



New York Metro Weather

Clearing the fog in the forecast

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Storm Alert Briefing

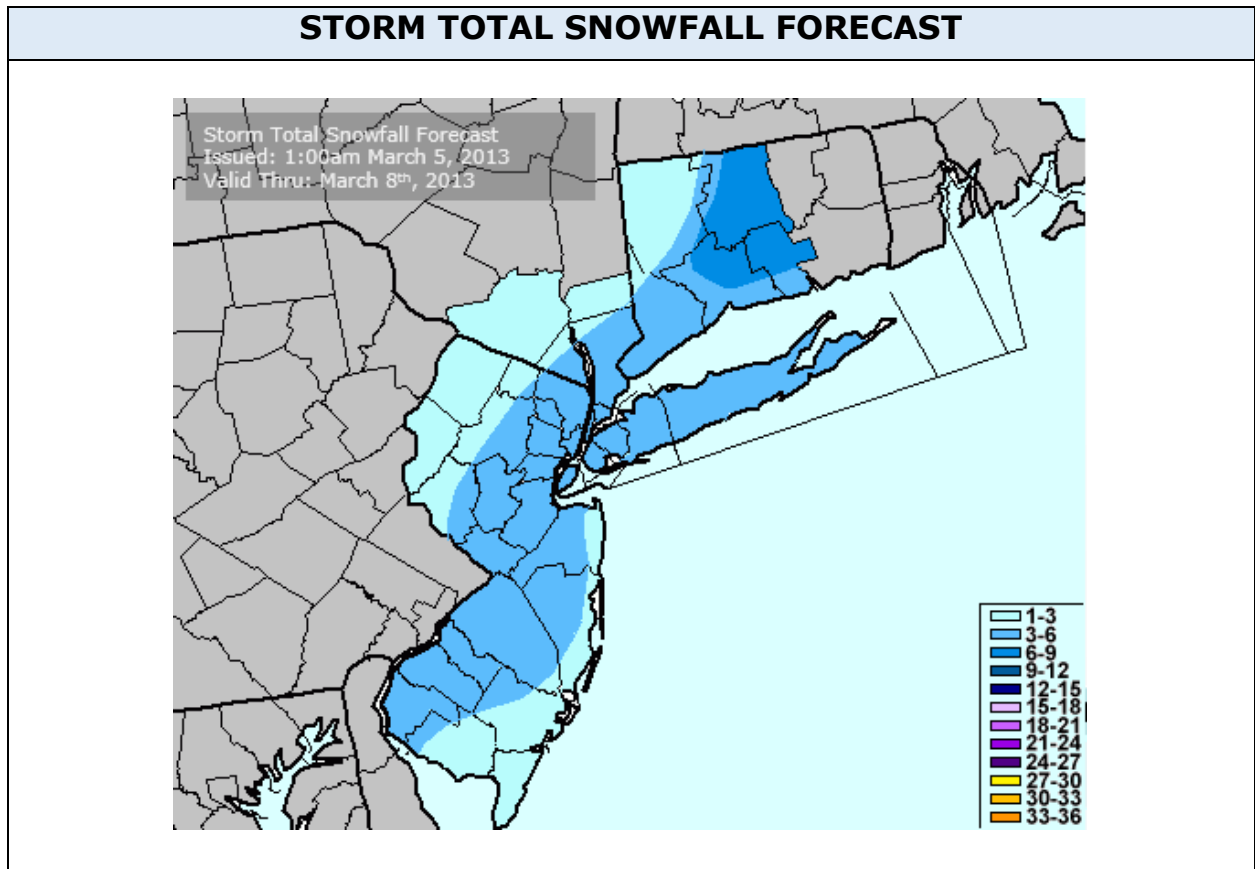
EVENT DESCRIPTION...***SIGNIFICANT SEAWARD BOUND STORM TO IMPACT THE AREA WITH SNOW, RAIN AND WIND THROUGH FRIDAY..

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A TWO PAGE BRIEFING. SCROLL DOWN FOR DETAILS BEYOND THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSION.

