week and perhaps weekend.
- 2. A Winter Storm Warning has been issued along the VA border for heavy snow (4-6 inches)
- 3. A Winter Storm Warning has been issued for Edgecombe, Wilson, and Wayne counties for a combination of snow, sleet, and freezing rain
- 4. Winter Storm Watches continue elsewhere and will likely be converted to Winter Weather Advisories or Winter Storm Warnings by the day shift
- 5. The greatest risk for heavy snow (greater than 3 inches) will be across areas along and north of US-64.
- 6. Freezing rain with accumulations of ice up to ¼ inch will be possible across for areas mainly to the the south and east of Raleigh.
- 7. Subsequent black ice concerns will follow for Friday morning and maybe Saturday morning.
- 8. Where the heaviest ice accumulates, there could be substantial tree damage and power outages. Be prepared for numerous power outages across the eastern half of NC.



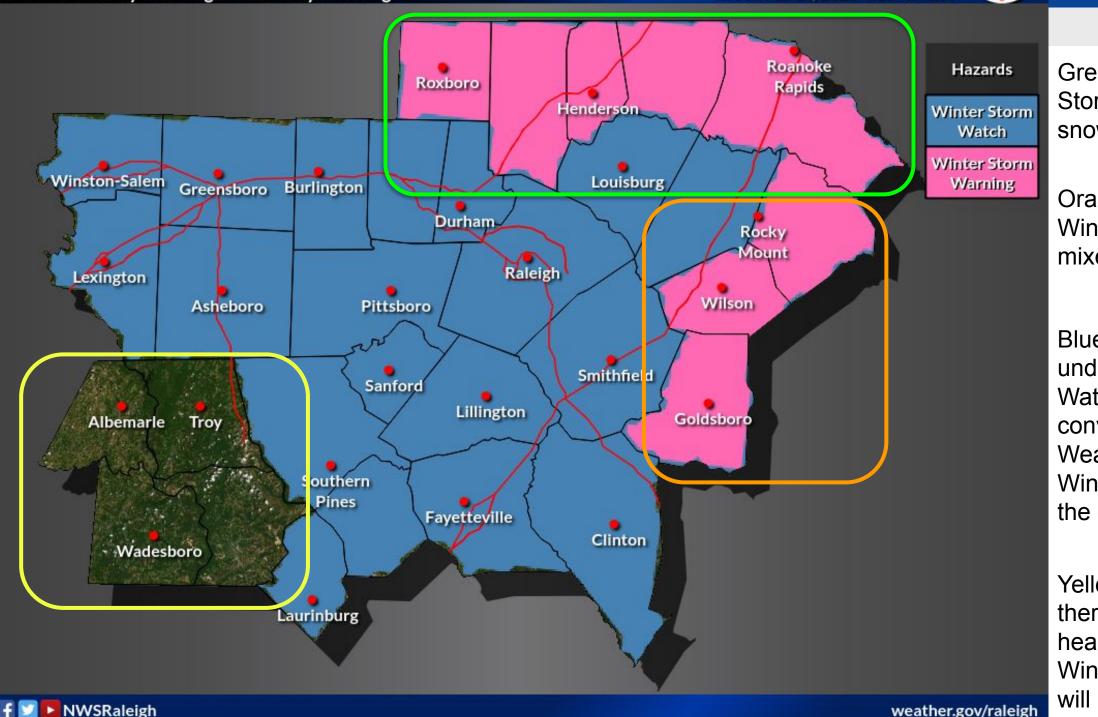
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### Winter Storm Watch and Warning

Weather Forecast Office
Raleigh, NC
Issued Feb 18, 2025 4:10 AM EST

February 18, 2025 5:39 AM

Valid Wednesday Morning to Thursday Morning



Green box indicates Winter Storm Warning for heavy snow

Orange box indicates
Winter Storm Warning for
mixed precip

Blue counties currently under a Winter Storm Watch will likely be converted to Winter Weather Advisories or Winter Storm Warnings by the day shift

Yellow box indicates where there is currently no headline in effect, but a Winter Weather Advisory will likely be needed for ice





