



# Mountain Snow and Gusty Wind Briefing

February 22, 2026  
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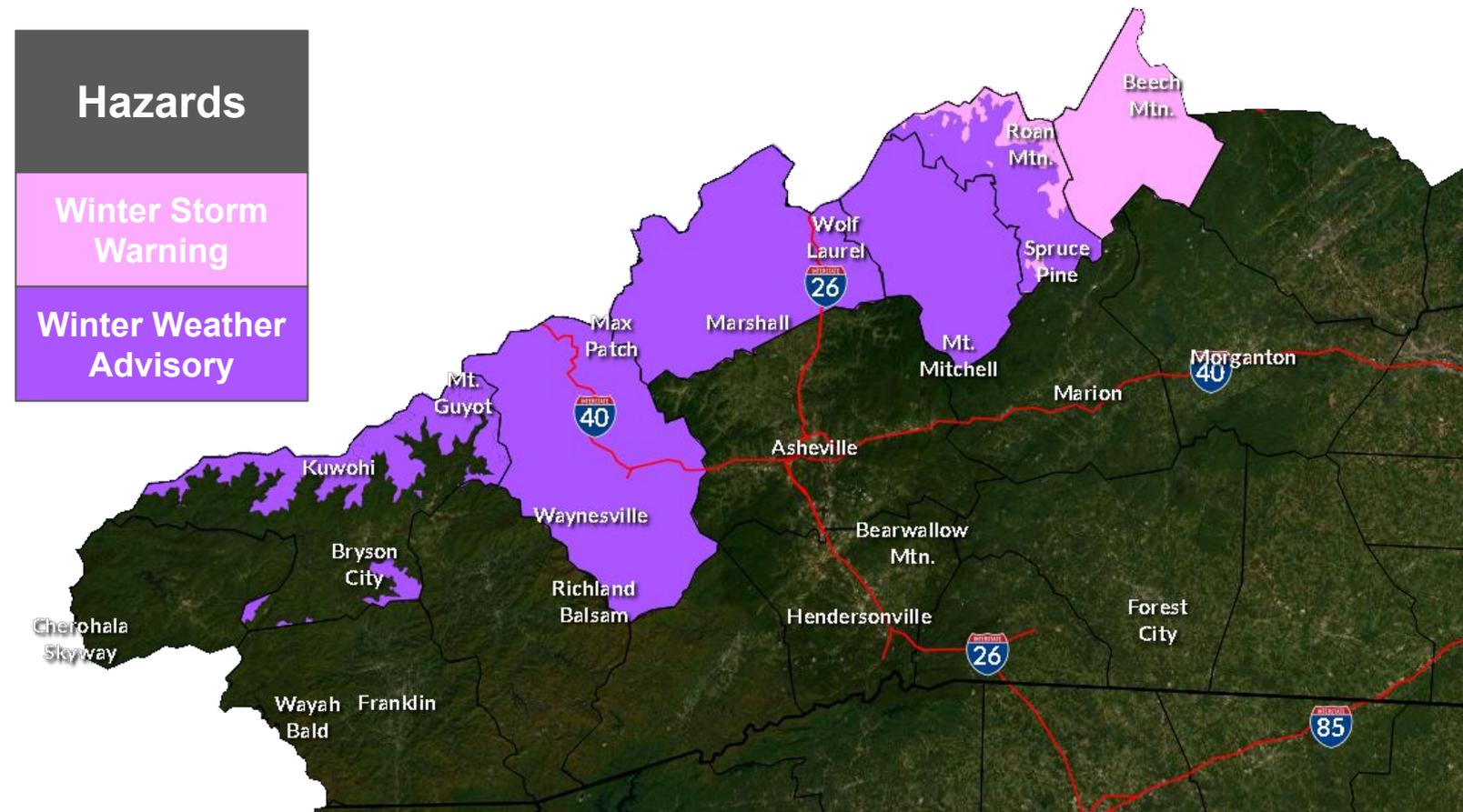
Decision Support Briefing #2 for the North Carolina Mountains

NEW

## Important Updates

- Winter Storm Warning in effect for **Avery County** and above 3500 feet in **Mitchell County** through 12 AM EST Tuesday.
- **Winter Weather Advisory** in effect from through 12 AM EST Tuesday for the following counties:
  - ◆ **Haywood, Madison, and Yancey**
  - ◆ **Above 3500 feet: Swain**
  - ◆ **Below 3500 feet: Mitchell**

## Winter Weather Alerts - North Carolina Mountains



Valid: Now through 12 AM EST Tuesday, February 24th

## Key Messages

- Accumulating snow for portions of the mountains, especially along the NC/TN border.
- Very gusty northwest winds through Monday night across the mountains, potentially causing isolated to scattered power outages.
- The combination of strong winds and snow cause rapidly reduced visibility due to blowing snow and create dangerous travel conditions.





