

# Weather Briefing

## Potential Winter Storm January 26 - 27, 2011

Prepared 900 AM EST – Tuesday January 25, 2011

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NOAA's National Weather Service

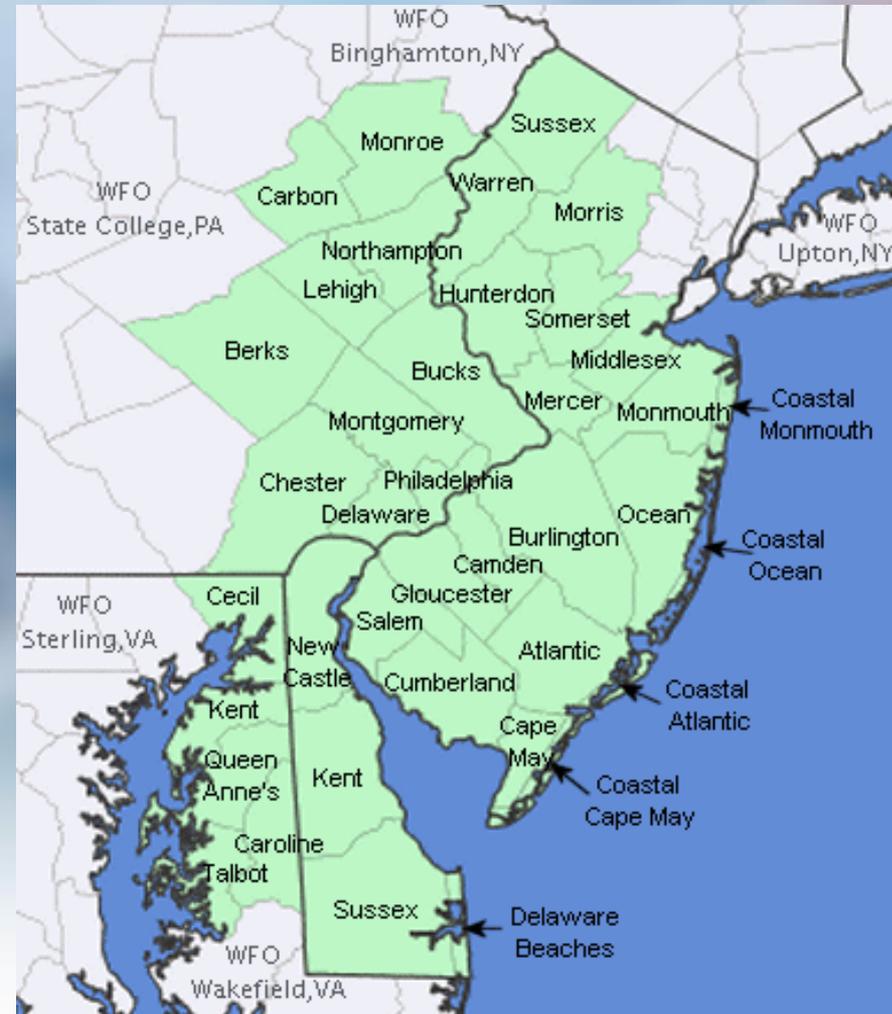
Philadelphia/Mt. Holly NJ Forecast office

[Weather.gov/phi](http://Weather.gov/phi)



# Purpose of briefing

- Briefing #4 for event
- Promote situational awareness for emergency management community & partners
- Provide guidance for planning efforts
- Briefing applies to Mount Holly service area – shaded in green on map



