



Tropical Storm Isaias

(pronounced “ees-ah-EE-ahs”)

Briefing for northeast South Carolina and southeast North Carolina

What has changed:

- ✓ Coastal Flood Warning issued for Lower Cape Fear River at Downtown Wilmington
- ✓ Slight changes to Potential Rainfall graphic

3:00 PM EDT

Monday August 3, 2020

Prepared by: WFO Wilmington, NC

Next & Final Briefing Summary of Expected Impacts: 6PM EDT Monday August 3 2020

Disclaimer: The information contained within is time-sensitive. Do not use after 6:00 PM EDT Monday Aug 3, 2020



NWSWilmingtonNC

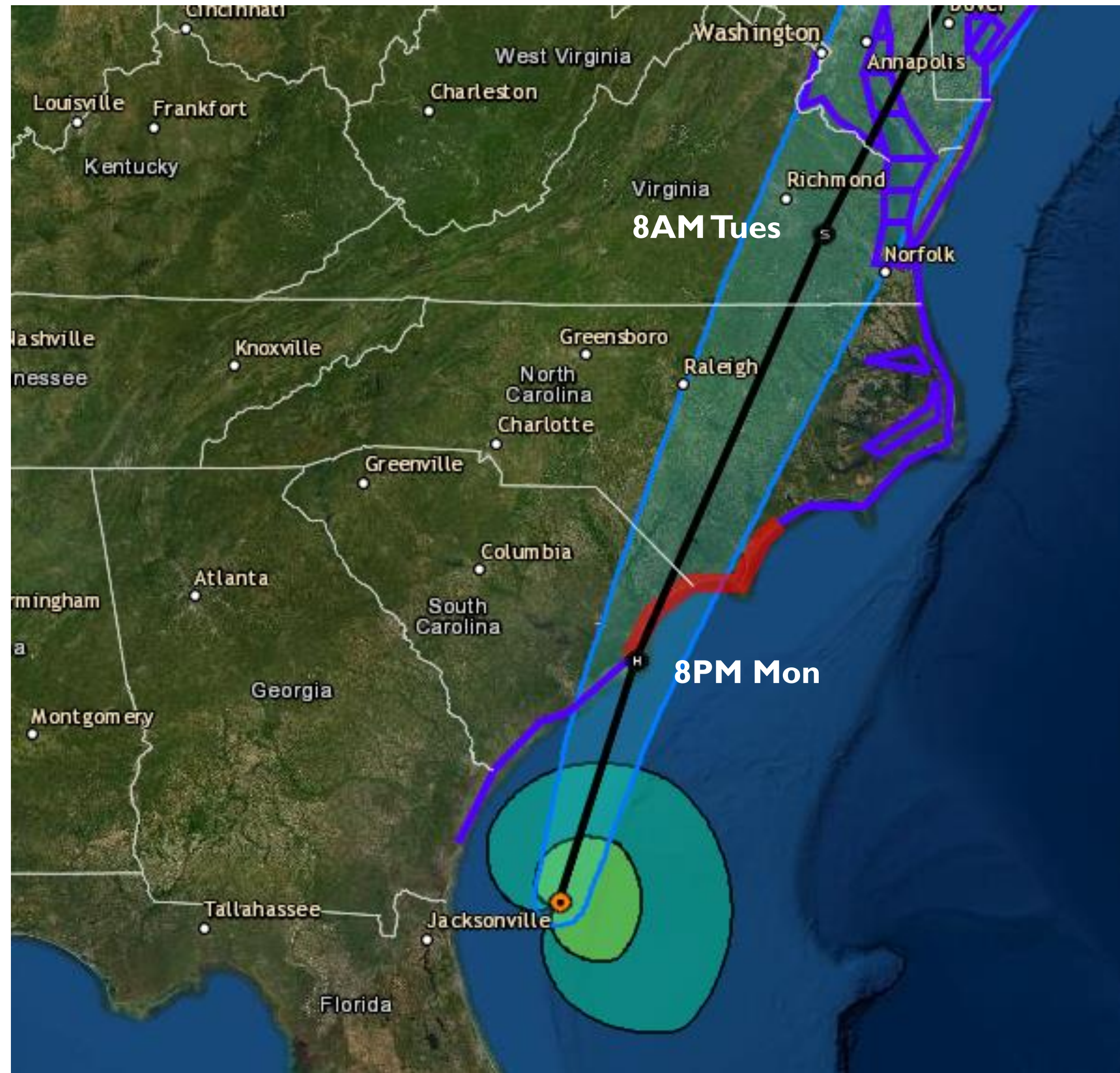
www.weather.gov/ilm

Situation Overview

Tropical Storm Isaias



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- Isaias is expected to move through the area late today and tonight and lift north of the region during Tuesday morning.
- Tropical Storm force winds are expected across the area, arriving across northeast SC late afternoon/evening and southeast NC through the evening hours.
- Life-threatening storm surge is possible along the immediate coast, especially south of Cape Fear.
- Impacts from wind, flooding rains, and tornadoes are also expected.

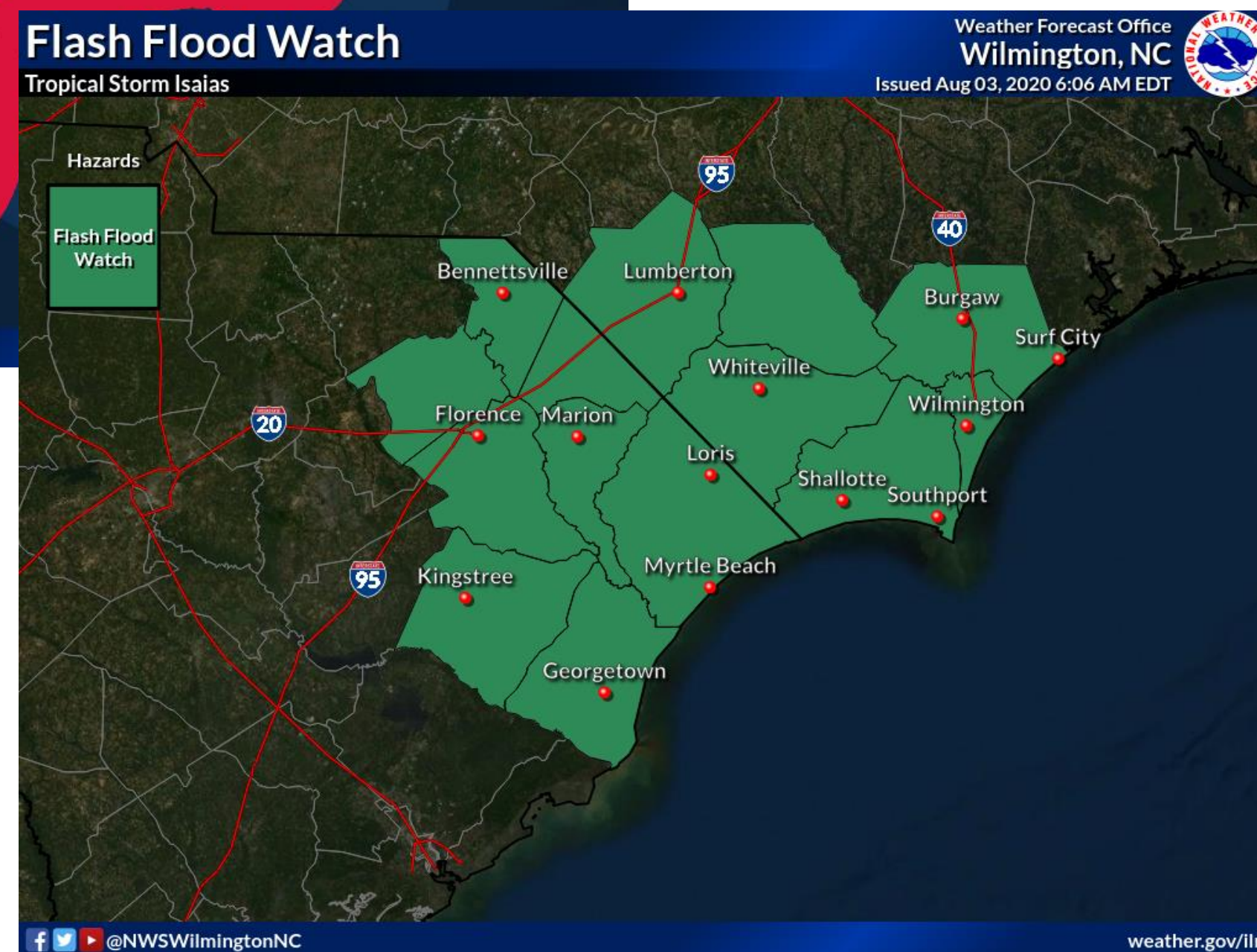
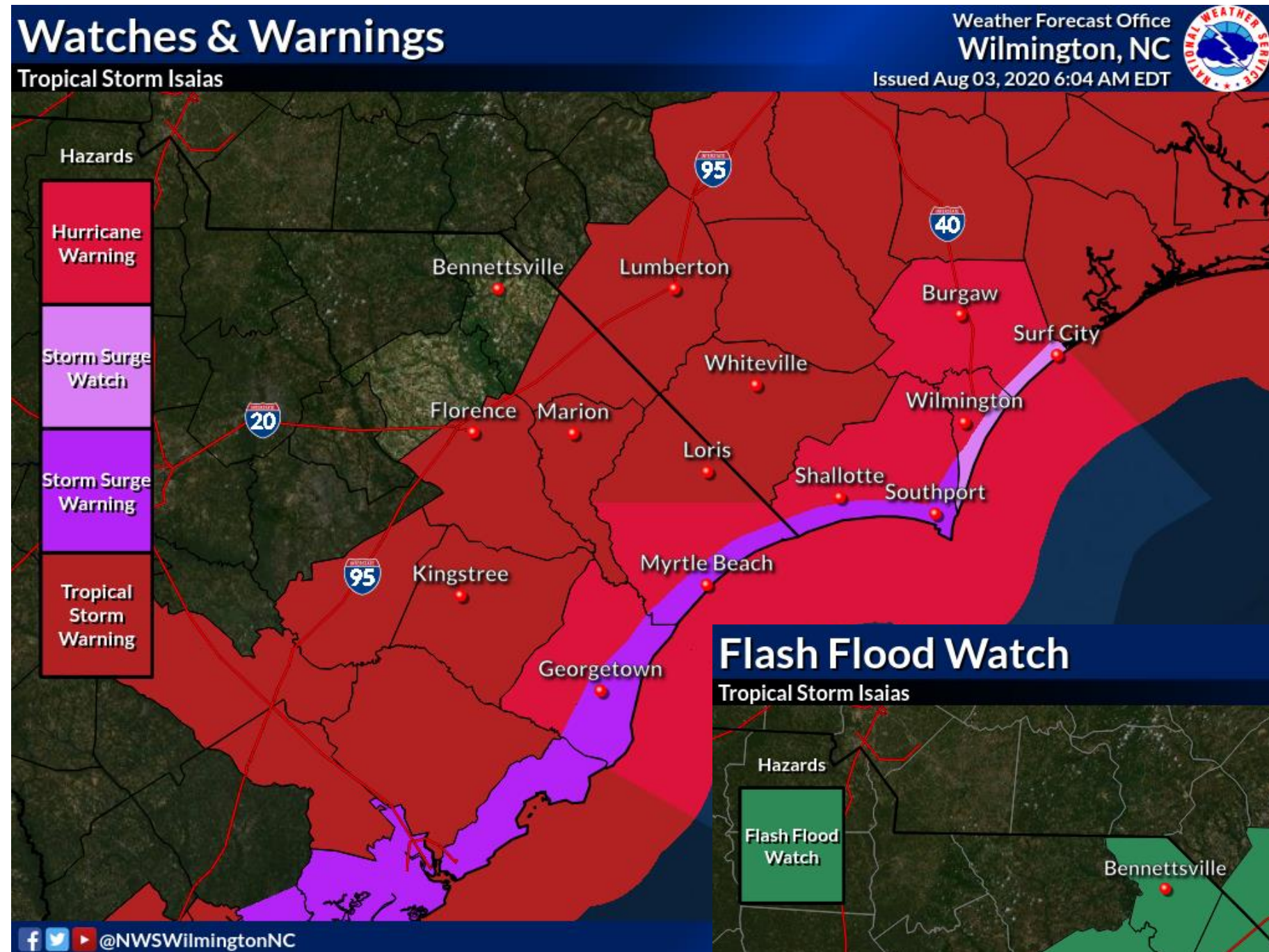
NOTE: Do not focus on the exact track. Impacts can occur well outside the area enclosed by the cone.

