



Winter Weather Briefing

January 16, 2026
2:07 AM

Decision Support Briefing #3 for the Western Carolinas and Northeast Georgia

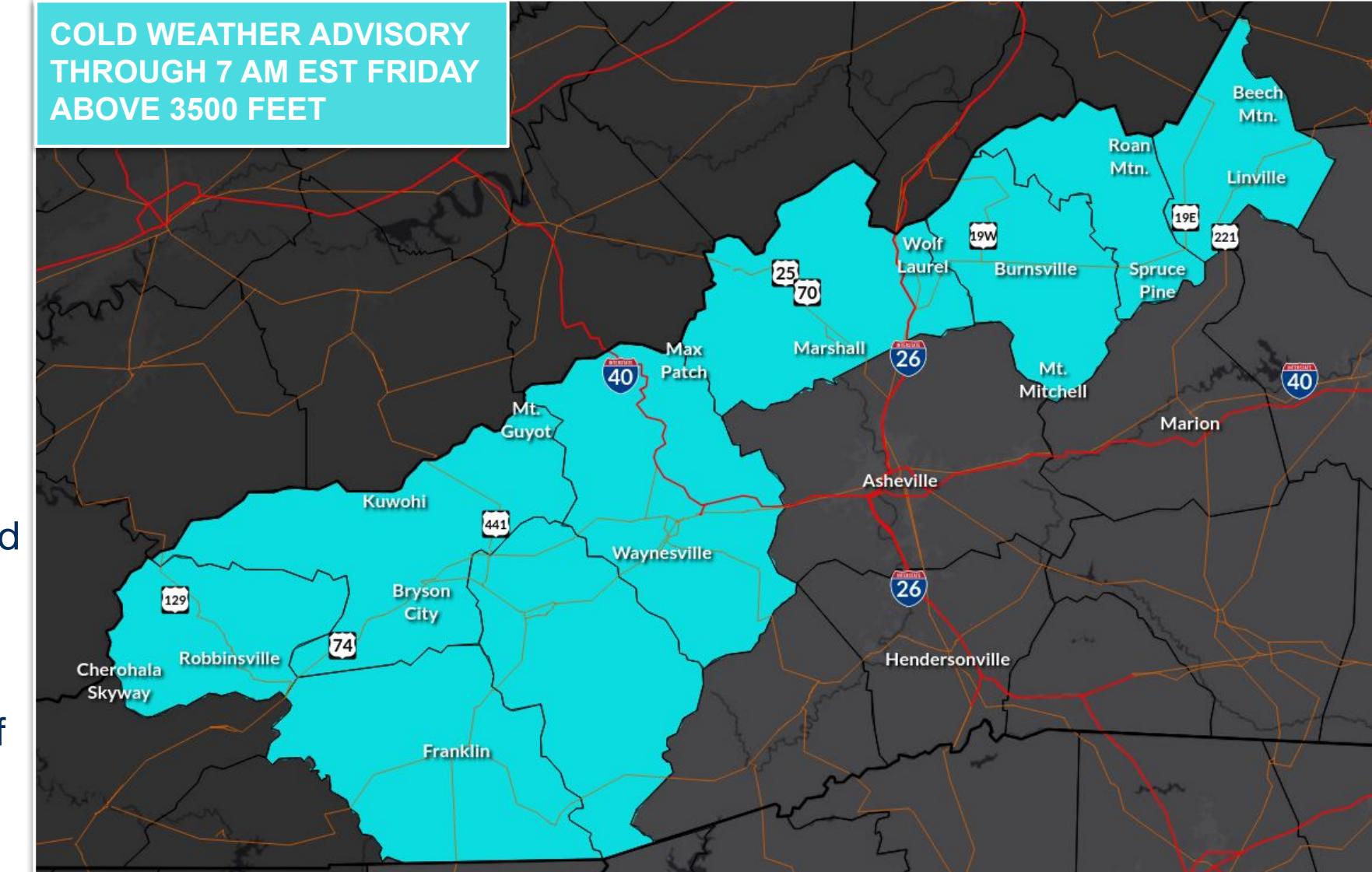
NEW

Important Updates

- Snow totals have decreased for the mountains and foothills Friday night into early Saturday morning.
- Snow chances for Saturday night have trended down for locations east of the mountains.

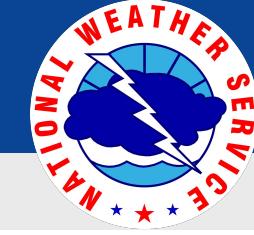
Key Messages

- Winds diminish this morning with dangerously cold wind chills in the mountains improving.
- Accumulating snow likely to return to the mountains Friday night, with moderate accumulations at the high elevations southwest of the Pigeon River Valley.
- Slight chance for light snow Saturday night and Sunday east of the mountains, but confidence remains low.



