Hurricane-Force Wind Warning

Today through Tue (02/22 - 02/24)

February 22, 2026
1145 UTC

CALL TO ACTION: Mariners should be executing avoidance plans now!

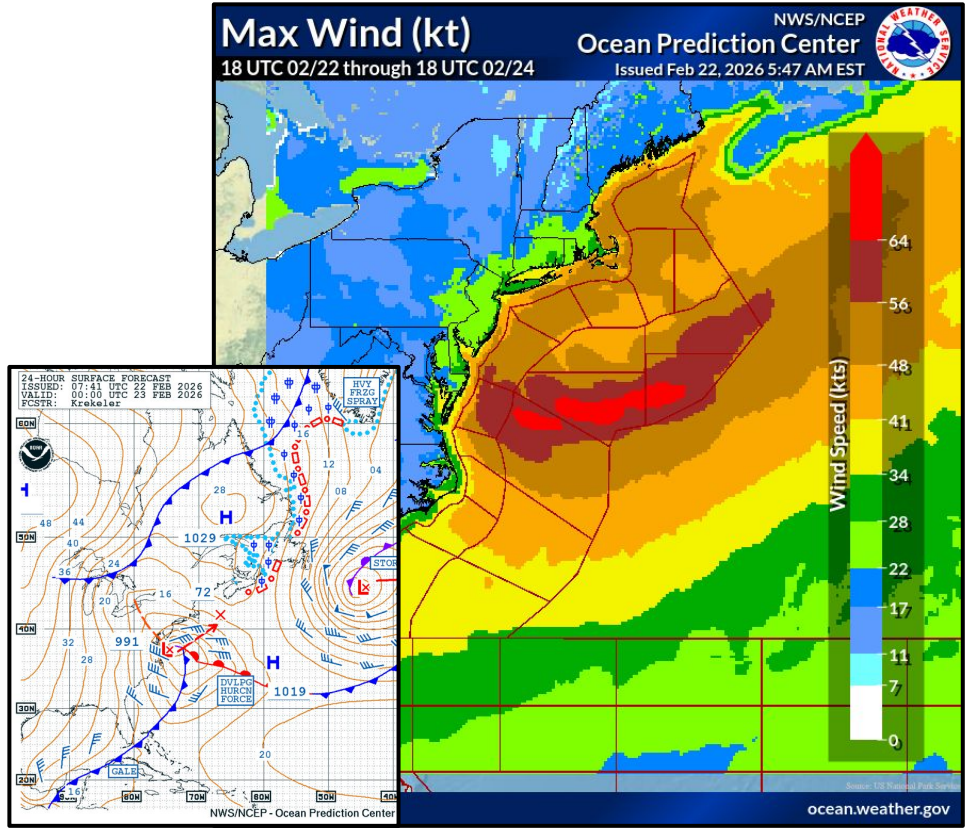
KEY MESSAGES:

- Low pressure is organizing near the North Carolina outer banks this morning, then will rapidly intensify near the mid-Atlantic coast this afternoon through Mon morning before turning NE and heading out to sea.

- Gale-force winds will rapidly expand in coverage from the southern waters on N to ~41N this morning with **storm-force winds developing near and over the Gulf Stream E of the Delmarva by this afternoon. These storm-force winds will expand in coverage along the Mid-Atlantic and New England waters, and S of the Gulf Stream tonight through Mon.**

- ***Hurricane-force winds will develop in the southern quadrant of the low, near and just S of the Gulf Stream, late Mon into Mon night.*** **There is now medium to high confidence in a period of hurricane-force winds occurring over a large W-E swath near and over the Gulf Stream E of the Delmarva.**

- **Wind gusts in the area of storm-force winds will frequently hit 70-80 kt, while wind gusts in the area of hurricane-force winds will approach 80-85 kt! Storm to hurricane-force winds gusts will be possible in or near strong thunderstorms.**



Outlook: East Coast N of 31N to 65W

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

@NWSOPC
@NHC_Atlantic

Hurricane-Force Wind Warning

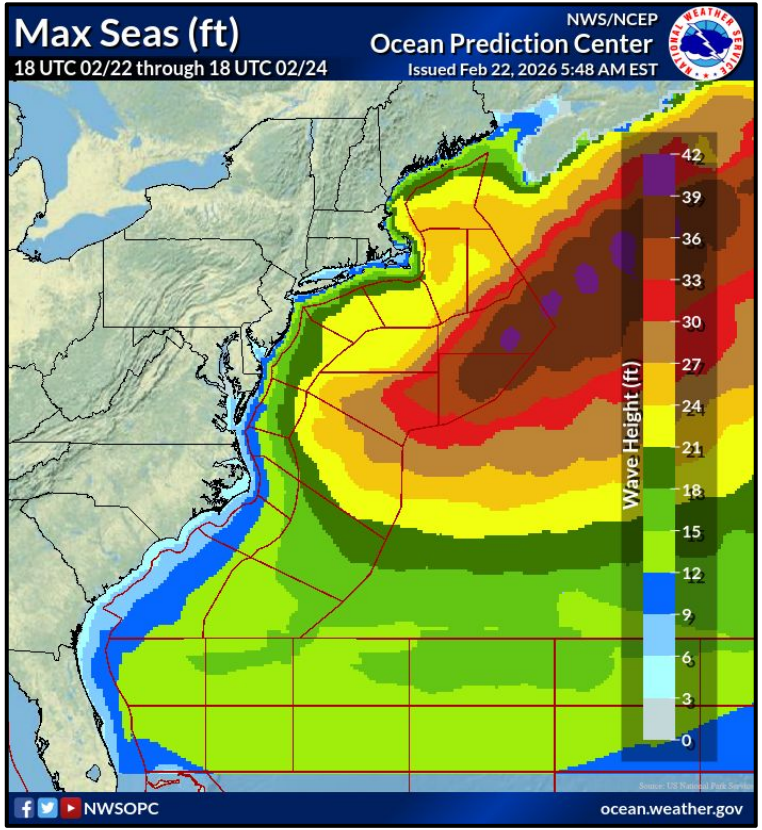
Today through Tue (02/22 - 02/24)

February 22, 2026
1145 UTC

CALL TO ACTION: Mariners should be executing avoidance plans now!

KEY MESSAGES:

- Seas will rapidly build greater than 12 ft by tonight over the mid-Atlantic waters E of the Delmarva, then quickly expand up and down the East Coast through the afternoon.
- As the system rapidly intensifies, seas will increase to 25-40 ft N of 35N with a maximum along and N of the Gulf Stream coinciding with the strongest winds.
- Some light to moderate freezing spray may occur in the northeastern Gulf of Maine as the low pressure system moves E of the waters.
- ***This is a dangerous situation. Mariners should be executing avoidance plans now, bringing any voyages in the area to completion.***
- Conditions will slowly improve from W to E on Tue as the low pressure system moves into the central Atlantic with seas dropping below 12 ft by Tue night.
- Keep abreast of the latest in the tropics and high seas marine weather information at hurricanes.gov and ocean.weather.gov.
- The next update on this system will be on Monday, February 23 by noon EST, or 1700 UTC.



Outlook: East Coast N of 31N to 65W

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

@NWSOPC
@NHC_Atlantic