# Mountain Snow Totals

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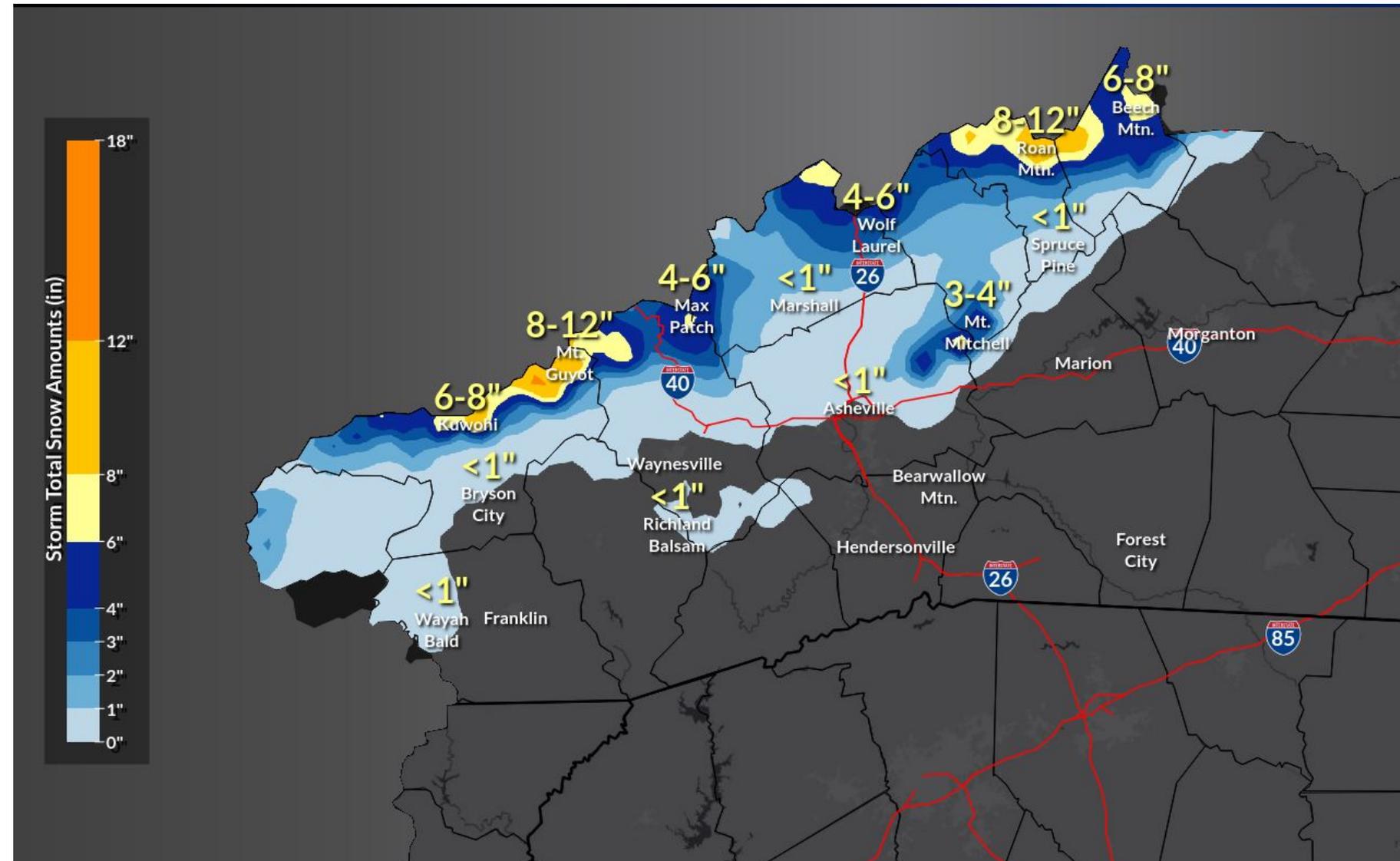
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Now through Monday Evening

## North Carolina Mountain Snowfall Totals

### Snowfall Details:

- **Peak:** Snowfall intensity increases this morning throughout the day. Heaviest snowfall moves in tonight at the highest elevations along the NC/TN border.
- **End:** Light snowfall lingers into Monday before gradually tapering off between **8 PM Monday - 2 AM Tuesday.**
- **Totals:** Light snowfall accumulations possible outside of the NC/TN border.
  - **Lower Elevations: 1-4"**
  - **Elevations above 3500 feet (along NC/TN border): 5-12"**





