



Disclaimer: The information contained within is time-sensitive.

Hurricane Helene Briefing

6:00 PM

Thursday September 26, 2024

- ** Conditions remain conducive for Scattered Tornadoes ****
- ** Slightly increased Wind/Wind Gusts for tonight ****



Situation Overview

September 26, 2024
6:00 PM

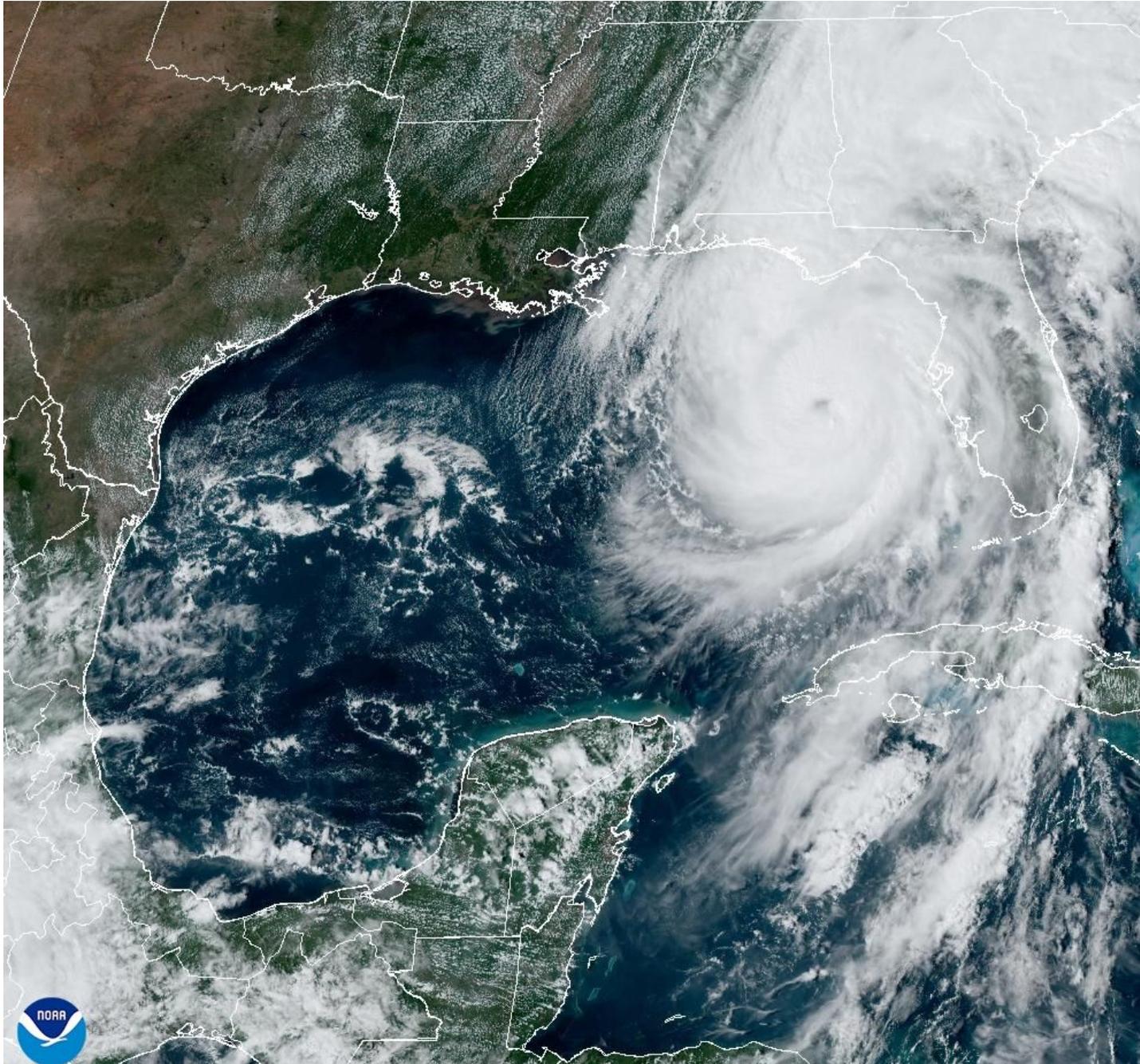
- Tornadoes: Impacts from scattered tornadoes continues to be one of our biggest concerns through tonight/early Friday morning
- Winds: Have slightly increased wind/wind gusts, mainly land areas, for tonight
- Helene is a LARGE SYSTEM, with IMPACTS reaching WELL OUTSIDE/EAST of the Track Cone of uncertainty, which covers our region!
- Potential Impacts Include: tornadoes, tropical storm force wind/wind gusts, periods of heavy rainfall, elevated tides/storm surge inundation, dangerous marine conditions, high surf and high rip current risk





Current Satellite View

September 26, 2024
6:00 PM



26 Sep 2024 19:46Z - NOAA/NESDIS/STAR - GOES-East - GEOCOLOR Composite - GM

- Helene is a MAJOR (Category 3) Hurricane
- Helen continues to intensify as accelerates northward toward the Florida Big Bend this evening
- Helen could reach Category 4 strength just before making landfall in the Florida Panhandle region