Watches & Warnings

Tropical Storm Isaias



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- A Hurricane Warning is in effect for all coastal counties. A Tropical Storm Warning is in effect just inland from the coast except Marlboro and Darlington counties
- A Storm Surge Warning is in effect for Brunswick, Horry, and Georgetown counties. A Storm Surge Watch is in effect for Pender and New Hanover counties.
- A Flash Flood Watch is in effect for the entire area.
- A Coastal Flood Warning is now in effect for the Lower Cape Fear River, including Downtown Wilmington.

Situation Overview

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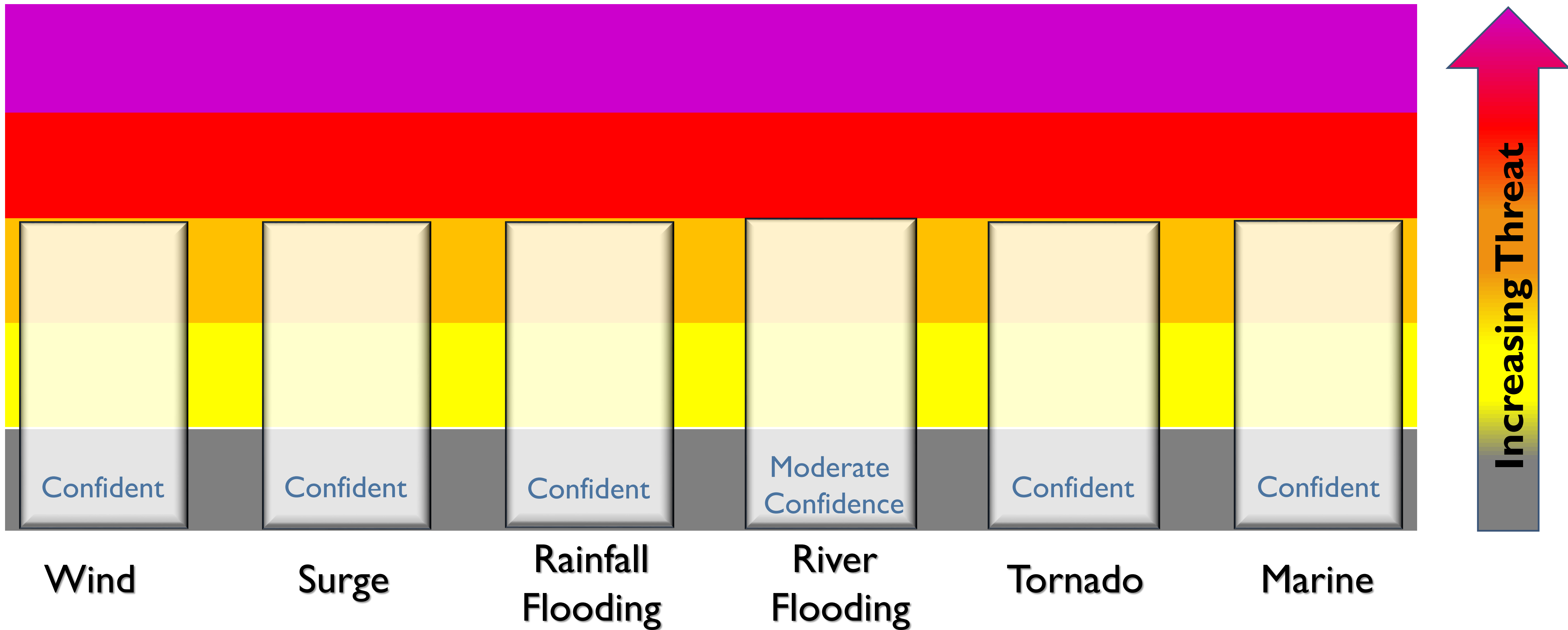
Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
Wind 	Some damage to roofing and weak structures. Downed trees, fences and signs possible. Scattered power outages.	Most areas, but especially northeast SC coastal areas	This evening into Tuesday morning
Storm Surge/Inundation 	Potential storm surge impacts including some flooding of coastal roads and beach access, some damage and flooding to vulnerable coastal structures, damage to beach ramps and stairways, beach erosion	Especially northeast SC and Brunswick county coastal areas, along with the Lower Cape Fear River	Especially around high tide this evening (7-11pm)
Flooding Rain 	Potential for moderate flooding impacts, especially for poor drainage and low-lying locations. Driving conditions will become hazardous with some road closures.	Northeast SC and southeast NC	This afternoon and tonight.
Tornado 	Some tornadoes possible with damage to trees, structures, and power lines	Most areas but especially coastal areas of northeast SC and southeast NC	This afternoon and tonight.
Marine 	Hazardous marine conditions and dangerous rip currents	All waters coastal and nearshore waters, and beaches	Today and tomorrow. Highest winds/seas tonight.