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Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



Cold Mountain Wind Chills

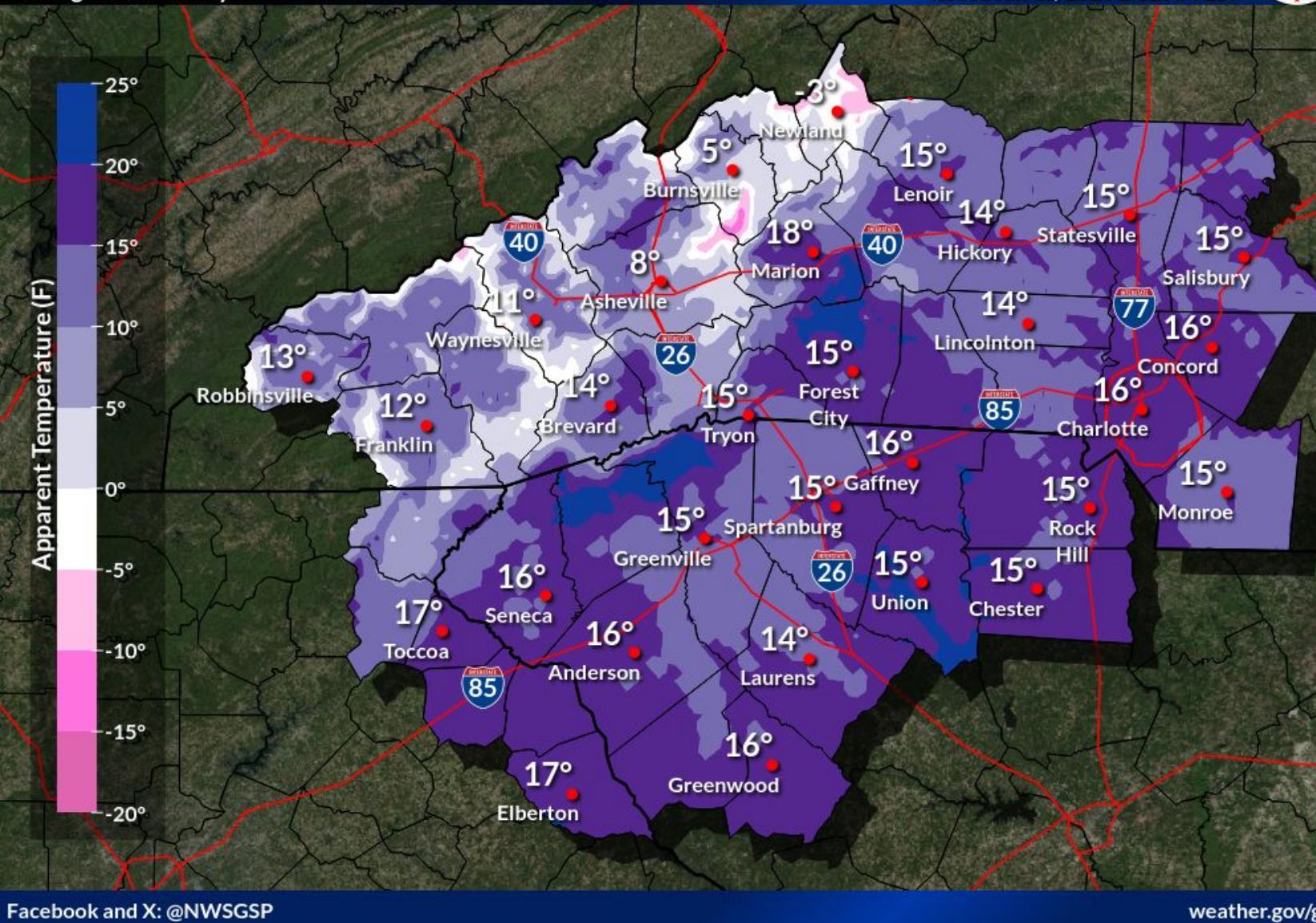
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Wind chill remains below zero at high elevations early Friday morning

Minimum Wind Chill

Through 7 AM Friday

Weather Forecast Office
Greenville-Spartanburg
Issued Jan 16, 2026 2:02 AM EST





Fri. Night - Sat. Mountain Snow

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Storm total snowfall from 7 PM Fri to 1 PM Sat