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

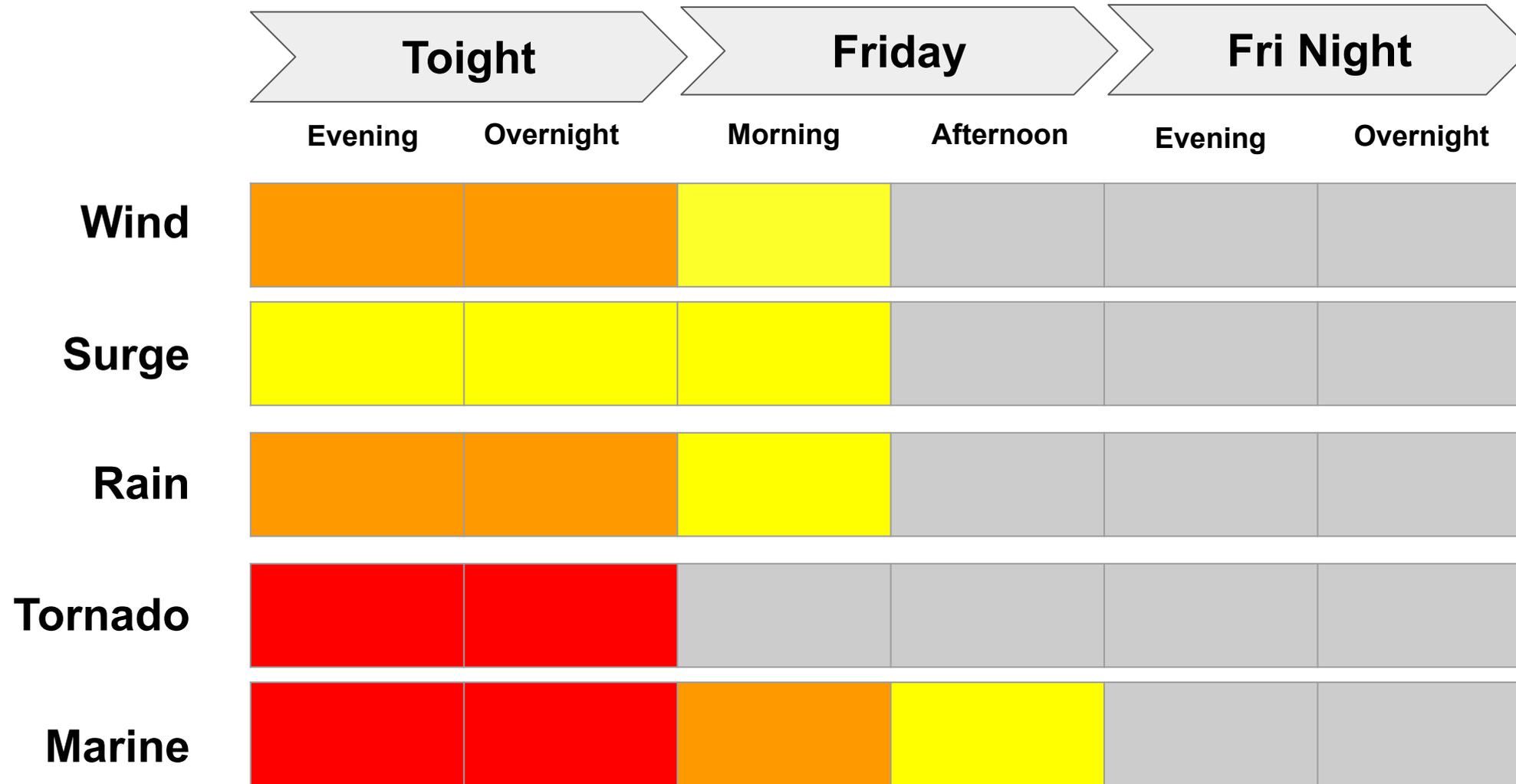
National Weather Service
Charleston, SC



Threat Levels - *Max Values for the Storm*

September 26, 2024
6:00 PM

Changes: Increased Rain Threat for this afternoon given current radar trends



Effects and Impacts Legend

- Little to No Impact
- Moderate Impact
- Minor Impact
- High Impact
- Extreme Impact



