

Storm Warning

Thursday night into Friday

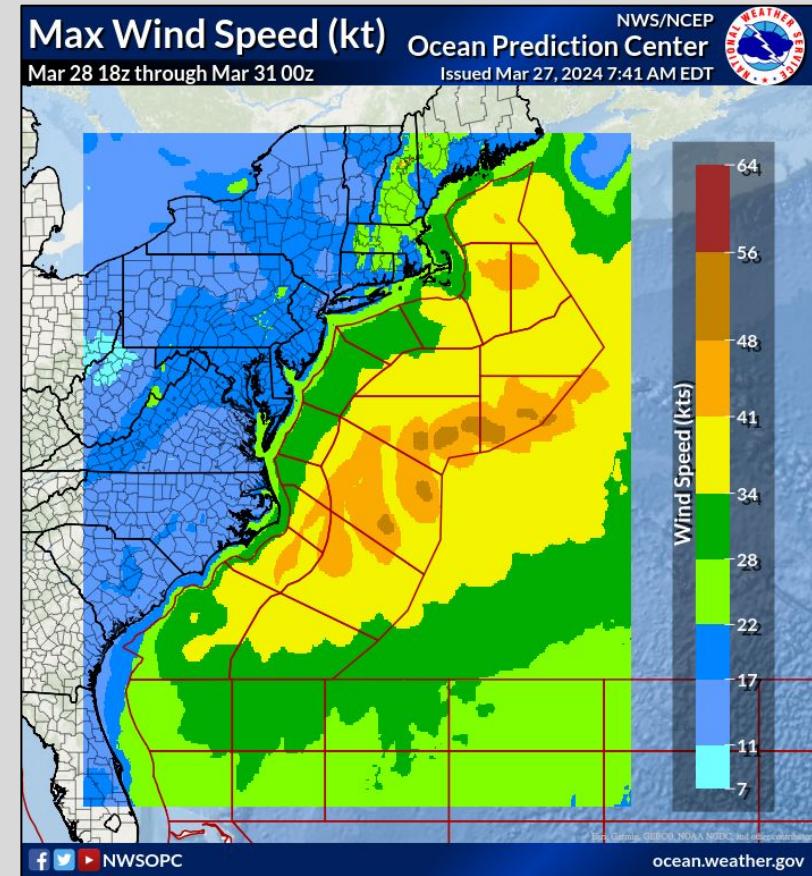
KEY MESSAGES:

CALL TO ACTION: Vessels planning to be in the area should execute avoidance plans.

- Low pressure will emerge off the U.S. Southeast coast early Thu, then track NE to a position about 60 nm south of Cape Hatteras by Thu evening.
- By 00z Fri, gale-force winds will quickly develop on the backside of the low, from 31N to 37N west of about 74W and across the Gulf Stream.
- The low is then expected to rapidly intensify Thu night through Fri night while lifting quickly northeast across the western Atlantic en route to southern Canada.
- Storm-force winds develop by late Thu night, then continue in the SW quadrant of the low as it intensifies. Most likely areas of storm-force winds are across the outer Mid-Atlantic waters, seen at right in the darkest brown shading. Gusts to hurricane-force are possible, especially across the Gulf Stream.
- Wind and seas will be higher in any thunderstorms.

Outlook for the Western Atlantic

East Coast N of 31N to 65W



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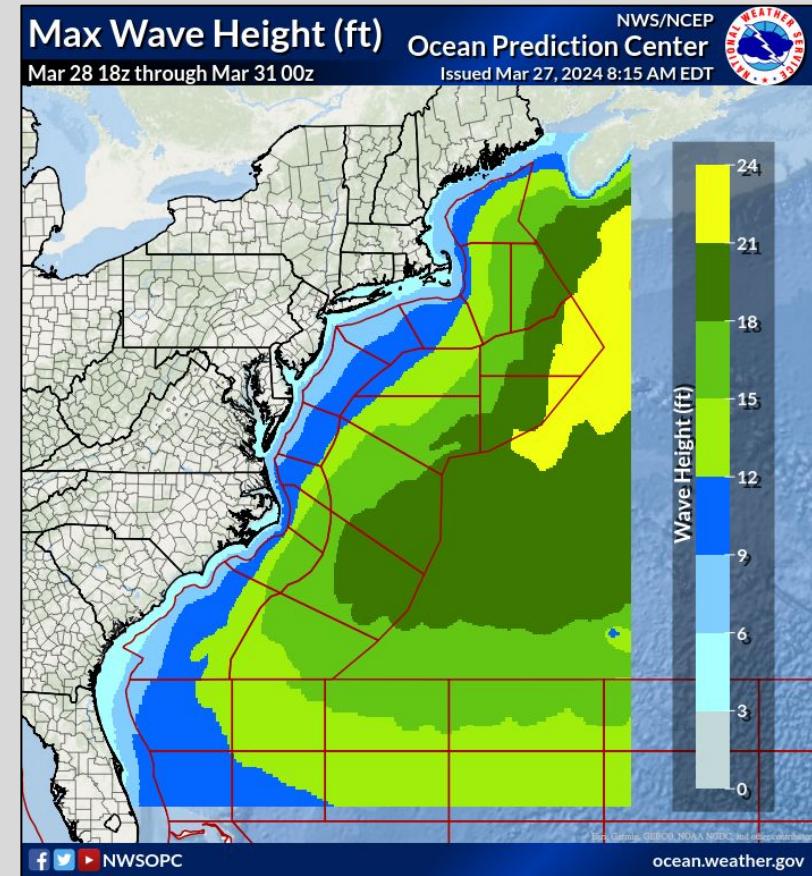
KEY MESSAGES:

CALL TO ACTION: Vessels planning to be in the area should execute avoidance plans.

- By Thu evening, in response to the quickly developing gale-force winds, seas will initially build into the 8 to 13 ft range from 31N to 37N west of 74W.
- As the low intensifies Thu night, beneath strong gales to storm-force conditions, seas continue to build into the 15 to 20 ft range, highest from 30N to 37N between 70W and 76W.
- Fri and Fri night, the highest seas shift more E and NE along with the low track and expanding wind field, with highest seas into the low to mid-20s ft generally from 36N to 43N and east of 68W.
- Winds and seas will gradually improve Sat as the low slowly fills across the Gulf of Saint Lawrence.
- Gales are forecast to diminish by 00z Sun. Seas slowly moderate through the weekend, with seas subsiding to 12 ft or below around 00z Mon.

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Areas to Watch

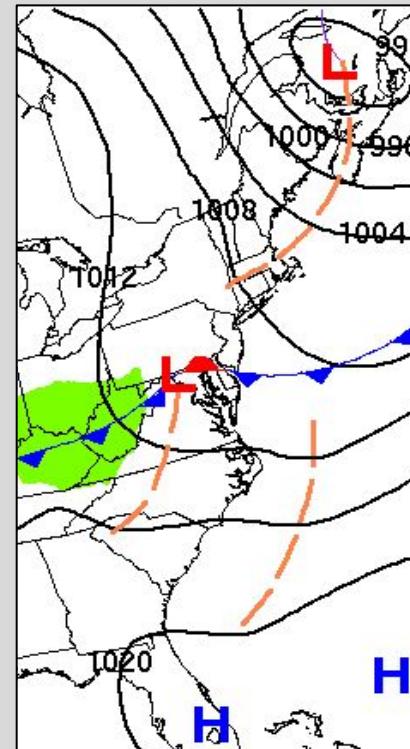
Sat night (3/31) and Tue night/Wed (4/3)

KEY MESSAGES:

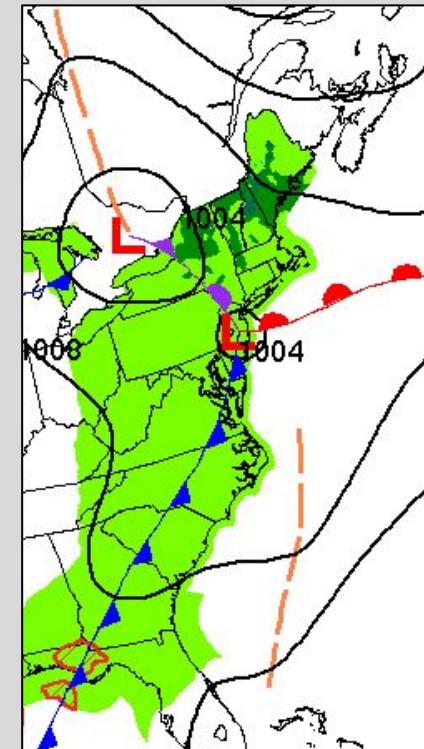
- Low pressure moves off the Delmarva Peninsula late Sat, then races E to SE across the Mid-Atlantic waters Sat night. There is a chance for gale-force winds south of the low track, generally south of about 37N. Seas could increase into the 8 to 14 ft range if gales develop.
- Then early next week, Tue into Wed, there are indications a strong and broad low pressure develops off the New England coast. Gales could develop ahead of the associated cold front, with most likely areas along and south of the Gulf Stream. Then along the backside of the low pressure, more gales could develop in the cold air advection and W to NW winds. If the low intensifies further, storm-force winds could be possible. Seas could build into the 8 to 15 ft range ahead of the cold front, then into the 15 to 20 ft range in strong W to NW winds.
- Keep abreast of the latest in the tropics and high seas marine weather information at hurricanes.gov and ocean.weather.gov
- There will be an updated briefing on the storm-force conditions Thursday, March 28, by noon EDT / 1600 UTC.
- The next scheduled full briefing will be Wednesday, April 3, by noon EDT/ 1600 UTC.

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WPC surface forecast chart
valid 12z Sunday, March 31.



WPC surface forecast chart
valid 12z Wednesday, April 3.