# **Main Points**

**For Central NC** 

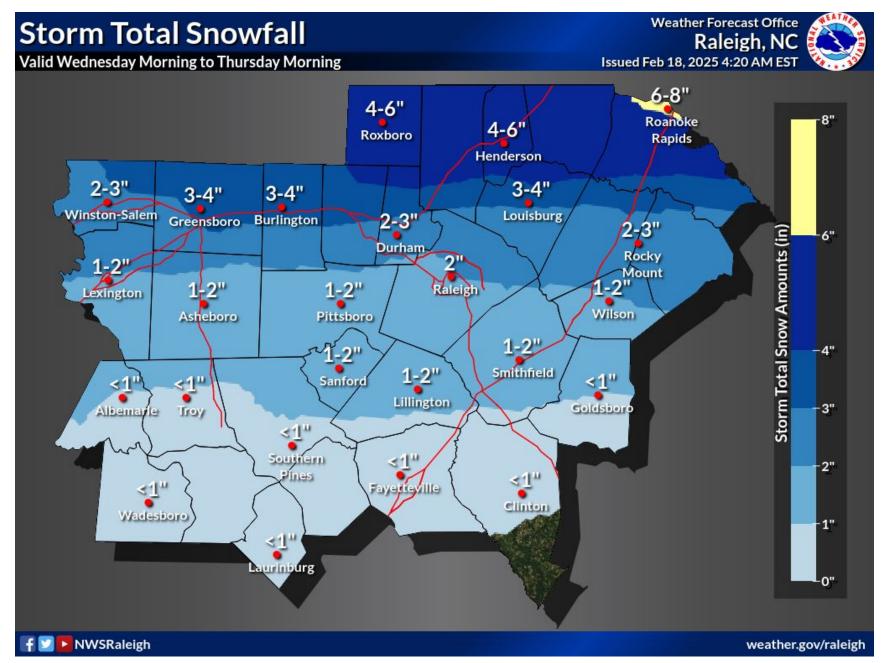
Hazard		Impacts	Location	Timing
Snow	**	Moderate to major impacts are possible on roads, sidewalks	Areas along and north of US-64 and especially near the VA border from Roxboro eastward, including the northern I-95 corridor	Wednesday morning through early Thursday morning.
Ice/Mixed		Up to ¼ inch of ice accumulation possible with impacts to powerlines, trees, and roads.	Areas along and east of the US-1 Corridor	Wednesday afternoon through early Thursday morning.
Power Outages		Scattered to numerous power outages are possible	Best chance for substantial ice impacts will be from the I-95 corridor south of Wilsonand eastward.	Wednesday night through Thursday
Cold		Wind chills are expected to range from the single digits to teens	All of Central NC	Coldest wind chills Thursday night into Friday morning
Black Ice	K	Prolonged cold temperatures will lead to black ice well after the event ends	All of Central NC	Thursday night and possibly Friday night depending total precip accumulations.
Travel Hazards		Roads are likely to be hazardous	All of Central NC	From mid-day Wednesday through Thursday. Black ice may present travel issues Friday as well.