Situation Overview

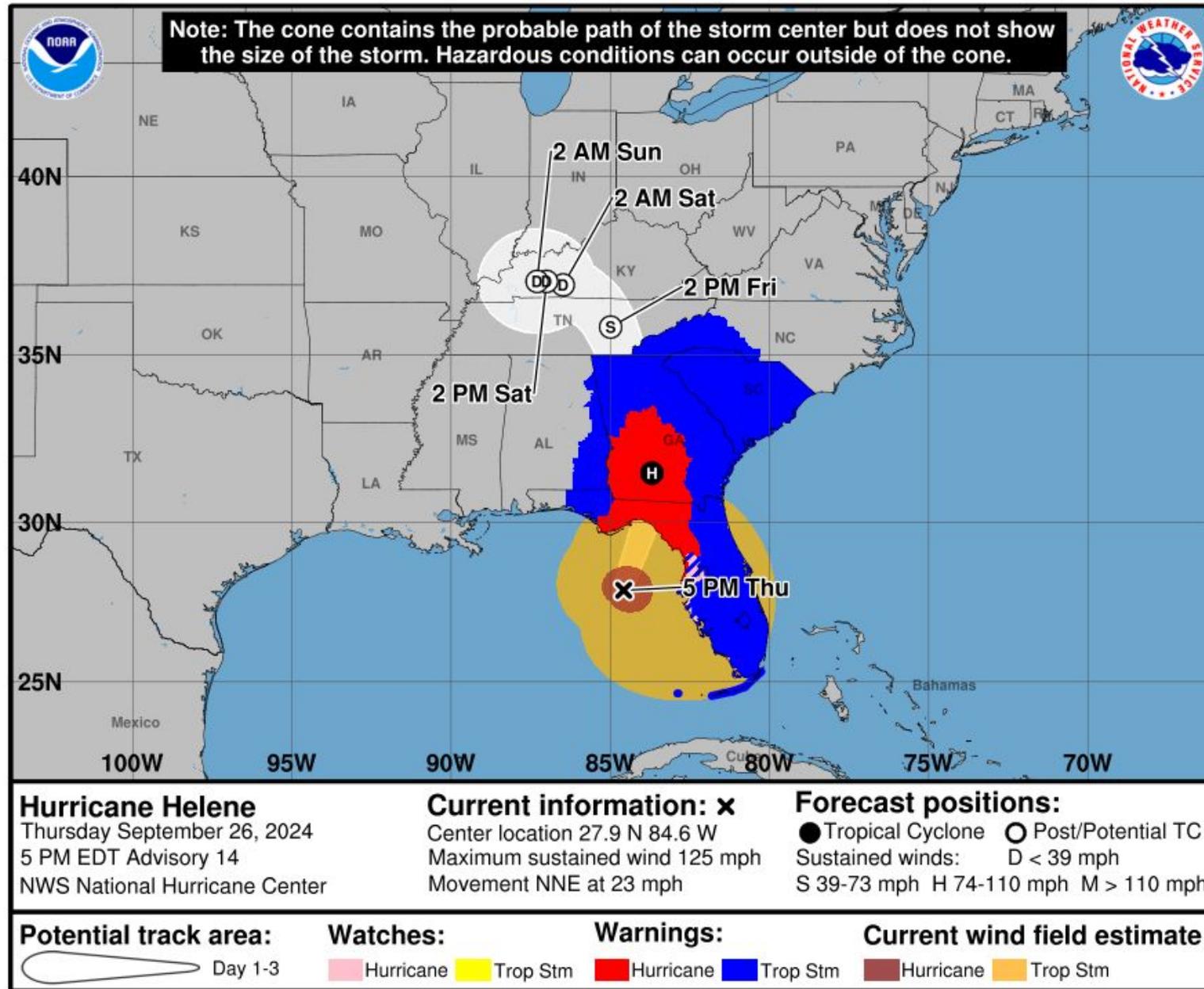
September 26, 2024
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Hazard	Impacts	Location	Timing
 <p>Wind</p>	<p>TS Wind/Wind Gusts expected. Downed and/or uprooted trees, Isolated to scattered power outages, some roads impassable due to debris</p>	<p>Highest Threat for TS force wind/wind gusts well inland (closer to Helene's track) and along the Atlantic coast</p>	<p>Through tonight. Strongest winds begin first in southeast GA this evening, then later tonight into southeast SC</p>
 <p>Storm Surge & Inundation</p>	<p>Storm Surge Inundation 1-3 feet above normally dry ground in/around tidal region. Localized saltwater flooding immediate shoreline, moderate beach erosion</p>	<p>Entire coastline</p>	<p>Through tonight</p>
 <p>Flooding Rain</p>	<p>Flooding of some roads/streets, especially in low lying, poorly drained areas, some storm drains and retention ponds may become full/overflow</p>	<p>Entire region of southeast SC and southeast GA</p>	<p>Through tonight, especially after 8 pm this evening</p>
 <p>Tornado</p>	<p>Scattered to possibly numerous tornadoes may produced localized areas of enhanced tree and/or structural damage</p>	<p>Entire region of southeast SC and southeast GA and Atlantic waters</p>	<p>Through tonight. Tornado threat will move from south to north later tonight</p>
 <p>Marine</p>	<p>Dangerous seas and tropical storm force winds/wind gusts will result in life-threatening conditions, especially for smaller crafts</p>	<p>Entire marine area from the Altamaha River, GA to the South Santee River, SC. Tropical Storm force wind gusts also possible within Charleston Harbor</p>	<p>Through Friday morning</p>



Situation Overview

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- Track Trend: Little/no changes to track timing and impacts to our area
- Motion: Helene expected to continue accelerating northward across the eastern Gulf of Mexico this evening and overnight tonight
- **CAUTION:** The fast northward motion of the storm will likely allow stronger wind/wind gusts to reach farther inland into our area, especially southeast GA





Tropical Storm Watch/Warning

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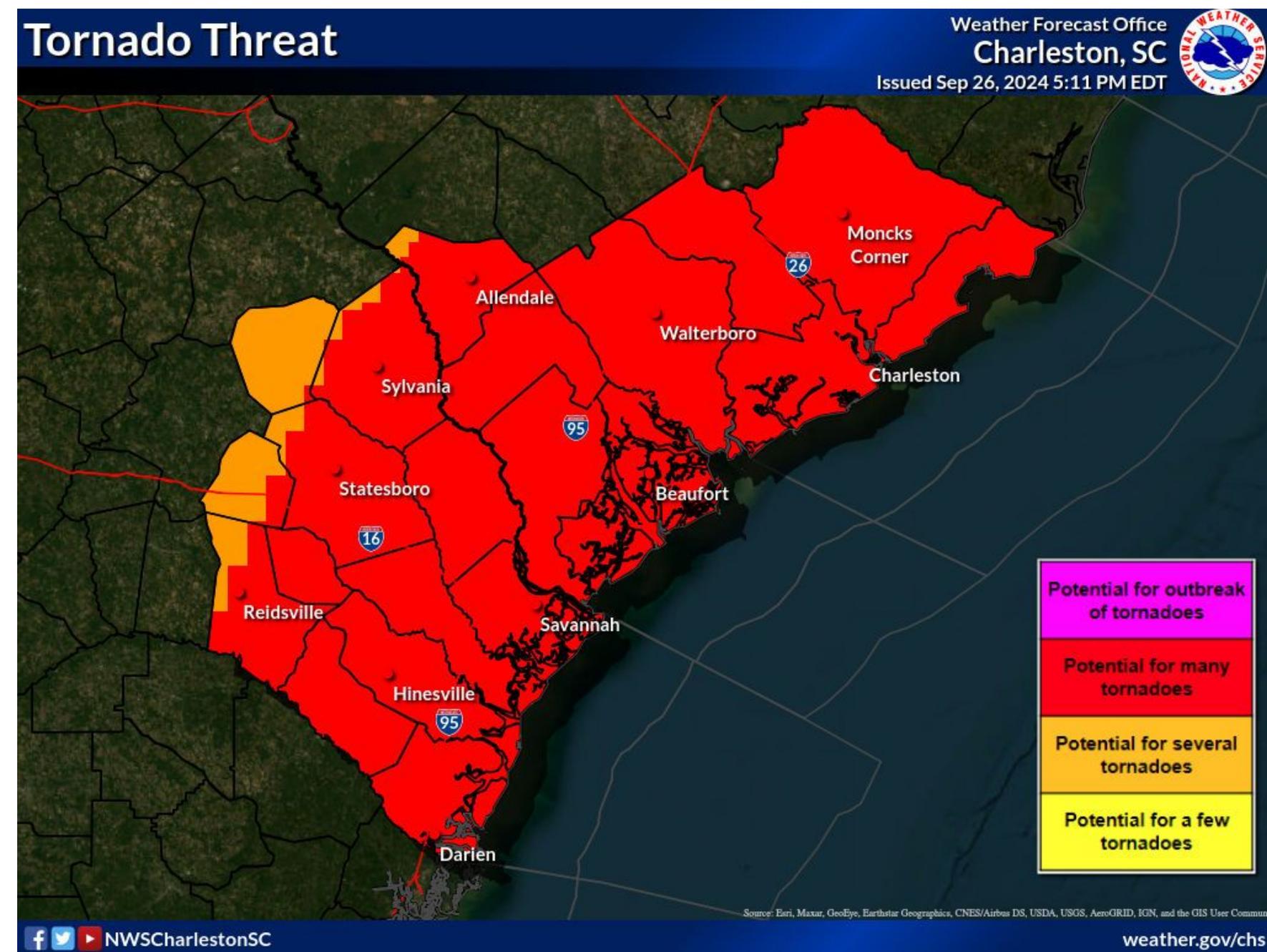
- **Tropical Storm Warnings** remain in effect for the ENTIRE region, including the Atlantic waters and Charleston Harbor