Threat Levels

Tropical Storm Isaias



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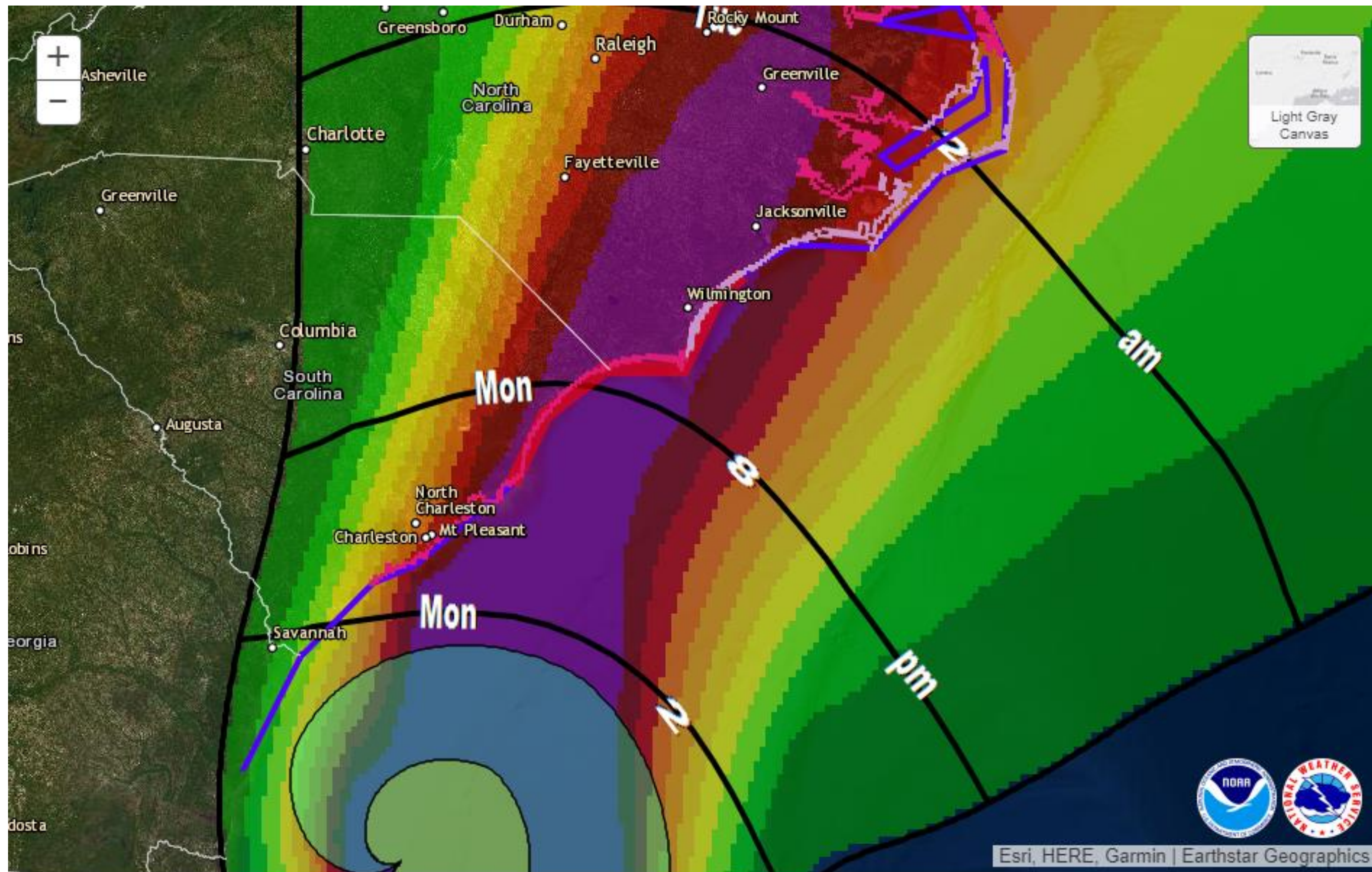
For information on specific hazards in this area, please go to
<https://www.weather.gov/ilm/tropical>

TS Wind Speed Probabilities & Arrival Times

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- Tropical storm force winds are expected across the area.
- The most likely arrival of tropical storm force winds is as early as late this afternoon or early evening for northeast SC and later this evening for southeast NC.

5-day chance of receiving sustained winds:

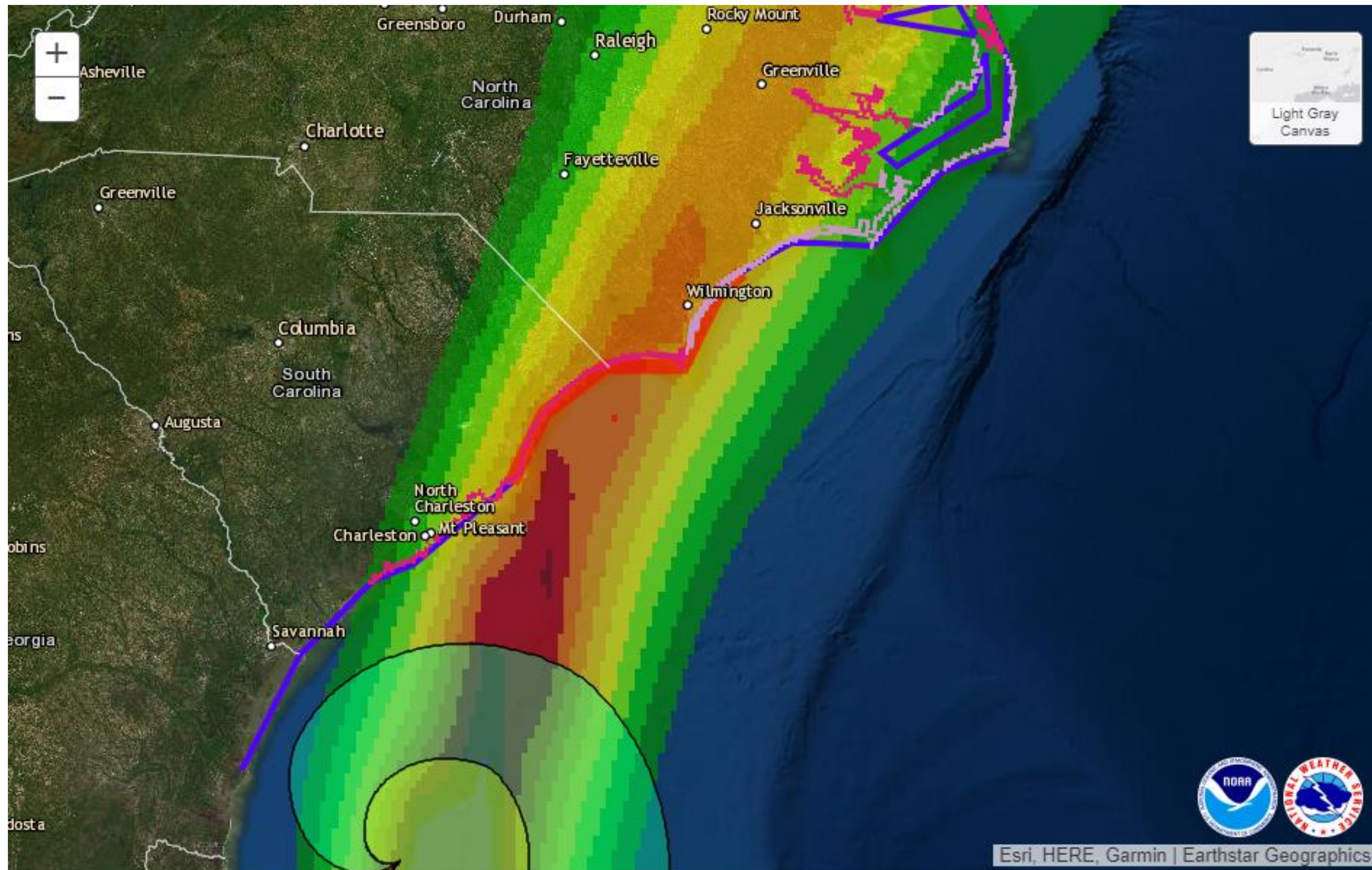


50kt Wind Speed Probabilities

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5-day chance of receiving sustained winds:



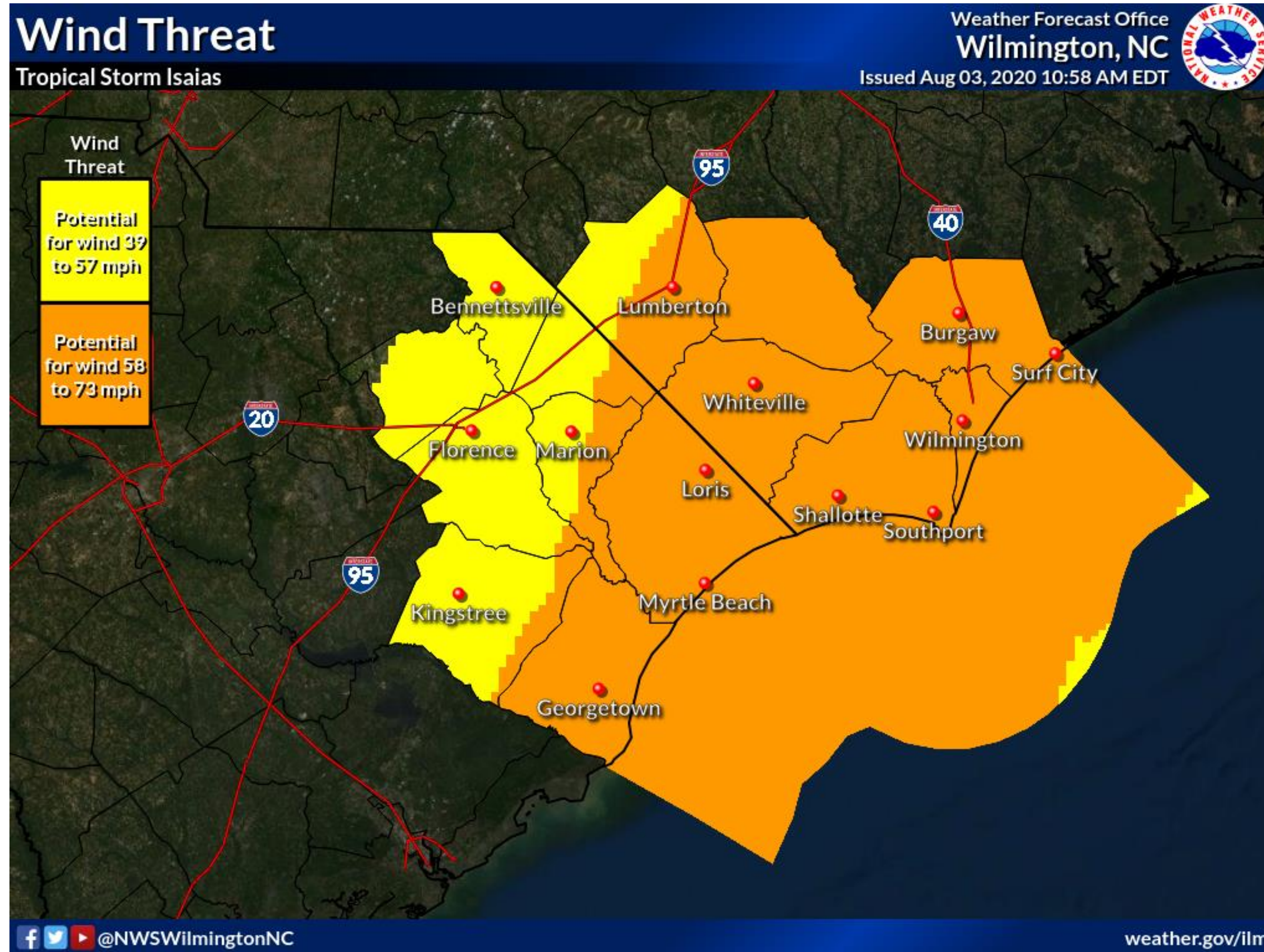
- The chance of damaging, strong tropical storm force winds (50kts) is 40-70% for much of area.
- 5-10% chance of hurricane force sustained winds along coastal northeast SC into western Brunswick county. Better chances for hurricane force gusts.

Wind Threat / Potential Impact

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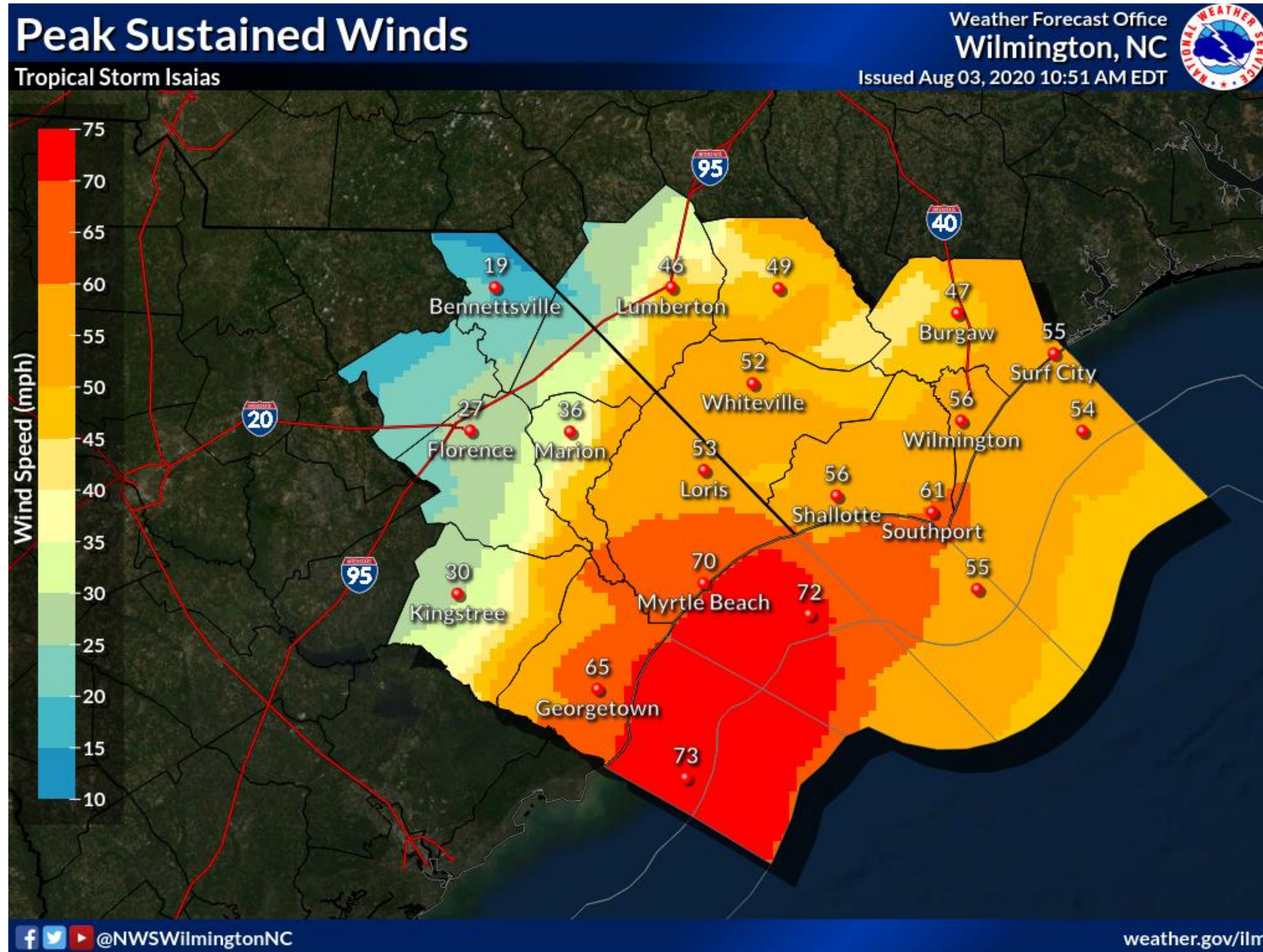
- There is a potential for moderate winds impacts across a large area of northeast SC and southeast NC
- Potential impacts include some damage to roofing and siding, along with damage to porches, awnings, carports, and sheds
- Large limbs and some trees down with scattered power outages
- Some small craft may break loose if they are not properly moored

Wind Information

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- Potential sustained winds are expected to be 50-70mph near the coast and 20-40mph inland.
- The potential for the highest sustained winds is for coastal areas, particularly northeast SC coast.
- Areas with the highest winds can expect downed trees/limbs, damage to fences, awnings, and unanchored mobile homes
- In addition, some power outages are likely where the highest winds occur.