# Peak Wind Gusts

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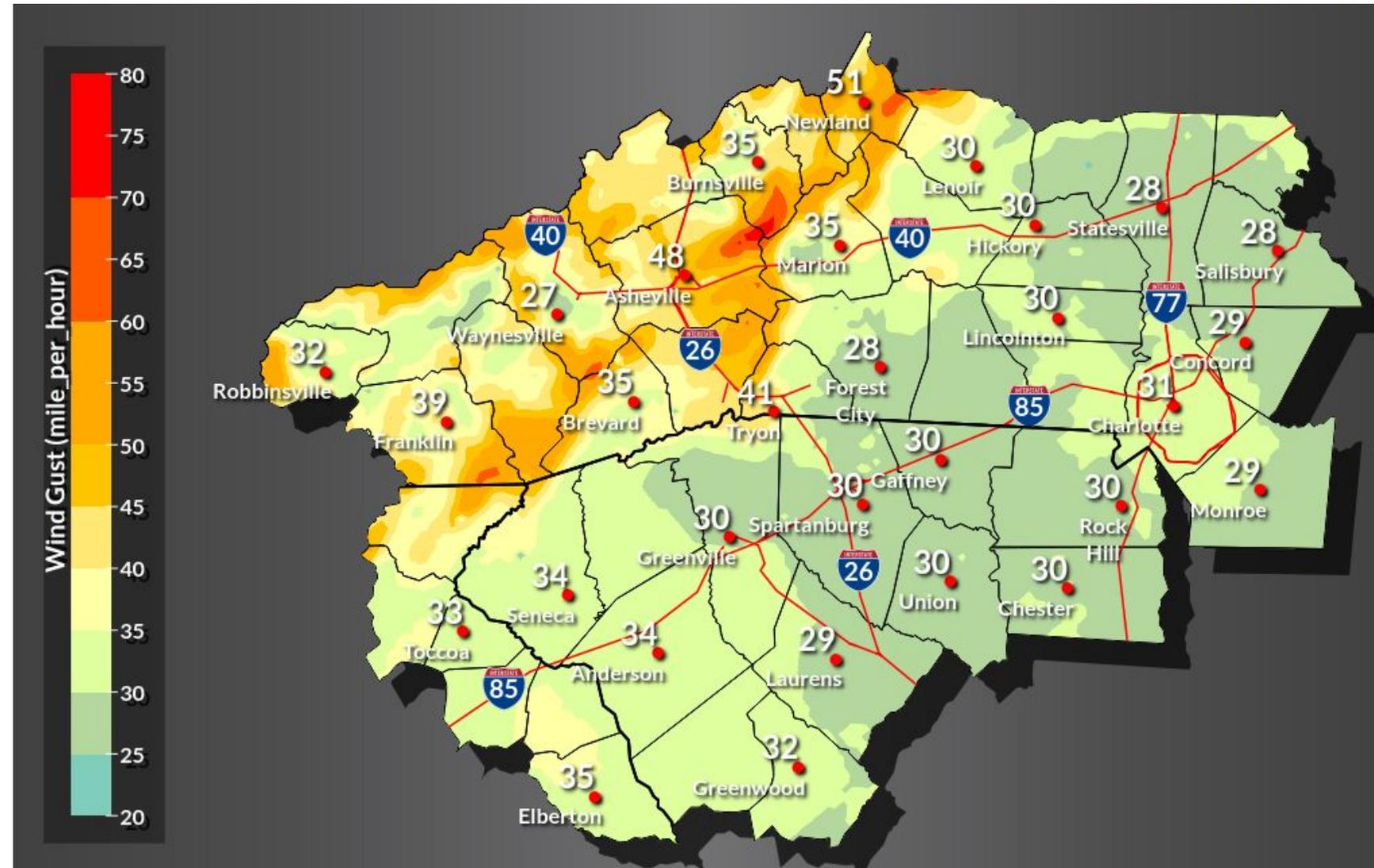
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Now through Monday Night

## Peak Wind Gusts

### Wind Gust Details:

- **Onset:** Gusts pick up through **1 PM today** across the mountains.
  - Highest peaks and along the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge: **Up to 55 MPH**
  - Rest of the mountains: **Up to 40 MPH**
- **Peak:** Gusts intensify and become the strongest between **1 PM to 7 PM today outside the mountains**. For the mountains, peak wind gusts occur after **7 PM to 7 AM tonight and early Monday evening**.
  - Highest Peaks: **50-65 MPH**
  - Eastern Slopes of the Blue Ridge: **45-55 MPH**
  - Piedmont/Foothills/Mountain Valleys west of I-26: **30-40 MPH**
- **End:** Winds should start to **diminish after 7 PM Monday**.