Potential Tornado Impacts

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- Conditions remain very conducive for scattered to possibly numerous tornadoes within stronger rainbands
- **Timing:** Now through tonight, especially after 8 pm this evening
- **Impacts:** Nighttime tornadoes can be particularly dangerous. Enhanced tree damage and possible structural damage.





Wind Threat / Potential Impacts

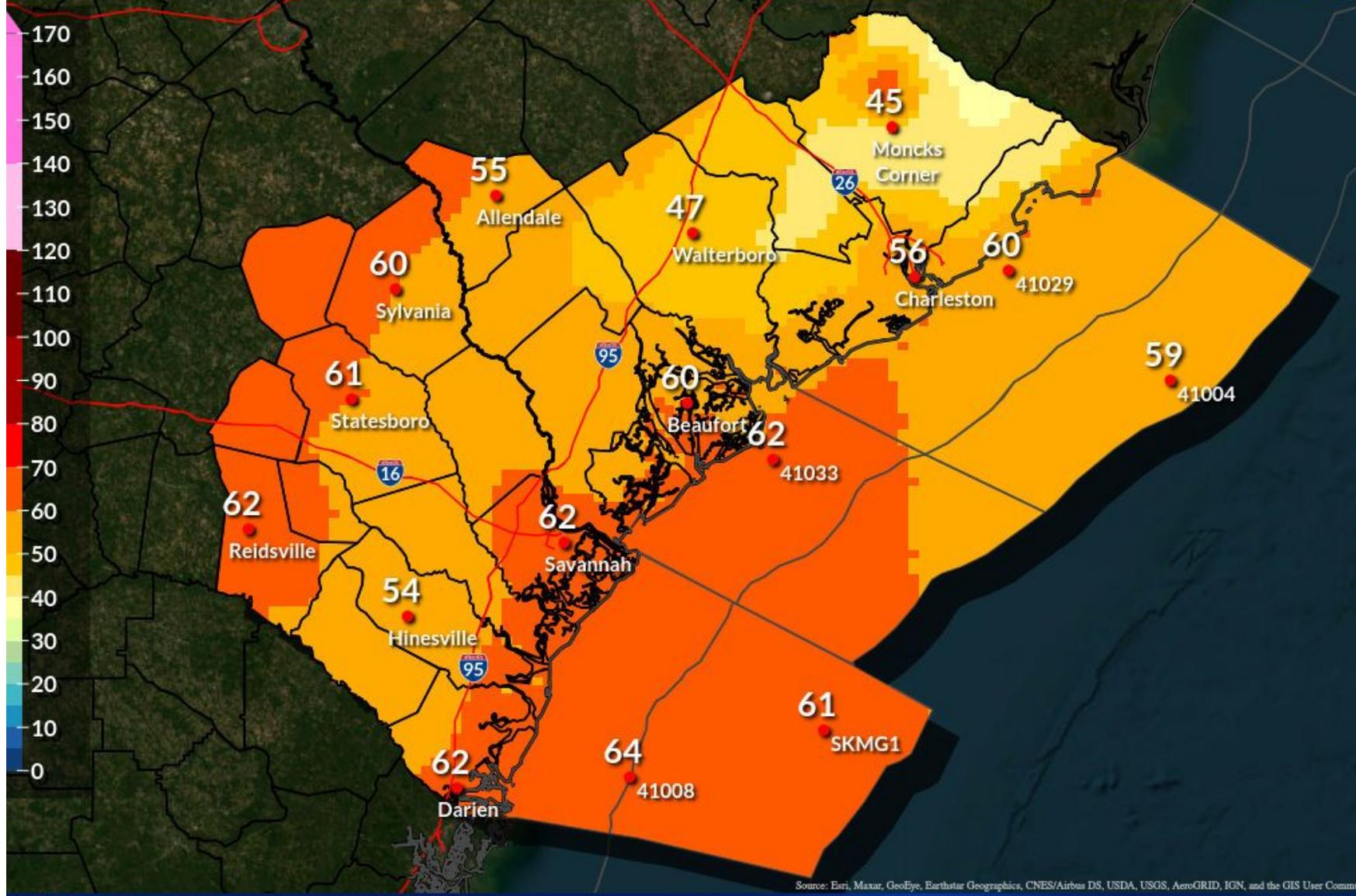
September 26, 2024
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Max Wind Gust (mph)