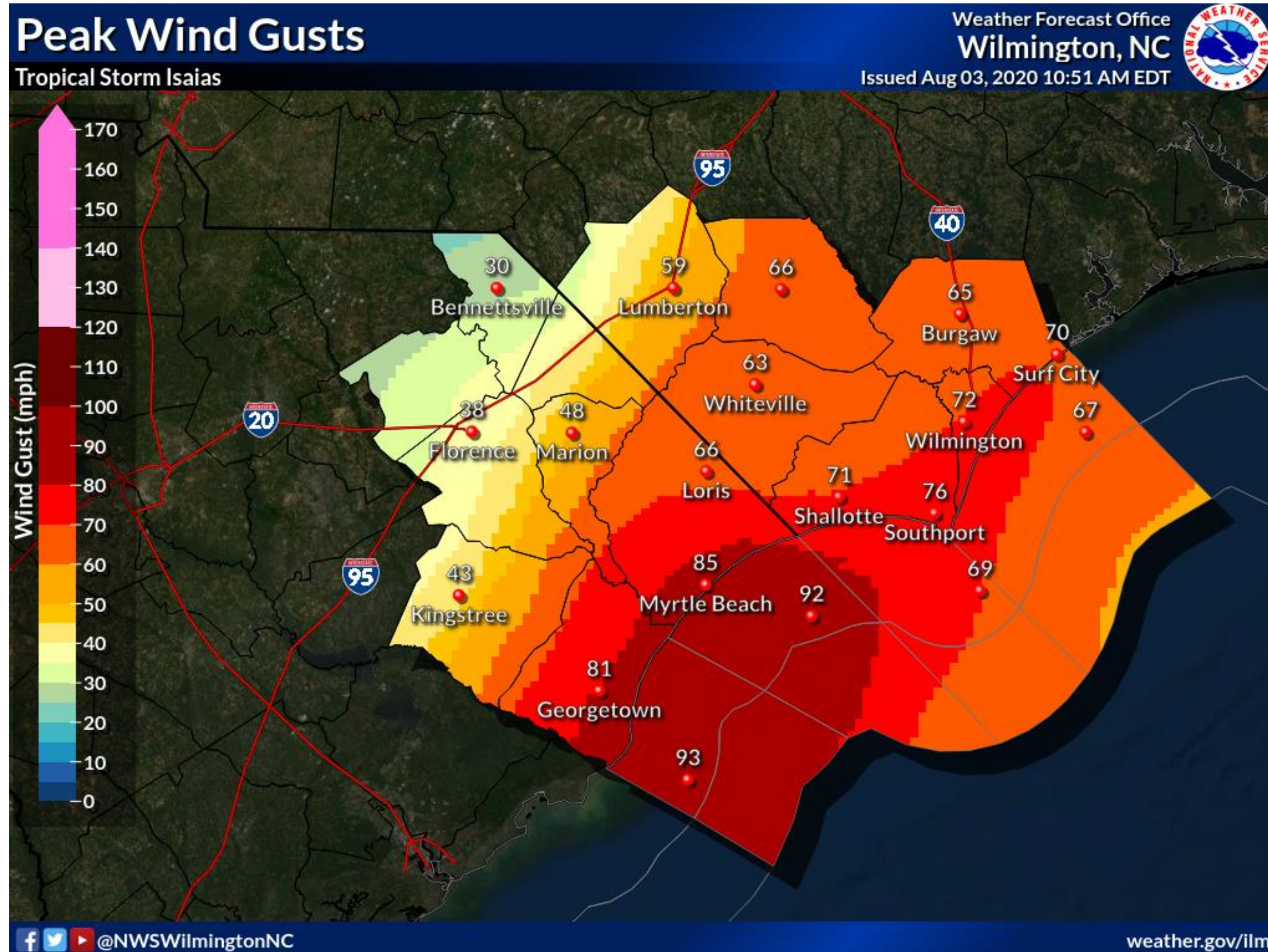
Note: These winds are **highly dependent** on the storm's track and intensity. As a result, any change could result in significant differences to the peak sustained winds that occur.

Wind Information

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- Peak wind gusts of 60-85mph expected near coast and 30-50mph inland.
- The coastal areas have the greatest potential to see strong tropical storm and hurricane force wind gusts, particularly northeast SC coast.
- Slight changes to the track can impact the winds we receive.

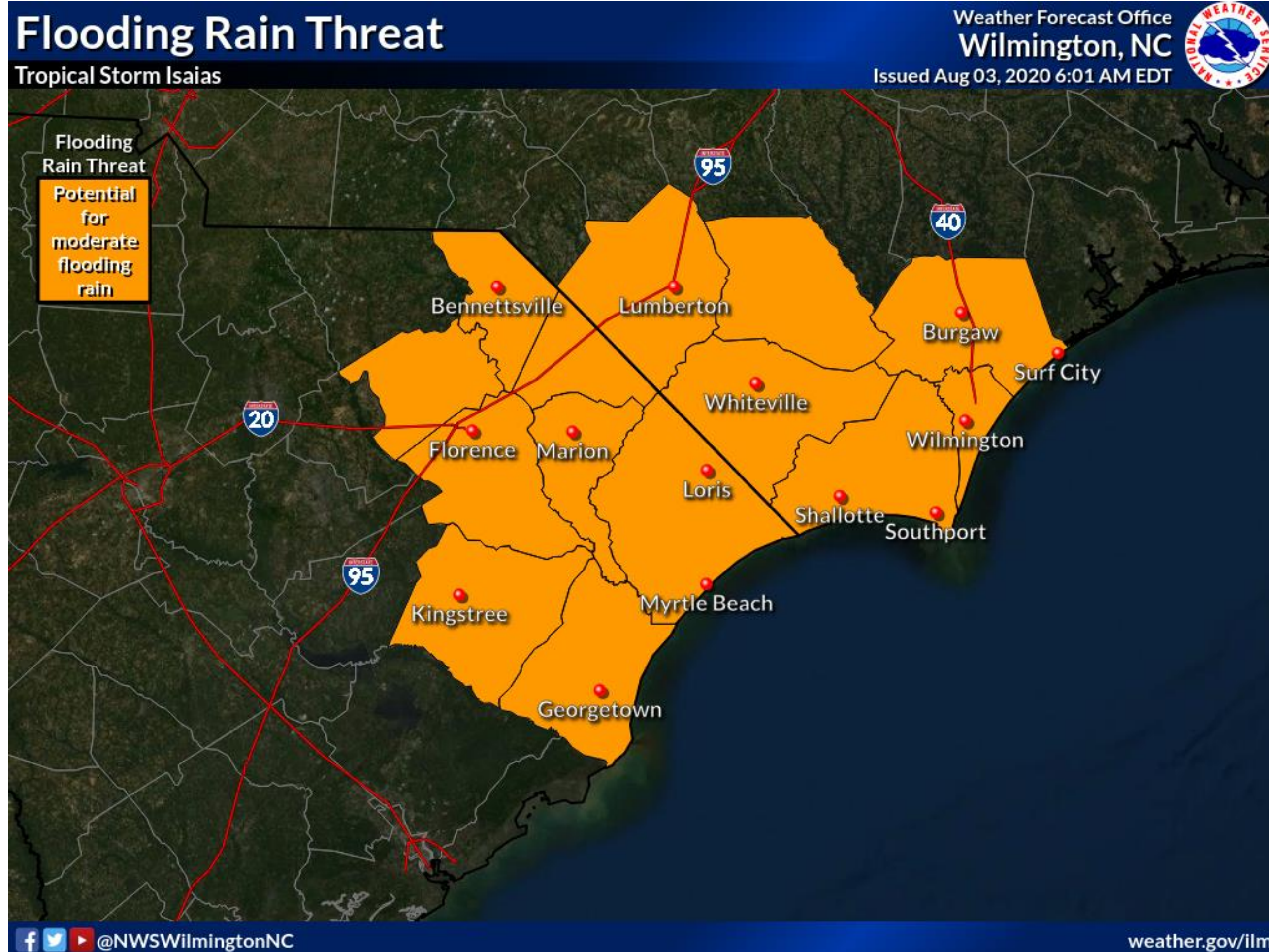
Note: These winds are **highly dependent** on the storm's track and intensity. As a result, any change could result in significant differences to the peak wind gusts that occur.