# Minimum Wind Chills

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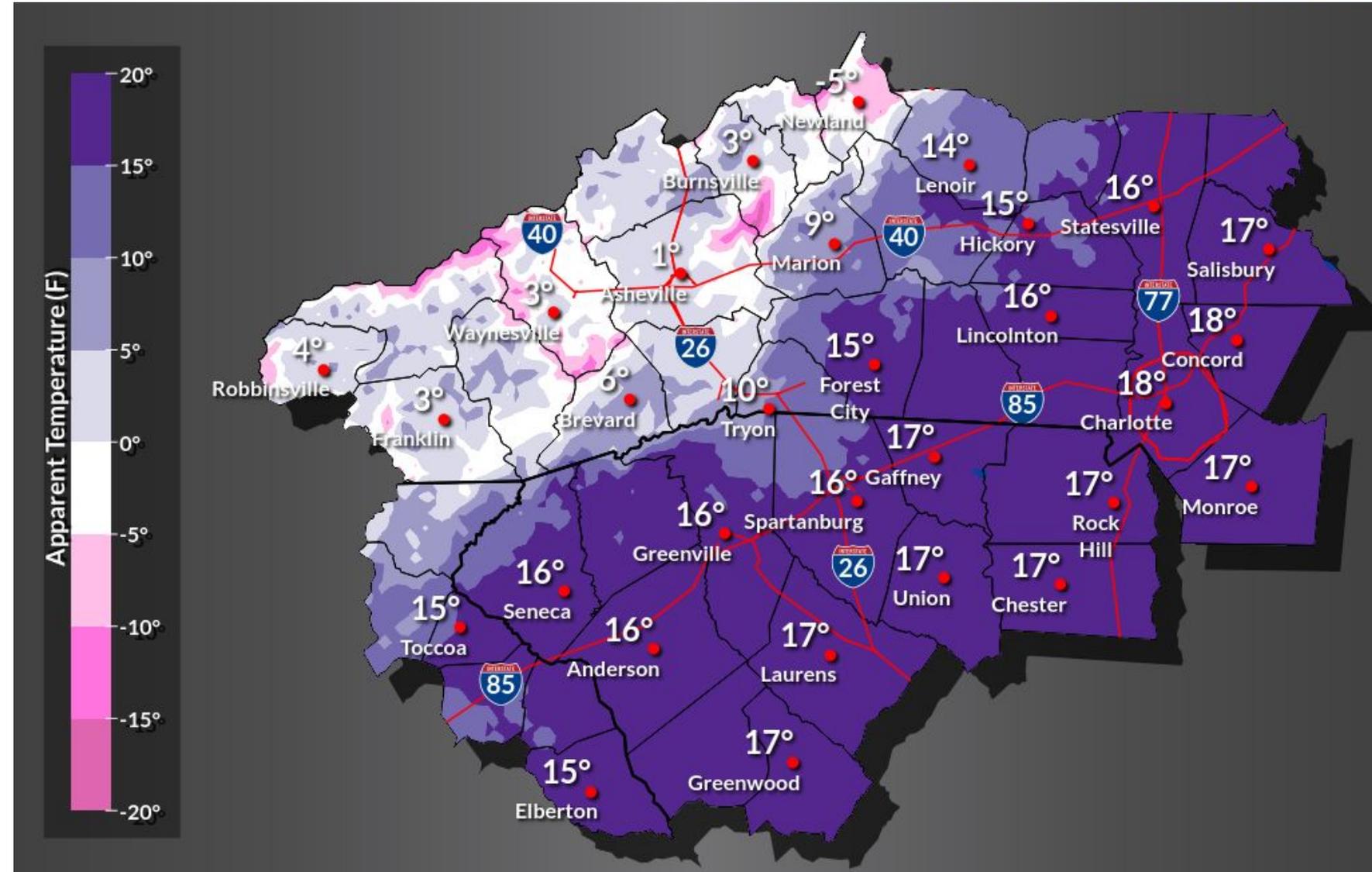
Tonight for the Entire Area

## Minimum Wind Chills Tonight

### Wind Chill Details:

- Very windy and cold conditions tonight will lead to widespread wind chill values in the **single digits** across the mountains.
- **Sub-zero** wind chill values expected for elevations above 4000 feet.
- Wind chill values in the **teen and single digits** again Monday night, but with winds diminishing, values are expected to be slightly higher compared to Sunday night.

***\*Wind Chill Values remain slightly above Cold Weather Advisory Criteria\****





# Contact and Next Briefing Information

For the North Carolina Mountains



## Briefing Webpage

→ [weather.gov/media/gsp/YouTube/brief.pdf](https://weather.gov/media/gsp/YouTube/brief.pdf)



## Next Briefing

- By 6 PM EST Sunday, February 22nd, 2026
- Method: Email PDF



## Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- **Do Not Use After: 2:00 PM Sunday, February 22nd, 2026**



## Contact Information

### Web

→ [weather.gov/gsp](https://weather.gov/gsp)

### Phone

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### Email

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### Facebook

→ <https://facebook.com/NWSGSP/>

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