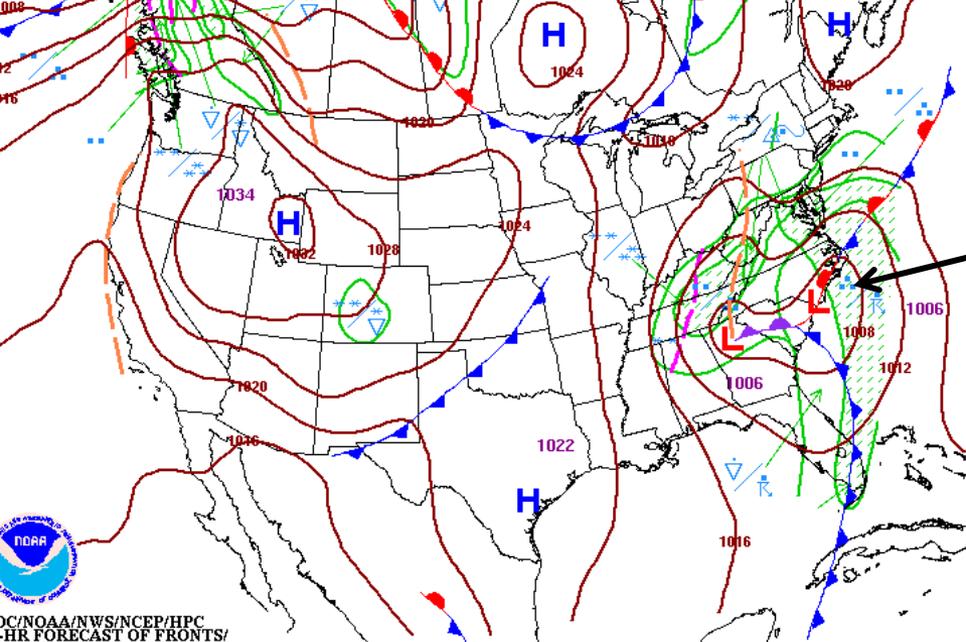
# Executive Summary

- Based on the current forecast track of this storm, mainly rain is expected on the Delmarva south of the C&D canal, and adjacent southern New Jersey, but some snow is likely in these areas near the end of the event late Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Precipitation may begin as snow in the Philadelphia metro area on Wednesday, then change over to rain, then change back to snow again Wednesday evening. Mainly snow and sleet is expected throughout the event in the far northern suburbs, and areas further north. A Winter Storm Watch has been posted for areas north of Philadelphia (see next slide). This Watch area might need to be expanded southward if new model guidance suggests colder air will work further south sooner than currently anticipated.
- Precipitation is expected to begin in southern Delaware and Talbot and Caroline Counties before sunrise on Wednesday, then move north during the day. Precipitation could become heavy during the afternoon and evening hours.
- Southwest winds in the 5 to 10 mph range are expected today (Tuesday), becoming northeast tonight. These northeast winds are forecast to gust up to 40 mph Wednesday afternoon and evening as the storm moves north, then become N and NW Wednesday night.
- One to two inches of rain is possible with this system over the southern portions of the Mount Holly CWA. Given the frozen ground, much of this rain could runoff in areas where there is little or no existing snowpack. Small streams in these areas could experience significant rises, and flooding in poor drainage areas is possible. No flooding is expected on the main stem rivers (Delaware, Lehigh, Schuylkill, Passaic, Raritan).
- Tidal flooding along the coast is expected to be minor. The tide of concern is high tide late Wednesday night. No tidal flooding is expected along the Delaware Bay or the Chesapeake Bay north of Cambridge.
- Snow will be wetter (heavier) in this event than recent events.
- Wednesday afternoon/evening commute will be adversely affected.
- Now that Winter Storm Watches have been issued, this will be the last briefing package for this event. Please visit the NWS website at [weather.gov/phi](http://weather.gov/phi) for all the latest information.