Valid 8 PM Thu Sep 26 to 8 AM Fri Sep 27, 2024

Weather Forecast Office
Charleston, SC

Issued Sep 26, 2024 5:16 PM EDT



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

NWSCharlestonSC

weather.gov/chs

Expected Max Wind Gusts (mph):

- Tropical Storm Force wind/wind gust across much of the area
- **Timing:**
 - **GA:** Starting this evening through tonight, slow decrease after 3 AM
 - **SC:** Late this evening through tonight, decreasing toward sunrise Friday
- **Impacts:** Scattered power outages, downed and uprooted trees, hazardous for high profile vehicles on bridges/overpasses



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Charleston, SC



Maximum Wind Gusts (mph)

September 26, 2024
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Maximum Wind Gust Forecast

	9/26 Thu		9/27 Fri						Maximum	
	6pm	9pm	12am	3am	6am	9am	12pm	3pm		6pm
Allendale	23↙	36↙	48↙	59↙	49↙	39↑	30↗	23↗	21↗	59
Beaufort	30↙	45↙	56↙	60↙	55↙	45↑	30↗	28↗	22↑	60
Charleston	28↙	36↙	47↙	53↙	53↙	44↑	36↗	31↗	24↗	53
Darien	43↙	53↙	62↙	61↙	51↑	38↑	28↗	25↗	21↗	62
Ellabell	35↙	41↙	58↙	56↙	47↙	35↑	26↗	22↗	21↗	58
Hampton	23↙	35↙	46↙	51↙	47↙	37↑	28↗	25↗	21↗	51
Hinesville	36↙	41↙	54↙	53↙	47↑	36↑	24↗	22↗	21↗	54
Metter	32↙	41↙	62↙	61↙	51↑	40↑	28↗	23↗	22↗	62
Millen	25↙	37↙	54↙	63↙	60↙	40↑	30↗	25↗	22↗	63
Moncks Corner	17↙	25↙	36↙	43↙	43↙	36↑	26↑	24↗	23↑	43
Reidsville	38↙	43↙	62↙	58↙	49↑	39↑	28↗	23↗	22↗	62
Richmond Hill	39↙	46↙	62↙	61↙	52↑	39↑	30↗	25↗	20↗	62
Ridgeland	30↙	43↙	55↙	58↙	52↙	37↑	30↗	25↗	21↑	58
Savannah	39↙	48↙	62↙	61↙	54↑	43↑	31↗	28↗	20↑	62
Springfield	28↙	40↙	56↙	56↙	48↙	36↑	26↗	25↗	21↗	56
Statesboro	30↙	44↙	58↙	58↙	52↙	43↑	30↗	25↗	22↗	58
Summerville	22↙	32↙	41↙	47↙	47↙	38↑	30↑	28↗	24↑	47
Sylvania	23↙	37↙	49↙	61↙	51↙	39↑	30↗	25↗	21↗	61
Walterboro	22↙	31↙	41↙	47↙	47↙	38↑	30↗	25↗	22↗	47

Expected **Max Wind Gusts (mph)** for specific locations:

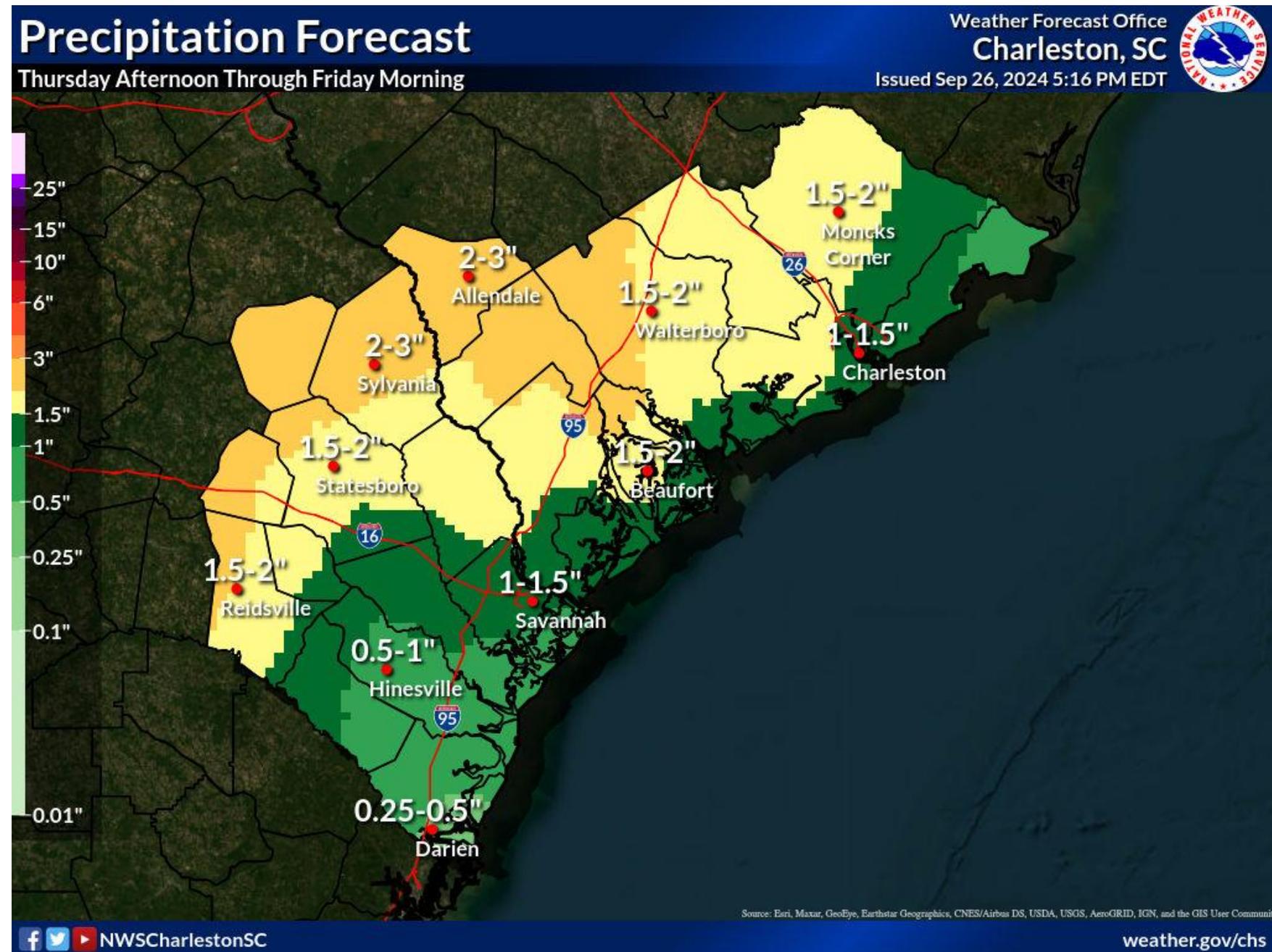
- These are expect MAX Wind Gusts from the NWS Charleston, SC latest forecast
- **Note:** Locations in this table are approximate
- **Timing:** Highest wind gust potential generally 9 pm this evening to about 6 am Friday morning