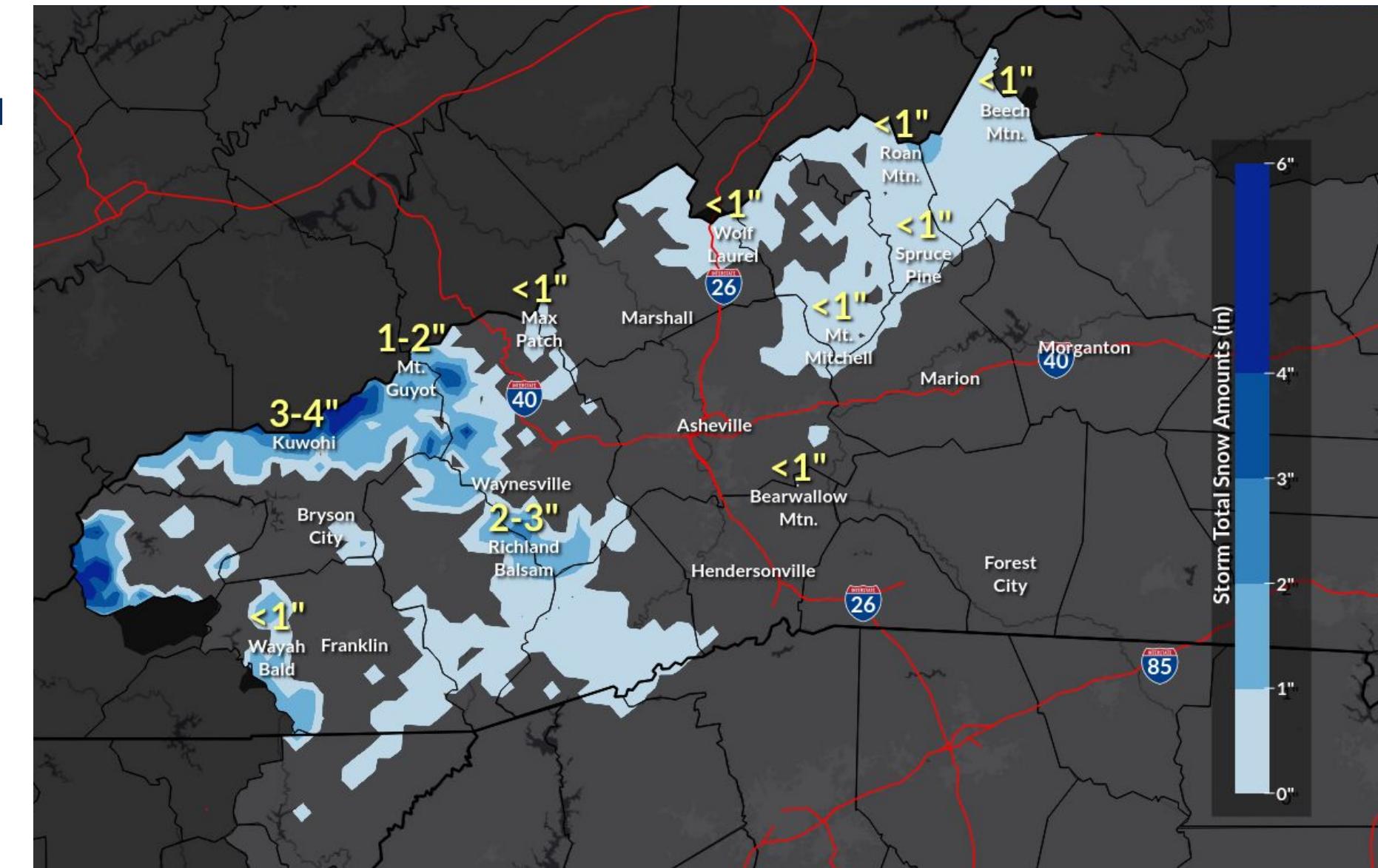
Hazard Details

- A fast-moving system brings another snow and brief wintry mix event to the NC mountains Friday night.
- Mountains precipitation *onset* timing:

West of I-26 - 7 PM Friday to 1 AM Saturday

East of I-26 - 1 AM to 3 AM Saturday

- Snow should end between 10 AM and 12 PM on Saturday.
- Rain may mix with snow in the valleys. A very brief period of ice could mix in as well, but accumulations are not expected. For snow, overall accumulations have trended down and remain highly elevation dependent. **Higher snowfall totals** are likely **above 3500 feet** and largely in areas with little to no population.



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Potential Sat - Sun Precip Event