### **Most Likely Snowfall**

#### This is the Official NWS Forecast



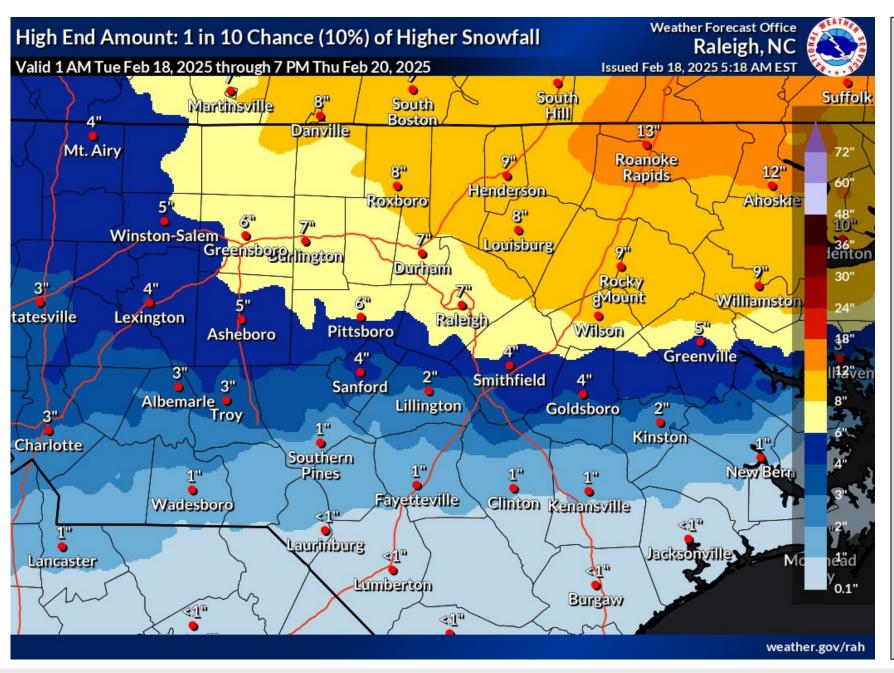
### **Key Points:**

- Areas along and north of US-64 and especially near the VA border from Roxboro eastward, including the northern I-95 corridor will see the heaviest snowfall.
- A few snowflakes will be possible Wednesday morning, but the heaviest snowfall rates and quickest accumulations are expected from Wednesday afternoon through evening.
- Travel will become especially difficult and hazardous Wednesday afternoon.



### Alternate possible scenario - the high-end snow amounts

#### Consider this the worst-case scenario



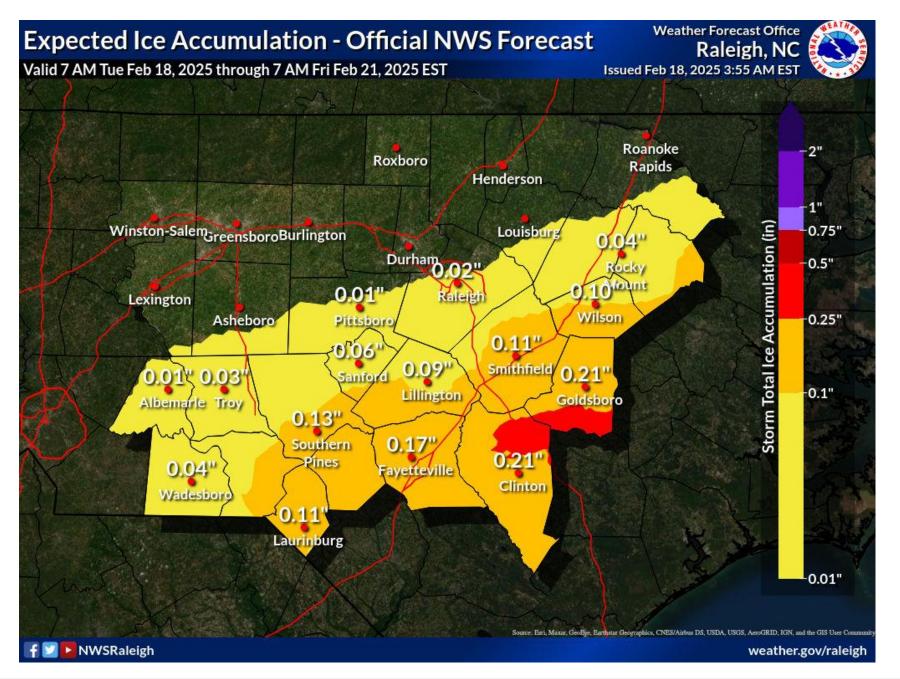
### **Key Points:**

 The worst-case scenario snowfall amounts shows 6+ inches of snow falling along and north of the highway 64 corridor, with up to 12 inches of snow near the VA border.



### **Expected Ice Accumulation**

#### This is the Official NWS Forecast



#### **Key Points:**

- Freezing rain with accumulations of ice up to ¼ inch will be possible across for areas mainly to the the south and east of Raleigh, with the heaviest ice accumulations from the I-95 corridor south of Wilson and eastward.
- Where the heaviest ice accumulates, there could be substantial tree damage and power outages.
- Be prepared for numerous power outages across the eastern half of NC.