STORM OVERVIEW		
Start Time: 2-6pm Wed 3/6/13	End Time: 2-6am Fri 3/8/13	Duration: 36-48 hours
Precipitation Intensity: Light to Moderate		Total Precip Accumulations: 0.75" – 1.00"
<p>Comments/Discussion: A significant coastal system will impact the area from Wednesday morning through Friday. Precipitation is expected to spread from southwest to northeast during the day on Wednesday. Significant uncertainties still exist in regards to the amount of precipitation that falls and where the coastal storm will track. Forecast models have become nearly irrelevant at this point given their incredible inconsistencies. The ECMWF and GFS now have trended very far south and east – with the GFS the farthest south and east of all guidance. Taking the GFS literally this is a low impact event for most interests, save for the coast where strong winds would still be possible. The ECMWF still indicates upwards of 4 inches of snow and strong coastal winds and precipitation.</p> <p>The NAM, SREF and high resolution modeling continues to indicate a stronger storm system closer to the coast, with significant precipitation amounts. Taking the NAM data literally yields upwards of 10 inches of snow in the NYC Metro, Central NJ, Long Island, and Connecticut. Precipitation amounts in excess of 1.25" liquid could even yield amounts higher in banding. In addition the closer track brings stronger winds near the coast both aloft and mixing down to the lowest 0-30mb. That being said, these models (specifically the ARW/NMM members of the SREF Mean and NAM) have a track record of not only overdone QPF amounts, but tracks too far to the north and west between 24 and 48 hours in advance of a storm system. For that reason, they were not weighted heavily into this forecast package.</p> <p>On the contrary, we did not heavily weight the GFS or the GEFS mean into this forecast package either. Detailed model analysis yields a struggling GFS convective profile with the upper level low shifting offshore. The precipitation shield seems highly suspect. We with an ECMWF and SREF blend for this package which falls in line with the new 00z/6 RGEM. But we took a colder thermal profile than the very warm Canadian guidance suite. Our official forecast calls for 3 inches of snow in the NYC Metro area but the confidence on that is very low. There is the potential for some higher amounts in banding especially across Central New Jersey, Long Island, and Connecticut. As a result our snow map takes a 3-6" band from West-Central NJ through NYC and Long Island into Connecticut. Our confidence on this is very low for such a broad area...around 55-60%.</p> <p>Winds will be another major factor especially along the coast. Forecast models have a prolonged northeasterly fetch with winds exceeding 25 miles per hour sustained for several hours. Gusts may potentially reach 50+ miles per hour. The National Weather Service has issued a High Wind Warning along the NJ Shore and we expect one along Long Island by tomorrow as well. The precipitation from the storm system will linger through Friday and we expect some of that to fall as snow/sleet and some of it as rain.</p> <p>Marine interests should heed the warning of the significant system and prepare adequately for high seas and strong winds.</p>		

STORM TIMELINE FORECAST (NYC)					
Date	Time	Conditions	Temperature	Wind	Total Snow
3/6/13	2:00pm	Light Rain	39 F	NE 15mph	0.0"
3/6/13	5:00pm	Light Snow	37 F	NE 20mph	0.1"
3/6/13	8:00pm	Moderate Snow	36 F	NE 20mph	0.3"
3/6/13	11:00pm	Moderate Snow	35 F	NE 25mph	0.9"
3/7/13	2:00am	Moderate Snow	34 F	NE 25mph	1.3"
3/7/13	5:00am	Moderate Snow	34 F	N 25mph	2.3"
3/7/13	8:00am	Moderate Snow	34 F	N 25mph	3.0"
3/7/13	11:00am	Light Mix	34 F	N 25mph	3.1"
3/7/13	2:00pm	Light Mix	34 F	N 25mph	3.1"

POTENTIAL HAZARDS					
Heavy Rain	X	Rapid freeze		Widespread refreeze	
Coastal Flooding	X	Long duration	X	Significant Storm Surge	
Significant Snowfall	X	Significant Sleet		Beach Erosion	X
Significant Ice Accretion		High Winds	X	Significant Travel Impact	X



Forecast Issued: 1:00am 3/6/13 | Next Update: 12:00pm 3/6/13 | Forecaster: JH