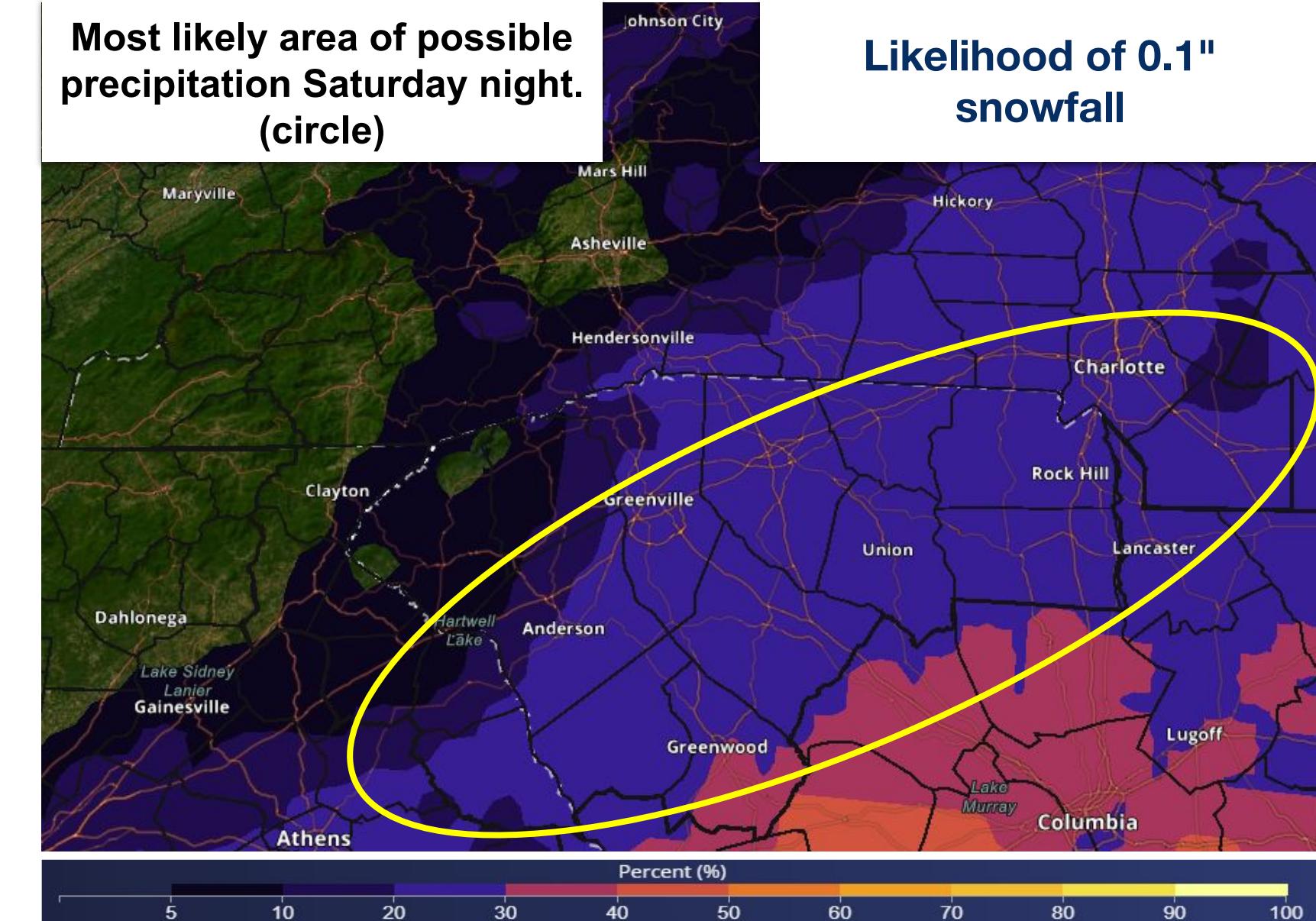
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Possibly affecting the mountains and NC/SC/GA Piedmont

Hazard Details

- Another potential storm system could bring mix wintry precipitation to the area Saturday night into Sunday. However, current data has shifted the main line of precip further eastward, **decreasing confidence**.
- Current locations for potential precip is **along and east of the I-85 corridor**.
- *Forecast challenge:* For the precipitation to fall as snow, cold air and moisture need to line up and **confidence remains low** whether that overlap will occur. Additionally, the main system has shifted slightly eastward, with snow chances of **20% to 30%**.
- Current data keeps the most likely scenarios for the areas along and east of I-85 as either **no snow or very light snowfall less than 1 inch**. The chance for snow accumulations **over 1 inch is less than 5%**.

Most likely area of possible precipitation Saturday night (circle)



Not an official forecast: The above image is a numeric representation of our confidence that these thresholds will be reached. For locations outside the NWS GSP service area, consult the local NWS office's briefings or forecasts.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Greenville-Spartanburg, SC



Contact and Next Briefing Information

For the Western Carolinas and Northeast Georgia



Briefing Webpage

→ weather.gov/gsp/brief



Next Briefing

→ By 6 PM Friday, January 16
→ Method: PDF via email



Disclaimer

Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
→ Do Not Use After: 2 PM Friday, January 16, 2026



Contact Information

Web

→ weather.gov/gsp

Phone

→ 864-848-3859

Email

→ nws.er.gsp.met@noaa.gov

Facebook

→ <https://facebook.com/NWSGSP/>



→ <https://x.com/NWSGSP>



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