Expected Storm Total Rainfall

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Additional Rainfall through Friday Morning

- Periods of Heavy rainfall will occur this evening during the evening commute, especially Charleston Tri-County
- Reports of Flooding/Road Closures: Recently received reports of many roads closed and/or flooding in/around the Savannah and Charleston areas
- The heavy rainfall threat expected to continue into tonight
- The risk for flooding may increase along the coast, if heavy rainfall coincides with high cycle early Friday morning, especially around the Charleston area





Potential Marine Impacts

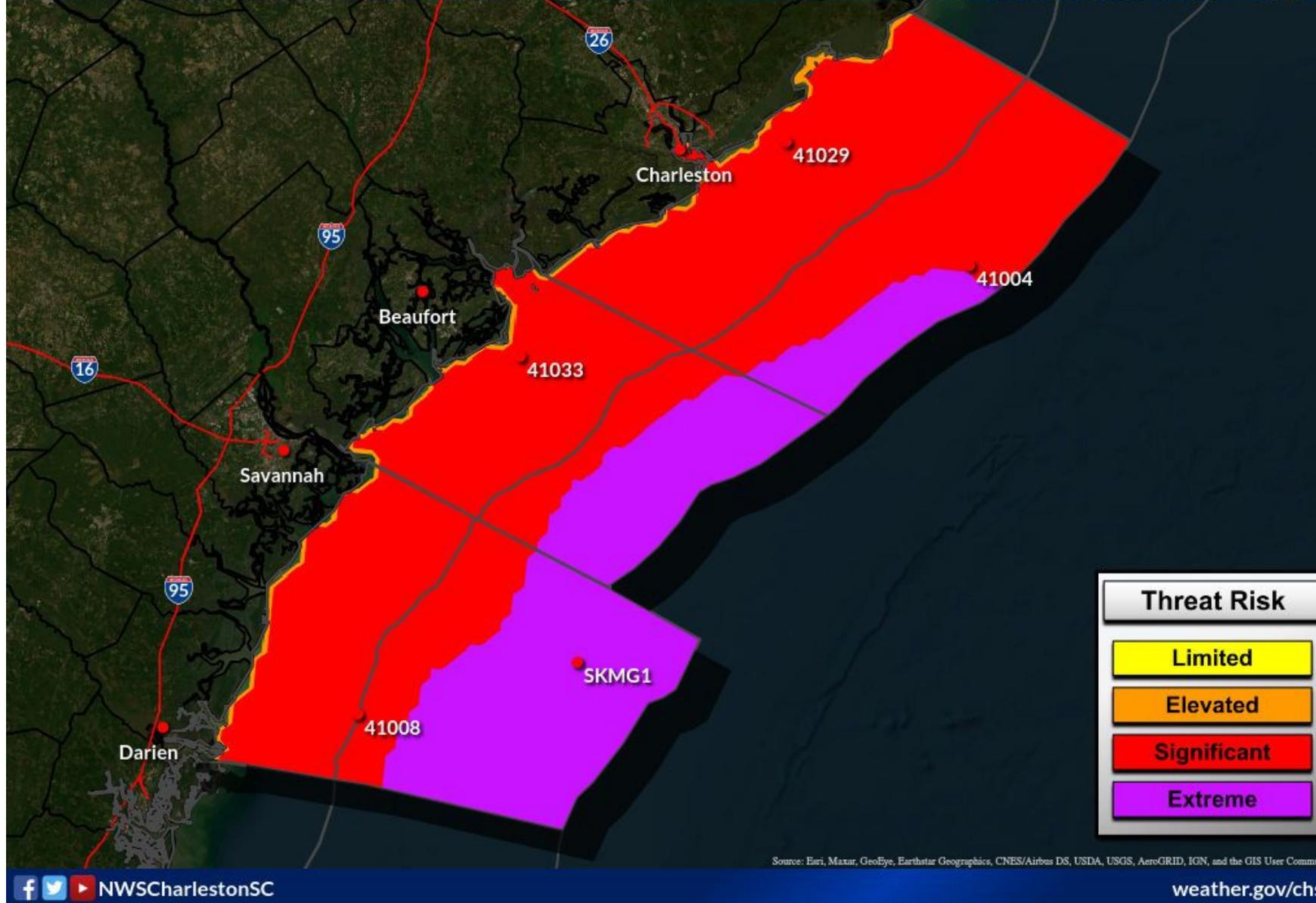
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Marine Hazard Risk for Thu/Thu Night