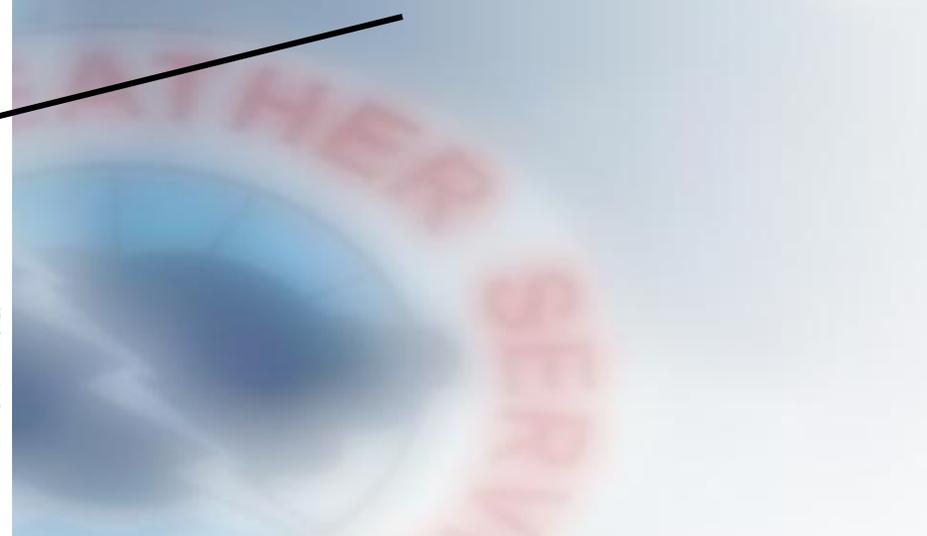
Winter Storm Watches in Effect for Wednesday Morning through Thursday Morning  
the Northern Portions of the Mount Holly CWA (blue shaded area in map below)



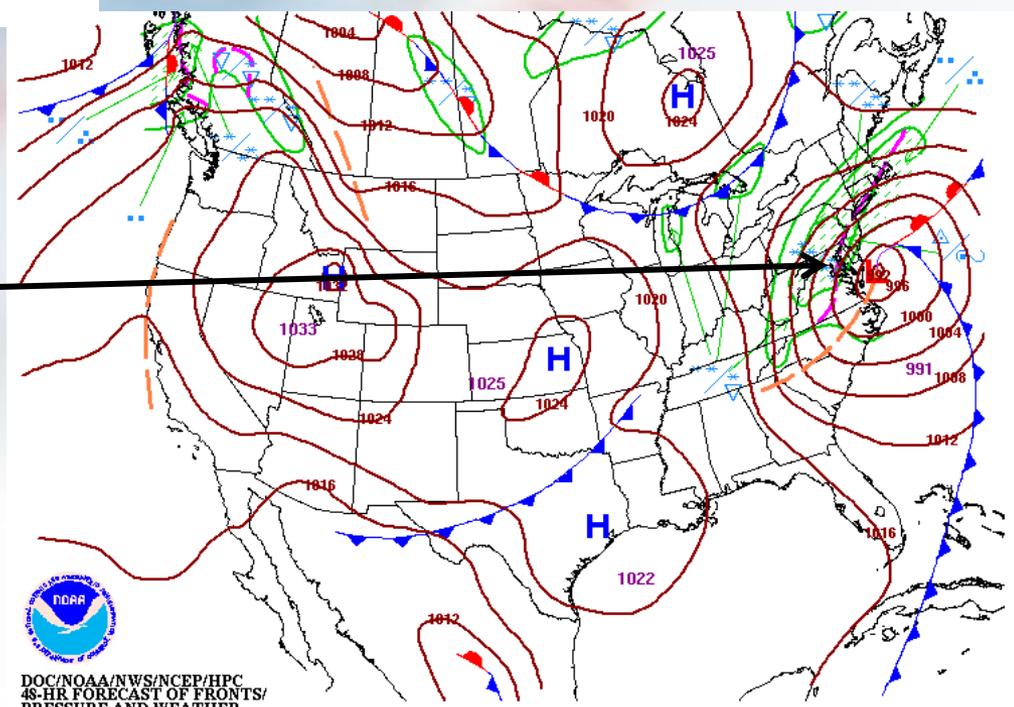


Forecasted position of Storm at 7 AM Wednesday

DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/HPC  
 48-HR FORECAST OF FRONTS/  
 PRESSURE AND WEATHER  
 ISSUED: 07Z TUE JAN 25 2011  
 VALID: 1200Z WED JAN 26 2011  
 FORECASTER: OTTO