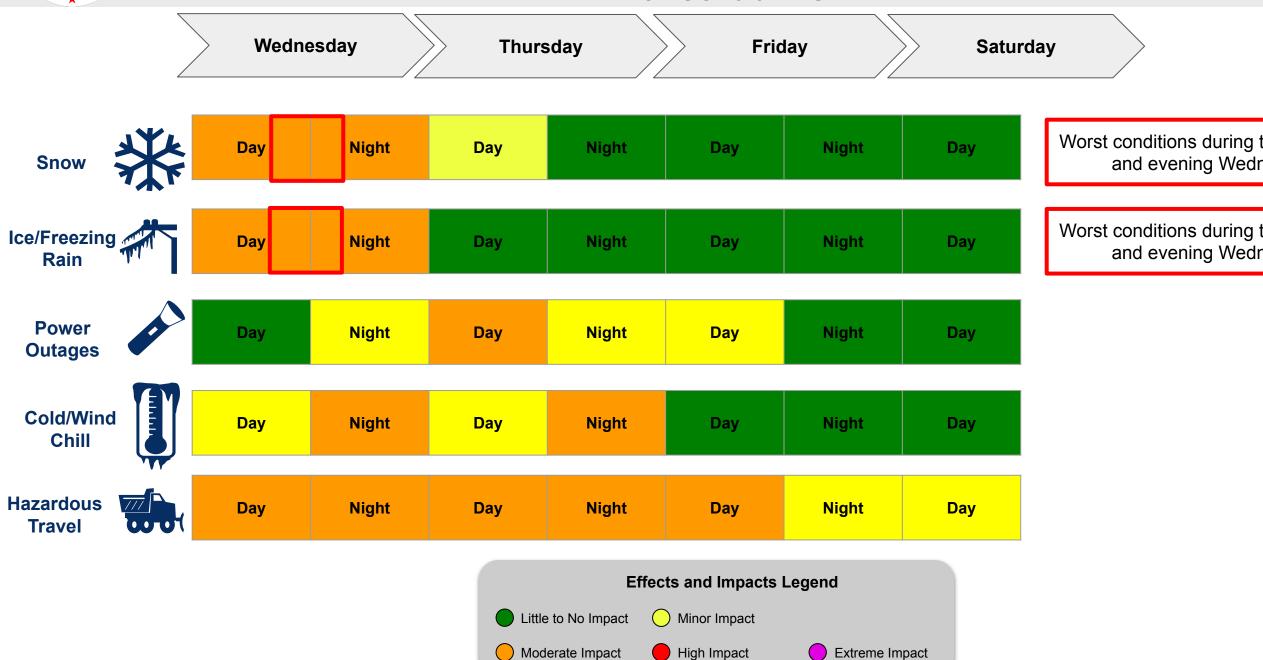




### **Expected Timeline Full Weather and Impacts**

**February 18, 2025** 5:39 AM

#### **For Central NC**



Worst conditions during the afternoon and evening Wednesday

Worst conditions during the afternoon and evening Wednesday



### Timeline of Main Weather and Impacts

#### **For Central NC**

A wintry mix is expected to continue into Wednesday evening, before ending from SW to NE, but with significant impacts to roads remaining.

Cold night with lows in the teens and wind chill values in the single digits to lower teens.

Re-freeze conditions are likely to result in black ice and slick travel conditions continuing.

Good melting opportunity with highs expected to be in the 40s, but black ice potential may linger through the weekend.

Wednesday Wednesday Night Thursday Thursday Night

lay Night Friday

Saturday

Precipitation is expected to begin late Wednesday morning as a mix of sleet, freezing rain, and snow, with light rain possible in far southern sections of central NC

Light snow (< ½") will be possible in the morning, but significant impacts are expected to continue due to potential snow and ice accumulation. In addition, surface temperatures are only expected to rise marginally above freezing, bringing black ice Thursday night into Friday.

Black ice concerns remain, especially along side streets, overpasses, and bridges.

Risk Levels

No/None

Limited

**Elevated** 

**Significant** 

Extreme



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# Contact and Next Briefing Information February 18, 2025 5:39 AM

For Central NC



### **Briefing Webpage**

https://www.weather.gov/media/rah/briefing/NWSRale ighLatestBriefing.pdf



### **Next Briefing**

- Via email and on the web by 11:30 AM Tuesday, February 17, 2025, or sooner as needed.
- Our next live webinar briefing for partners and YouTube will be at 11:30 AM Tuesday.



### **Disclaimer**

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 7:00 PM Tuesday, February 18



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