Valid 5 PM Thu Sep 26, 2024 to 8 AM Fri Sep 27, 2024

Weather Forecast Office
Charleston, SC

Issued Sep 26, 2024 5:11 PM EDT



- **Dangerous Seas/Waves:**
 - Seas building to 8-15 feet out 20 nm and 12-17 feet from 20-40 nm, highest this tonight and early Friday, especially over the GA waters
- **Tropical Storm Force Wind/Wind Gusts:**
 - Wind/Wind gusts of 45-55 knots possible tonight into Friday morning, especially GA waters
 - Strongest winds/wind gusts likely within heavy rainbands
 - Waterspouts possible in rainbands





Potential Beach Impacts

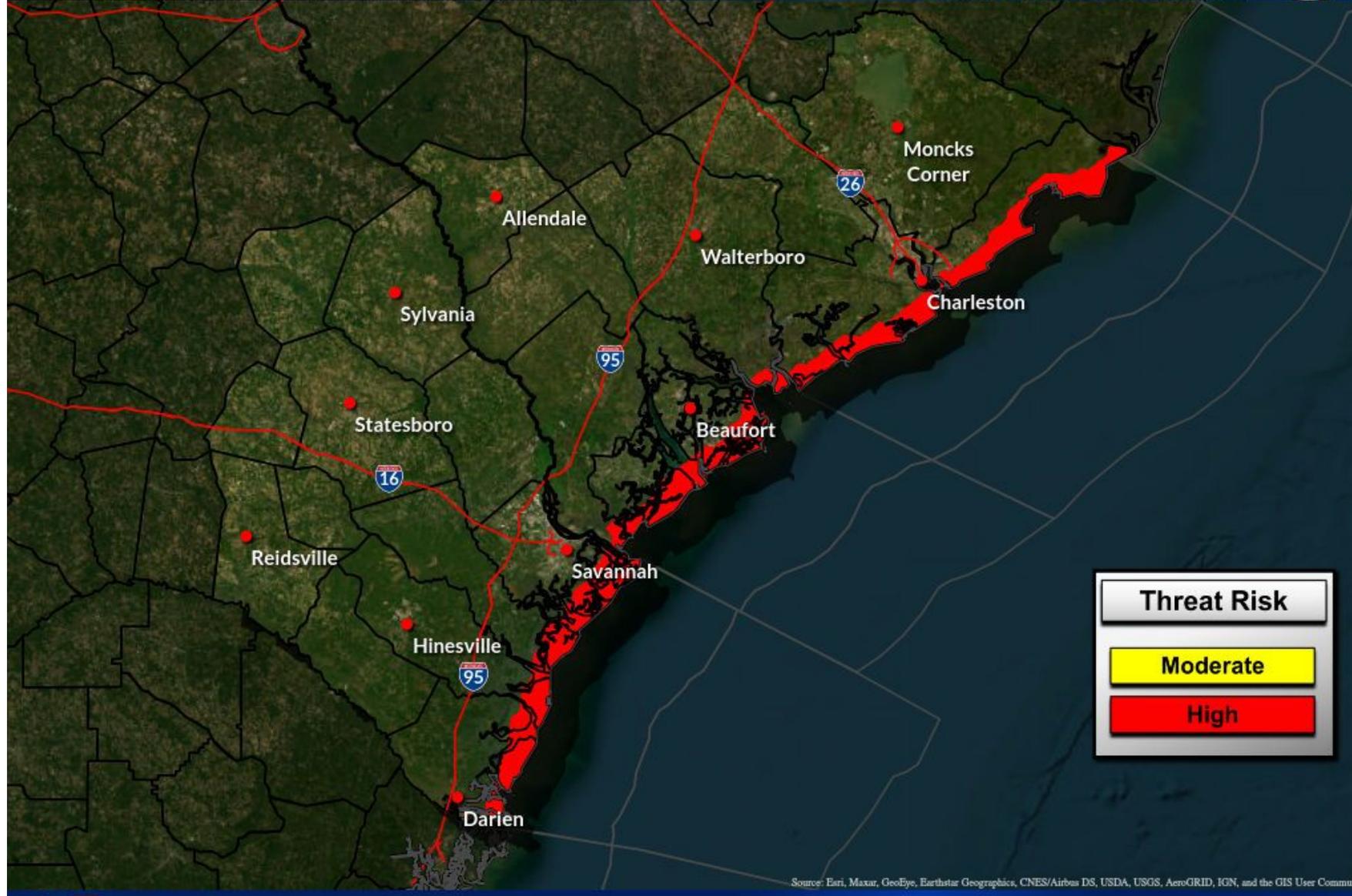
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Rip Current Risk for Thu/Thu Night

Valid 5 PM Thu Sep 26, 2024 to 8 AM Fri Sep 27, 2024

Weather Forecast Office
Charleston, SC

Issued Sep 26, 2024 5:11 PM EDT



NWSCharlestonSC

weather.gov/chs

Beach Hazards Potential:

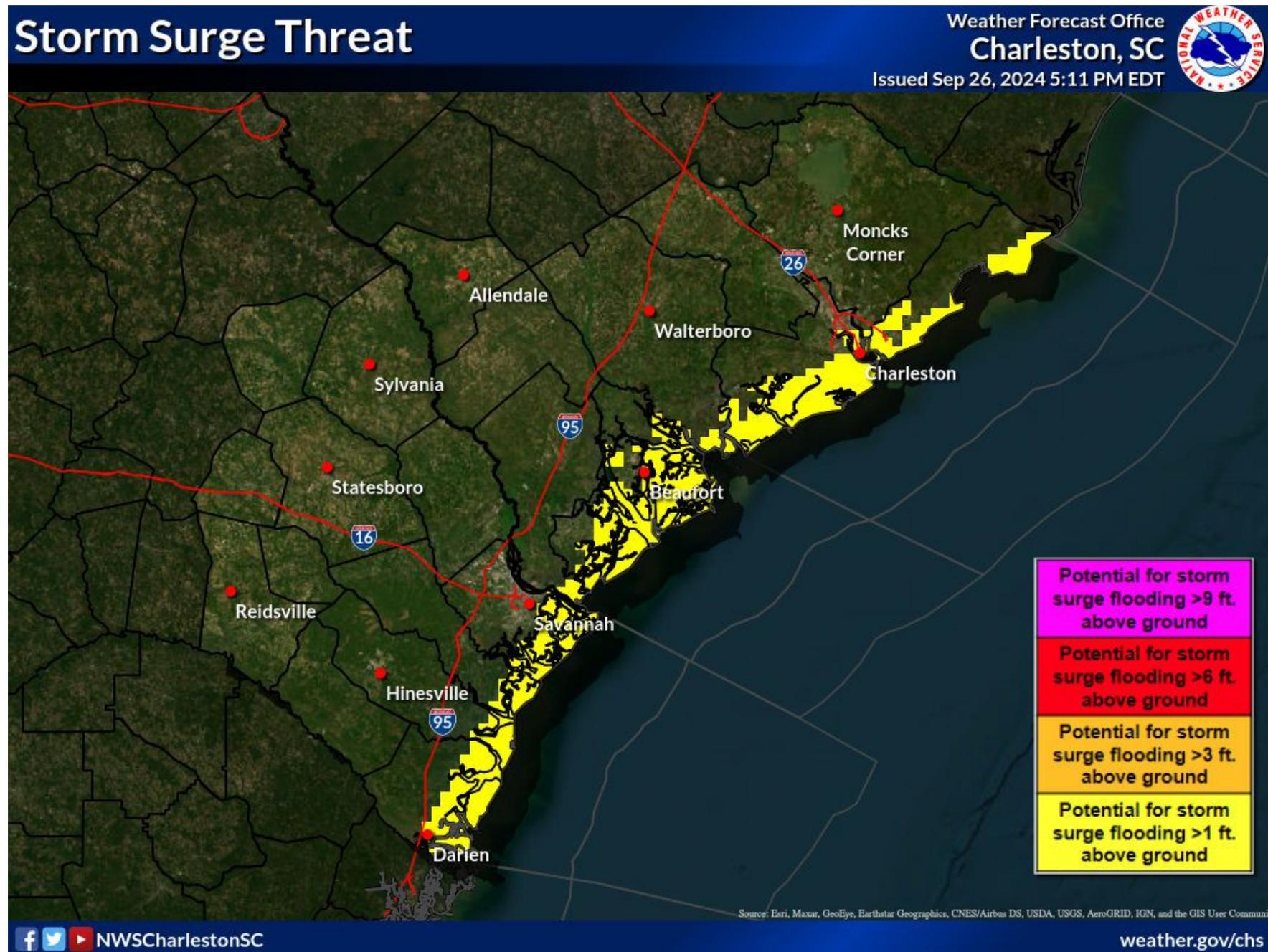
- **High Risk for Deadly Rip Currents** through Friday
- **High Surf and Significant Beach Erosion**
 - **High Surf Advisory** in effect
 - **Timing:** tonight through Friday morning





Potential Storm Surge Impacts

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- **Elevated Tide Levels**
 - Storm Surge Inundation of 1-3 feet above normally dry ground in/around tidal region
- Coastal Flood Advisories may be needed for the early Friday morning (4-6 am) high tide, especially Charleston and Colleton coasts
- **Impacts:** Minor flooding of some streets/roads near the coast, and in low lying areas. *Additional Coastal Flood Advisories possible tonight*
- **Event Timing:** Highest tide levels likely 4-6 am Friday, especially SC coast



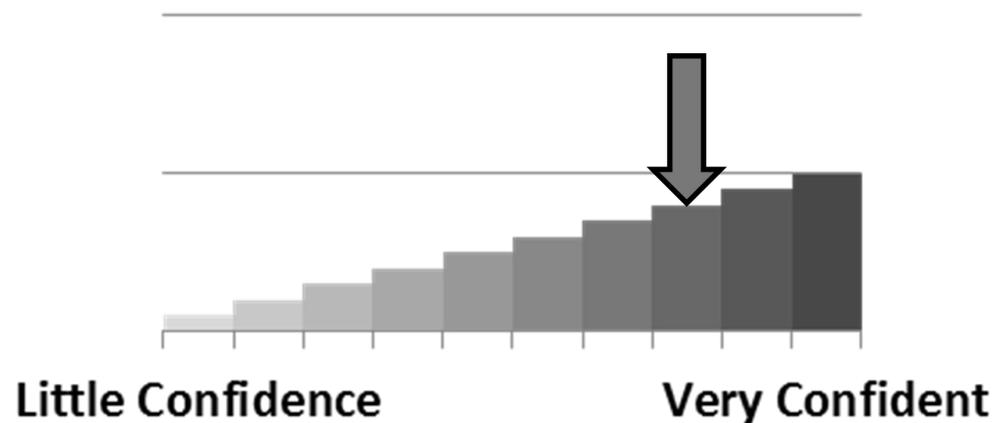


Key Take-Aways

September 26, 2024
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- Tornadoes: Impacts from scattered tornadoes continues to be one of our biggest concerns through tonight/early Friday morning
- Helene is a LARGE STORM, with impacts reaching well east of the track cone of uncertainty
- Focus attention on expected impacts, NOT the centerline of the forecast track

Forecast Confidence



Overall Storm Formation and Track: High Confidence

Local Level and Timing of Impacts: Moderate to High





Next Briefing:

Thursday Sep 27, 12:00 AM

Method: email

NOTE: This will be the LAST Verbal Briefing