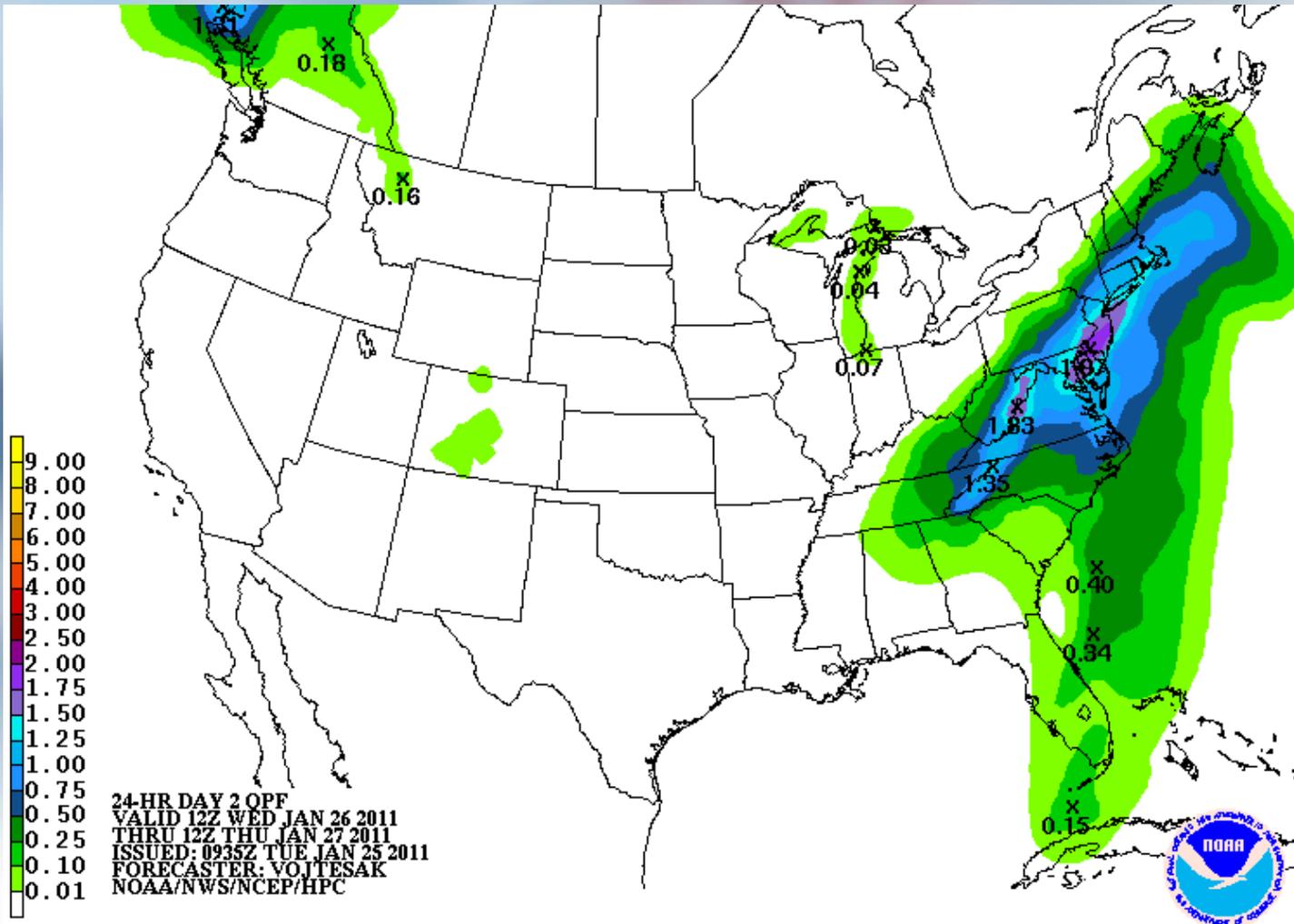
Forecasted position of Storm at 7 PM Wednesday