Inland Flooding Impacts

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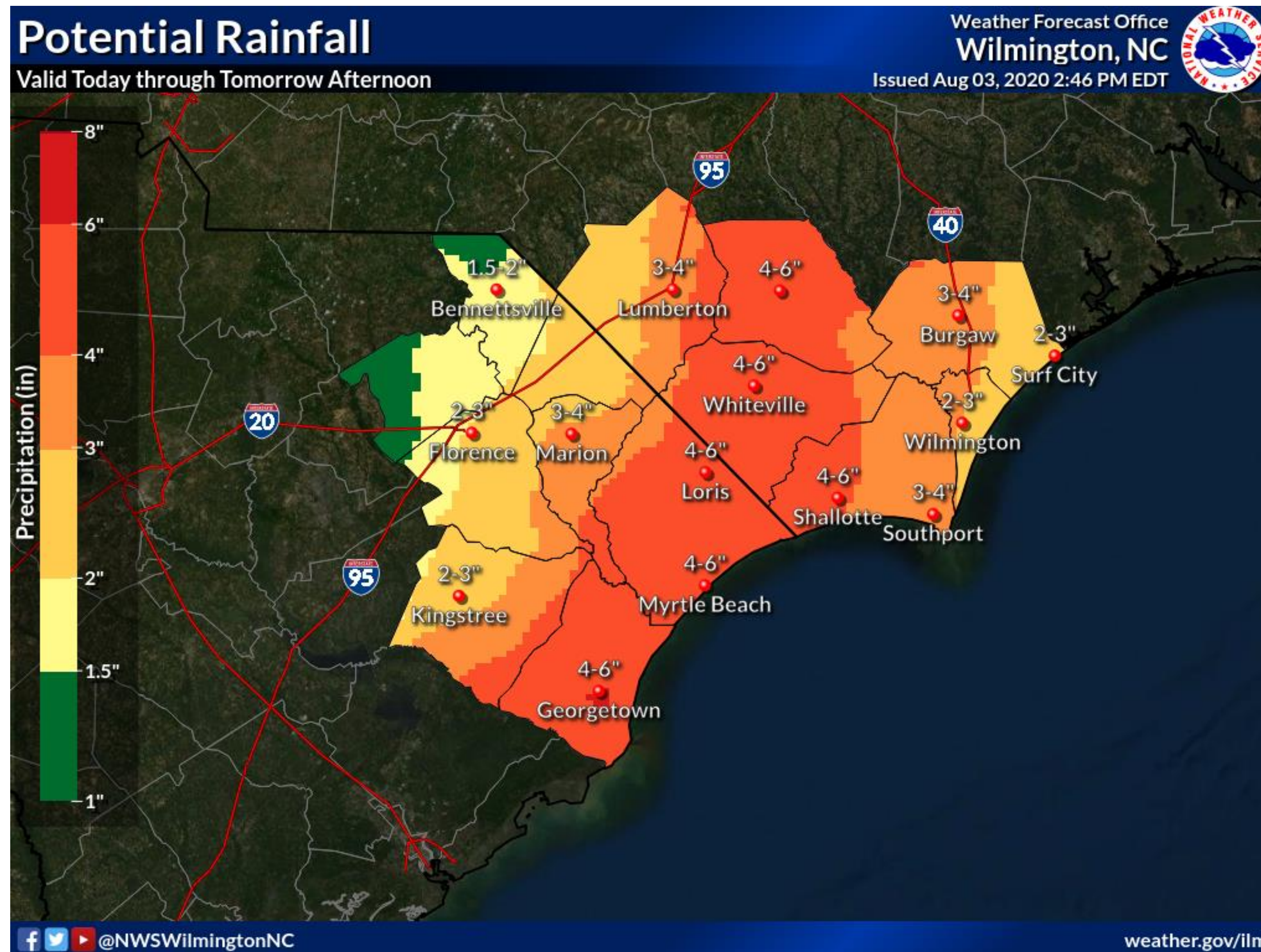
- There is a moderate threat for flooding
- Potential impacts include some low-lying areas along roads flooded, flooding near poor drainage and prone locations
- Driving conditions will become hazardous with some road closures possible

Expected Storm Total Rainfall

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- Large swath of 4-6" of rain is expected over much of the area with isolated higher amounts possible
- Localized flash flooding is possible within bands of heaviest rainfall. Remember, most flood related deaths occur in vehicles! **Turn Around, Don't Drown.**
- The greatest potential for flooding is tonight.

Note: Rainfall amounts are highly dependent on the storm's track. As a result, any change could result in significant differences to the amount, and where the highest totals occur.

River Flooding

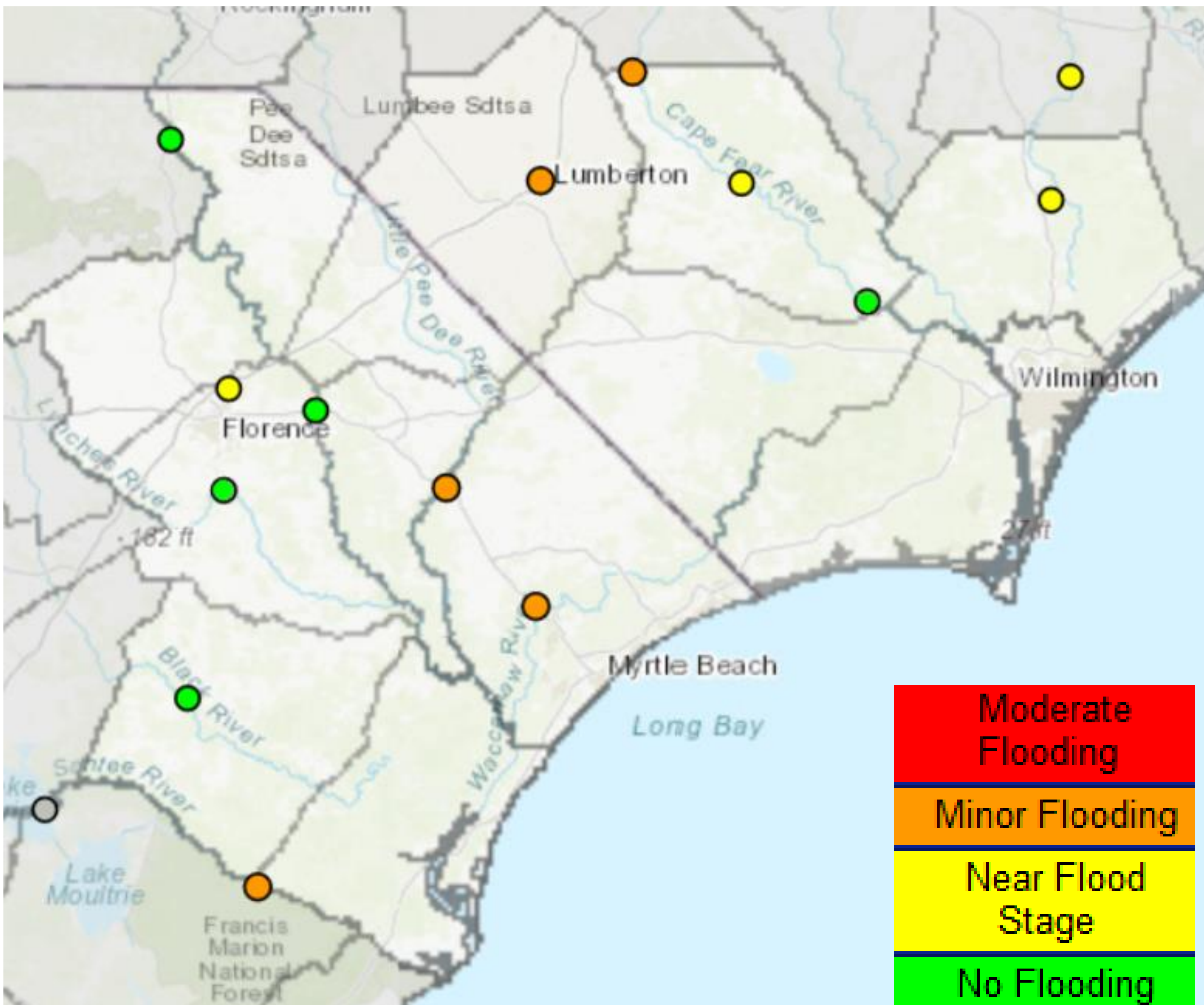
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Flood categories from SERFC River Forecasts