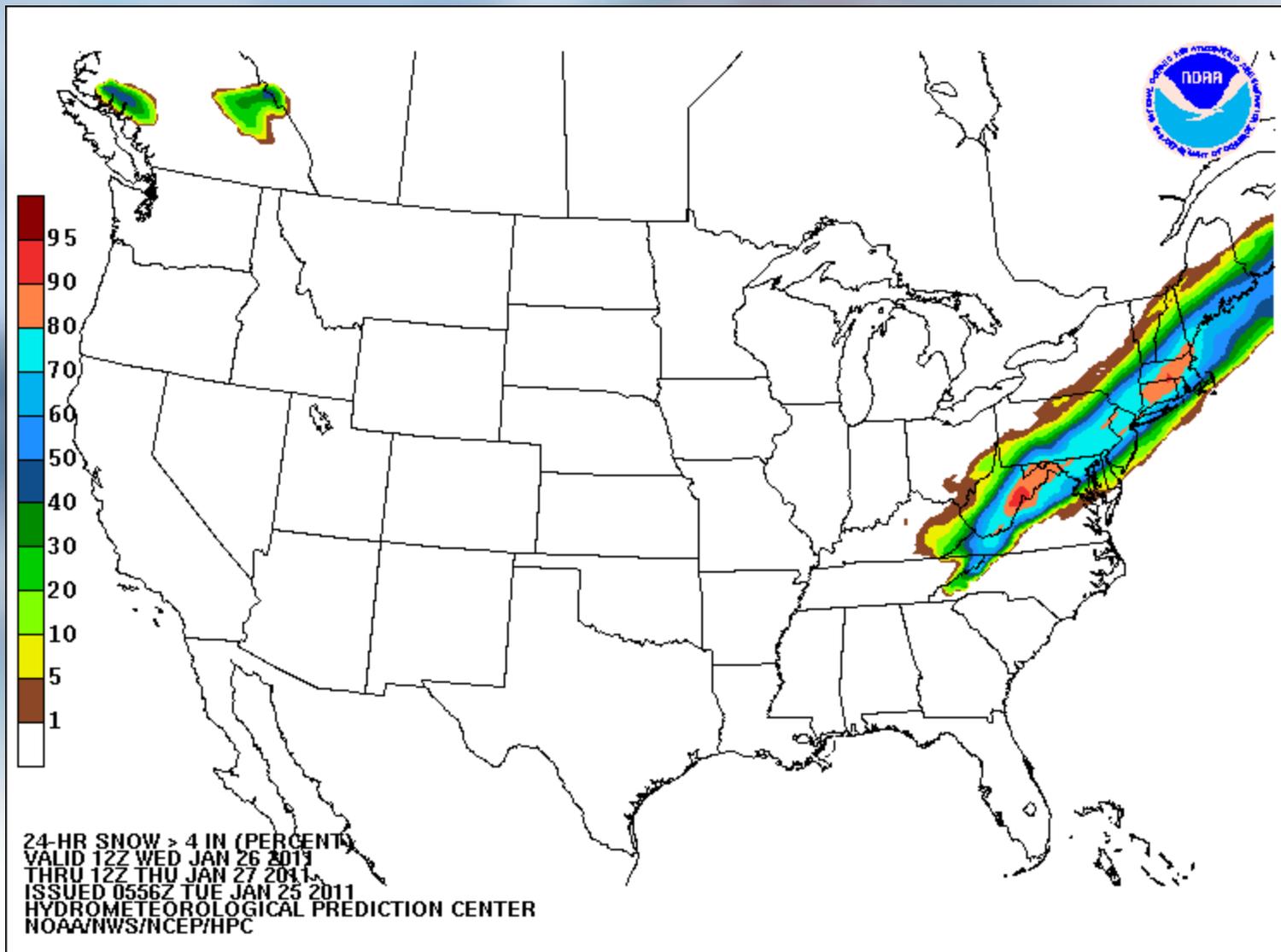
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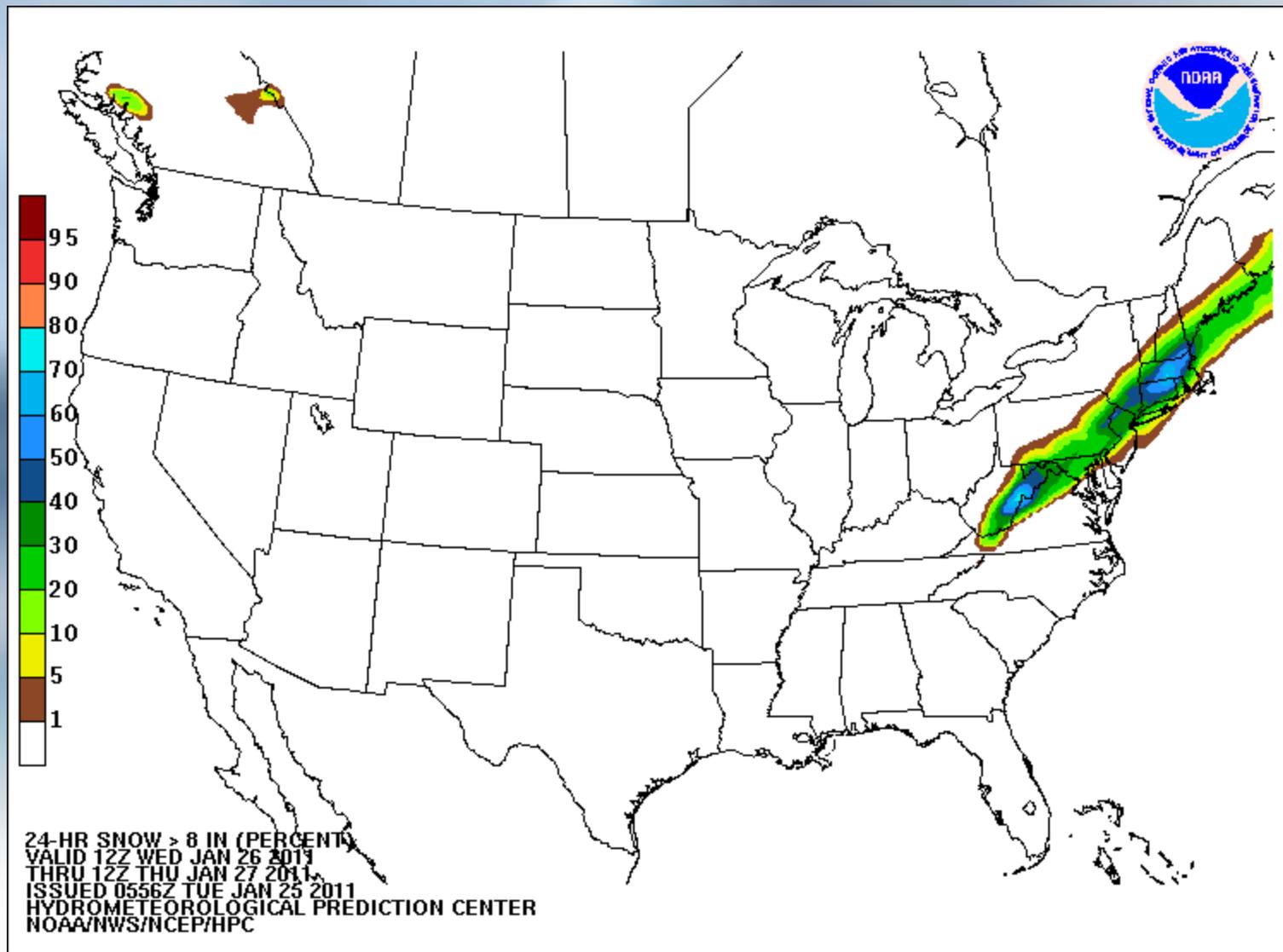
# Precipitation Estimate from the NWS Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) for the 24-hour Period 7 AM Wednesday through 7 AM Thursday