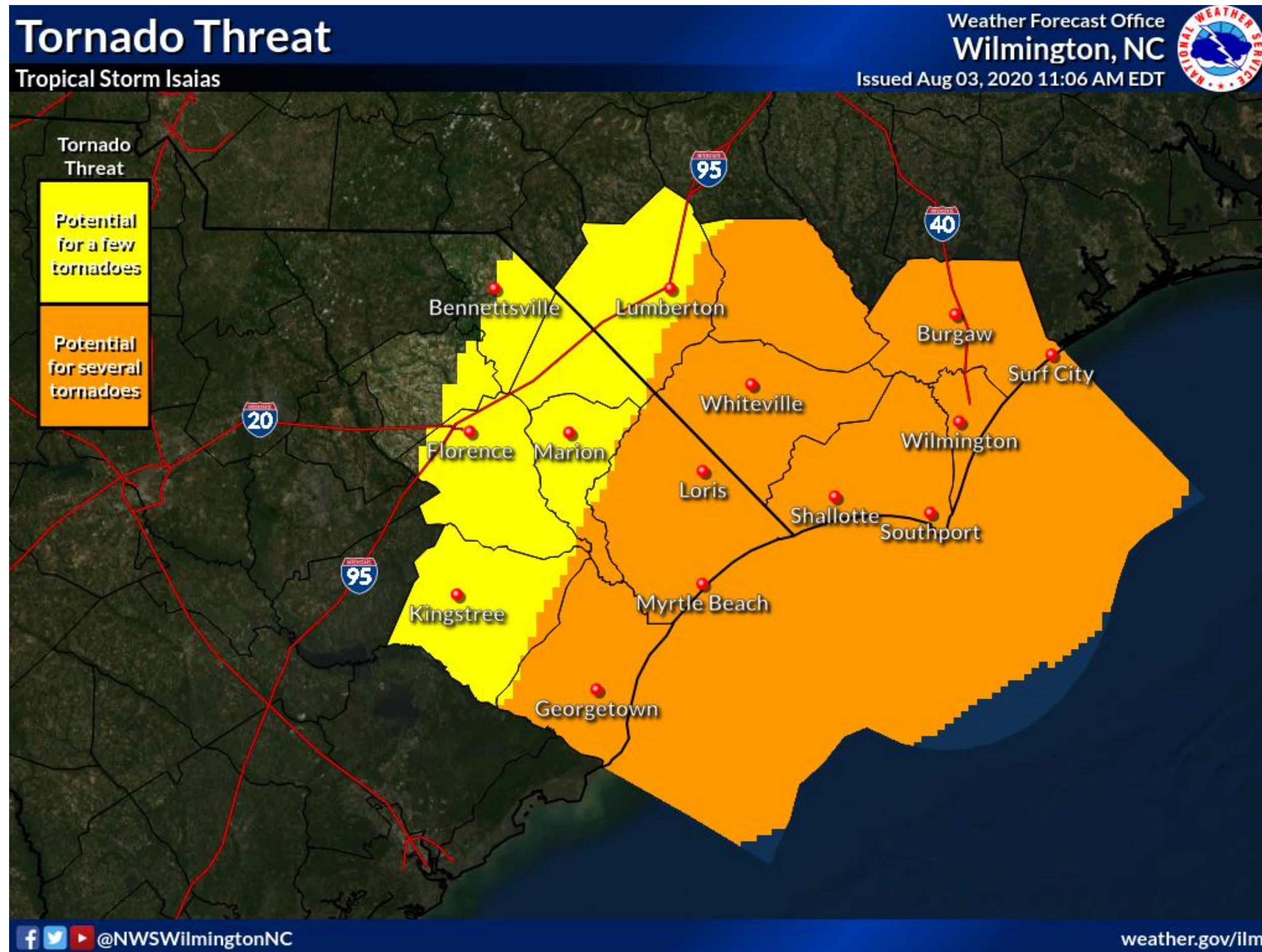
- Southeast River Forecast Center (SERFC) forecasts contain expected rainfall through 8 AM Wednesday.
- Minor flooding is forecast at several points including:
 - Lumber River at Lumberton
 - Cape Fear River at William O Huske Lock and Dam
 - Little Pee Dee River at Galivants Ferry
 - Waccamaw River at Conway
 - Santee River at Jamestown
- Ensemble river forecasts using 42 different rainfall scenarios indicate minor to moderate flooding is possible along all rivers in Southeast NC and northeast SC.
- Actual rainfall from Isaias will determine which rivers flood and the height of those floods.
- Prepare for flooding even if the current forecast does not show that your nearby river will flood.
- See <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/forecasts.php?wfo=ilm> for river forecast details and ensemble forecasts.

Potential Tornado Impacts

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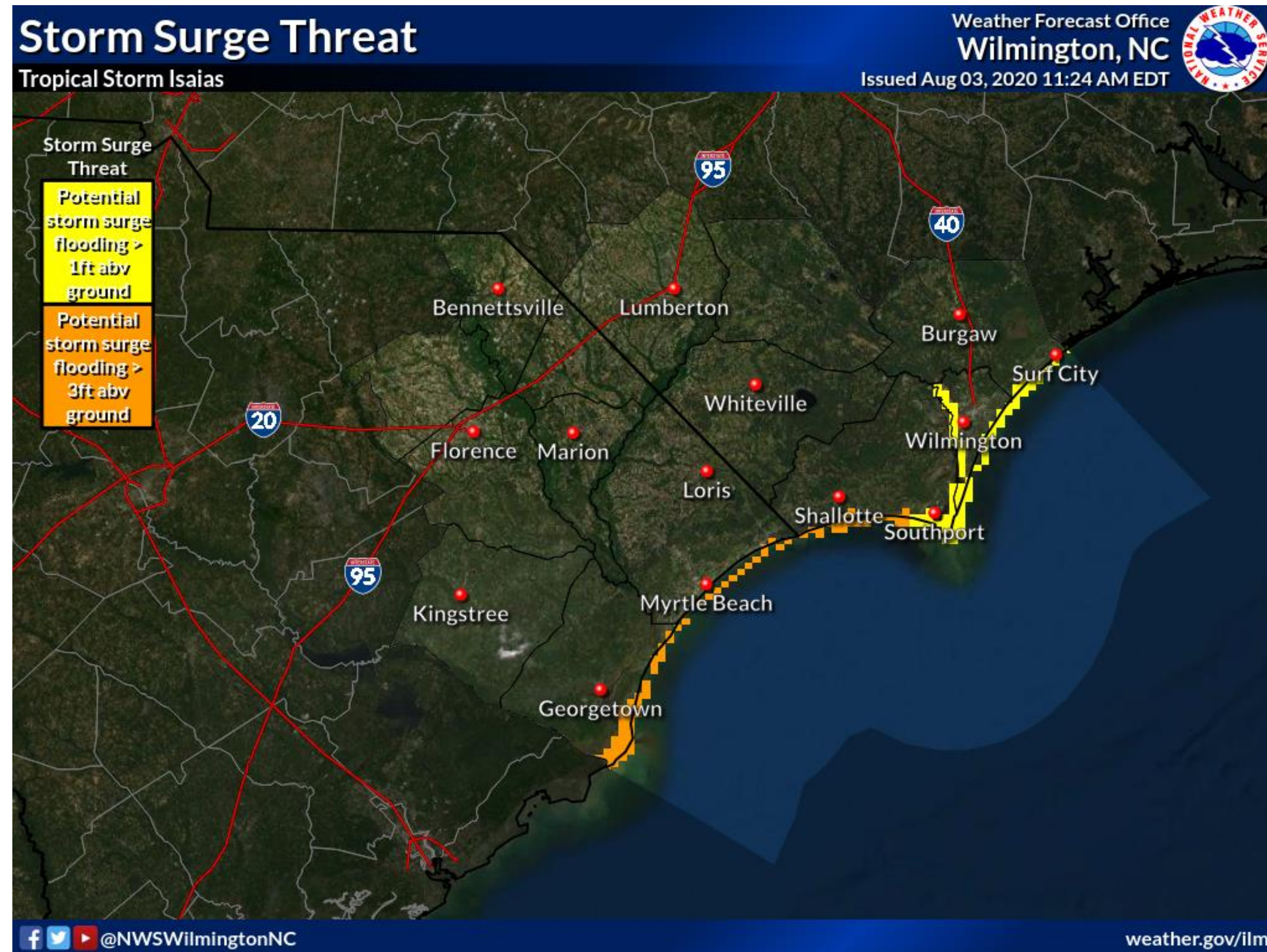
- There is a potential for several tornadoes, especially east of a Lumberton to Marion and Kingstree line this evening through late tonight.
- Tornadoes can significantly damage homes, destroy mobile homes, and uproot/snap trees.
- **Have multiple ways to receive warnings later today and tonight. The best place to be during a tornado is in an interior room of the lowest floor of a solid structure away from windows.**