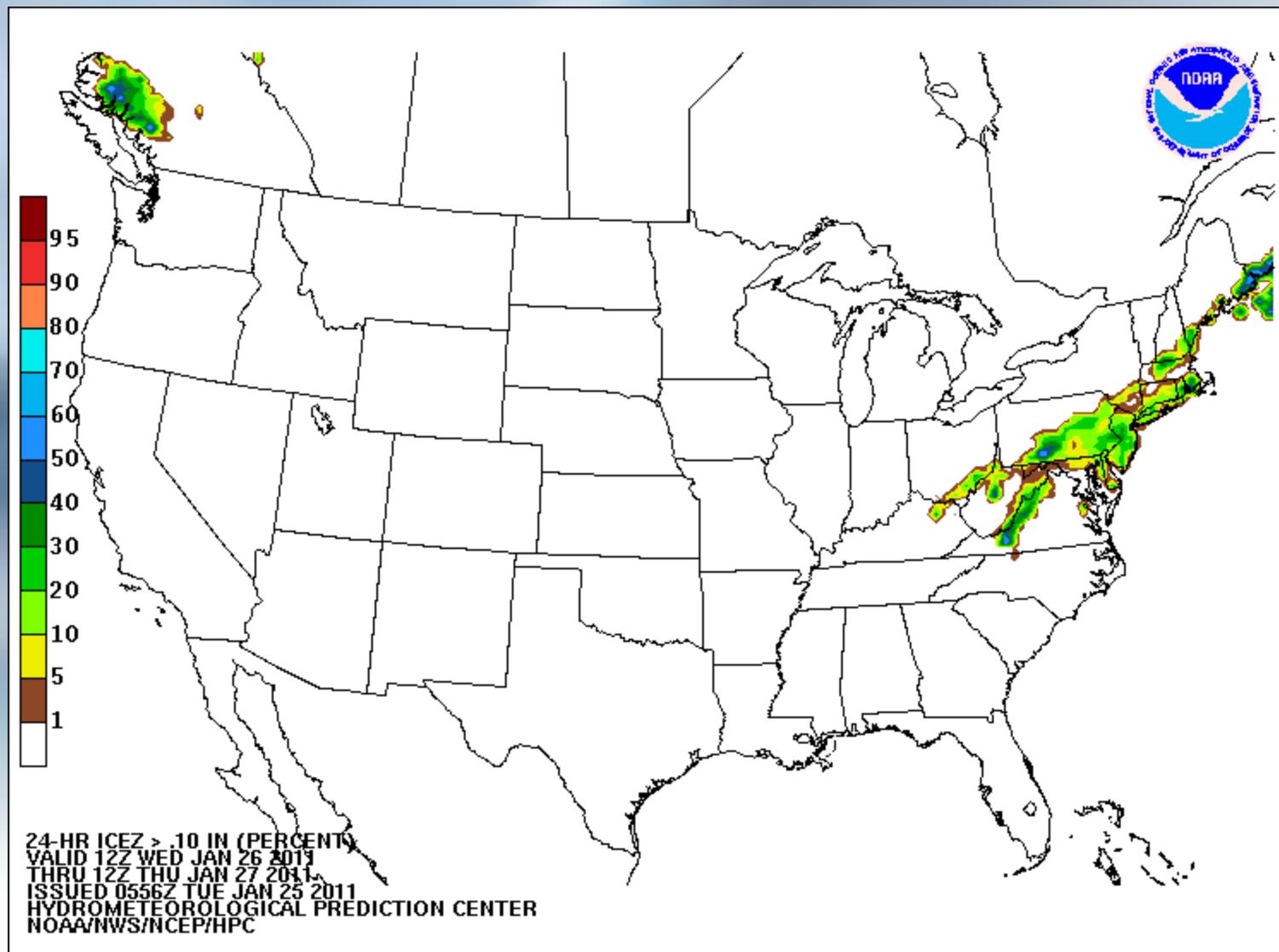
# Probability of 4 inches of snow or more between 7 AM Wednesday and 7 AM Thursday



# Probability of 8 inches or more of snow between 7AM Wednesday and 7 AM Thursday



# Probability of one-tenth of an inch of ice or more between 7 AM Wednesday and 7 AM Thursday



# Preliminary Storm Total Snow Forecast