Potential Storm Surge Impacts

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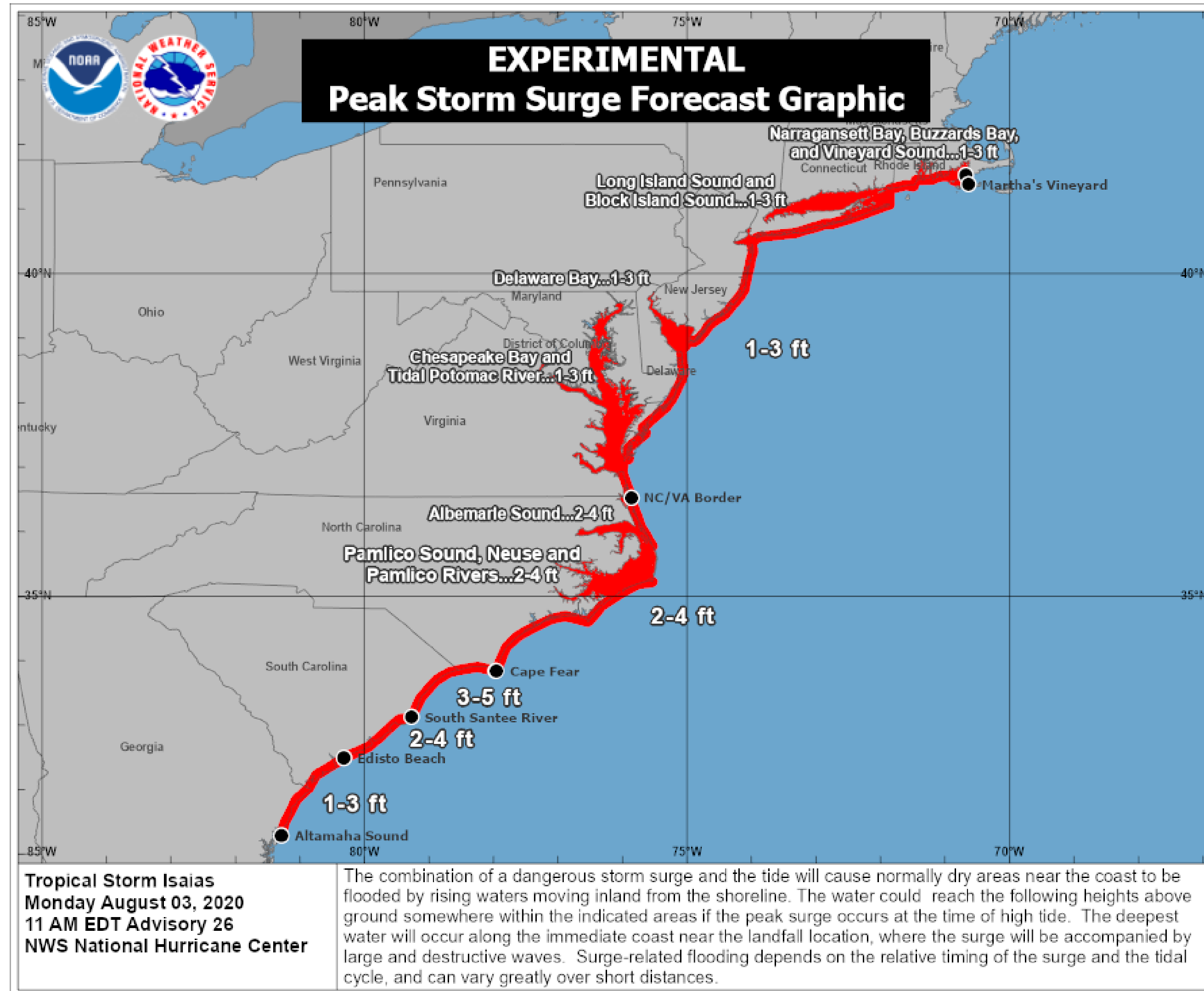
- There is an elevated to moderate storm surge threat along the coast from Surf City south to the South Santee River.
- Still most concerned with the area **south of Cape Fear** with this evening's high tide (~7-11pm).
- **Coastal Flood Warning** in effect for the Lower Cape Fear River at Downtown Wilmington (8pm – 2am). Moderate flooding expected with 2-3 ft inundation possible.
- Areas of storm surge inundation enhanced by breaking waves are possible along barrier islands in the moderate threat area
- Potential impacts include: flooding of some coastal roads and beach access points, beach erosion, some damage and flooding to vulnerable structures

Storm Surge

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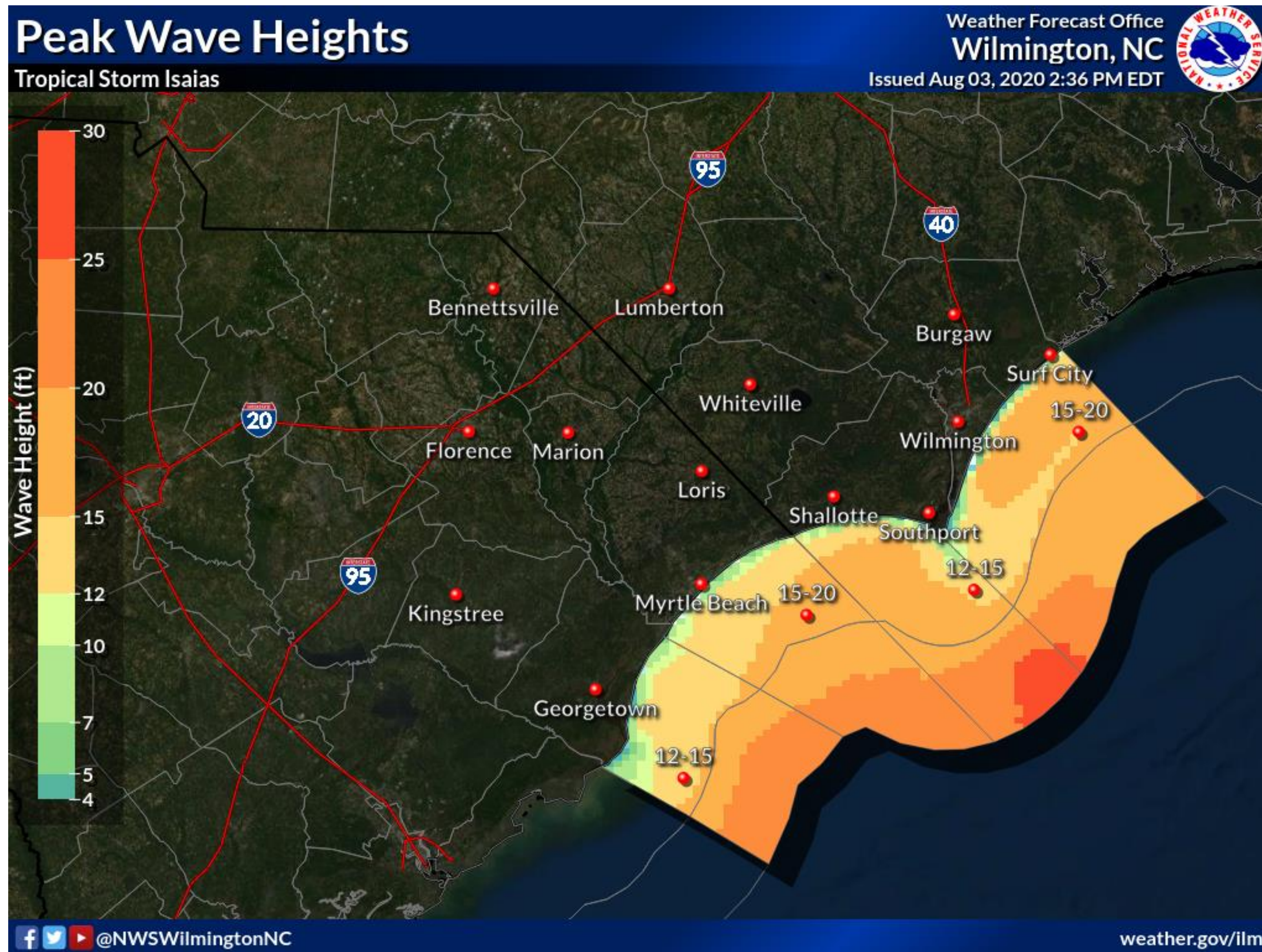
- Potential storm surge inundation of 3-5 ft from Cape Fear southward along the northeast SC coast, and 2-4 ft from Cape Fear northward along the southeast NC coast.
- Note: These are peak above ground values if the peak surge occurs at the time of high tide. The best chance of this occurring is south of Cape Fear.

Marine/Coastal Hazards

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- Life-threatening rip currents are expected through midweek.
- Marine conditions will quickly deteriorate through tonight for the adjacent coastal waters, with worst conditions this evening through Tuesday morning.
- Maritime conditions are expected to improve by Tuesday night into Wednesday

5-Day Outlook

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DAY/ THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms					
Lightning	All areas as a result of scattered tstms	All areas as a result of scattered tstms	All areas as a result of scattered tstms	All areas as a result of scattered tstms	All areas as a result of scattered tstms
Heat Index	Heat Index: 100F all areas in the afternoon	Heat Index: 100F all areas in the afternoon	Heat Index: 100F all areas in the afternoon	Heat Index: 100F all areas in the afternoon	Heat Index: 100F all areas in the afternoon
Marine	Strong rip currents all area beaches	Elevated rip current risk will likely continue			

Risk Level

None

Limited

Elevated

Significant

Extreme

Key Take-Aways

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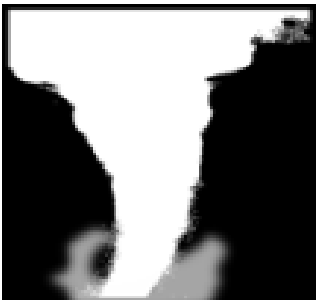
Tropical storm force winds expected by early evening for northeast SC and later this evening for southeast NC. The gusty winds will produce downed trees, damage to weak structures and power outages.



Some storm surge inundation and beach erosion is likely, especially with this evening's high tide south of Cape Fear.



Heavy rainfall is expected along with some flooding of prone areas. Some road closures possible. Currently, most areas are expected to receive 3-6" with some locally higher amounts possible.



Some tornadoes are possible - especially this evening and overnight.



Hazardous maritime conditions are developing across adjacent coastal waters. In addition, strong rip currents are possible today through midweek.



Minor flooding is expected at many locations with a low chance of moderate river flooding – however this is dependent on where the heaviest rainfall occurs.



*The Next & Final Briefing Summary for northeast SC and southeast NC:
600 PM Monday August 3, 2020
Method: Email*



Web: <http://weather.gov/ilm>



E-mail: nws.ilm.operations@noaa.gov



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For the latest graphics and information go to: www.hurricanes.gov or weather.gov/ilm/tropical



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