



Winter Weather Headlines

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

For Ongoing Lake Effect Snow Through Saturday Morning

Key Messages

- Locally heavy lake effect snow will continue east of Lake Ontario today before moving south and weakening tonight
- Lake effect snow off Lake Erie will weaken quickly this morning
- Gusty winds will produce extensive blowing and drifting snow through early this evening, especially in open areas

Warning & Advisory Timing:

- **Winter Storm Warning** in effect for Oswego, Lewis, and Jefferson counties through 7 PM Friday
- **Lake Effect Snow Warning** in effect for southern Erie and Wyoming counties through 1 PM Friday
- **Winter Weather Advisory** in effect for northern Erie, Genesee, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus counties through 1 PM Friday
- **Winter Weather Advisory** for Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, and northern Cayuga counties from 3 PM Friday through 10 AM Saturday

Important Updates

New Winter Weather Advisory issued for Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, and northern Cayuga counties

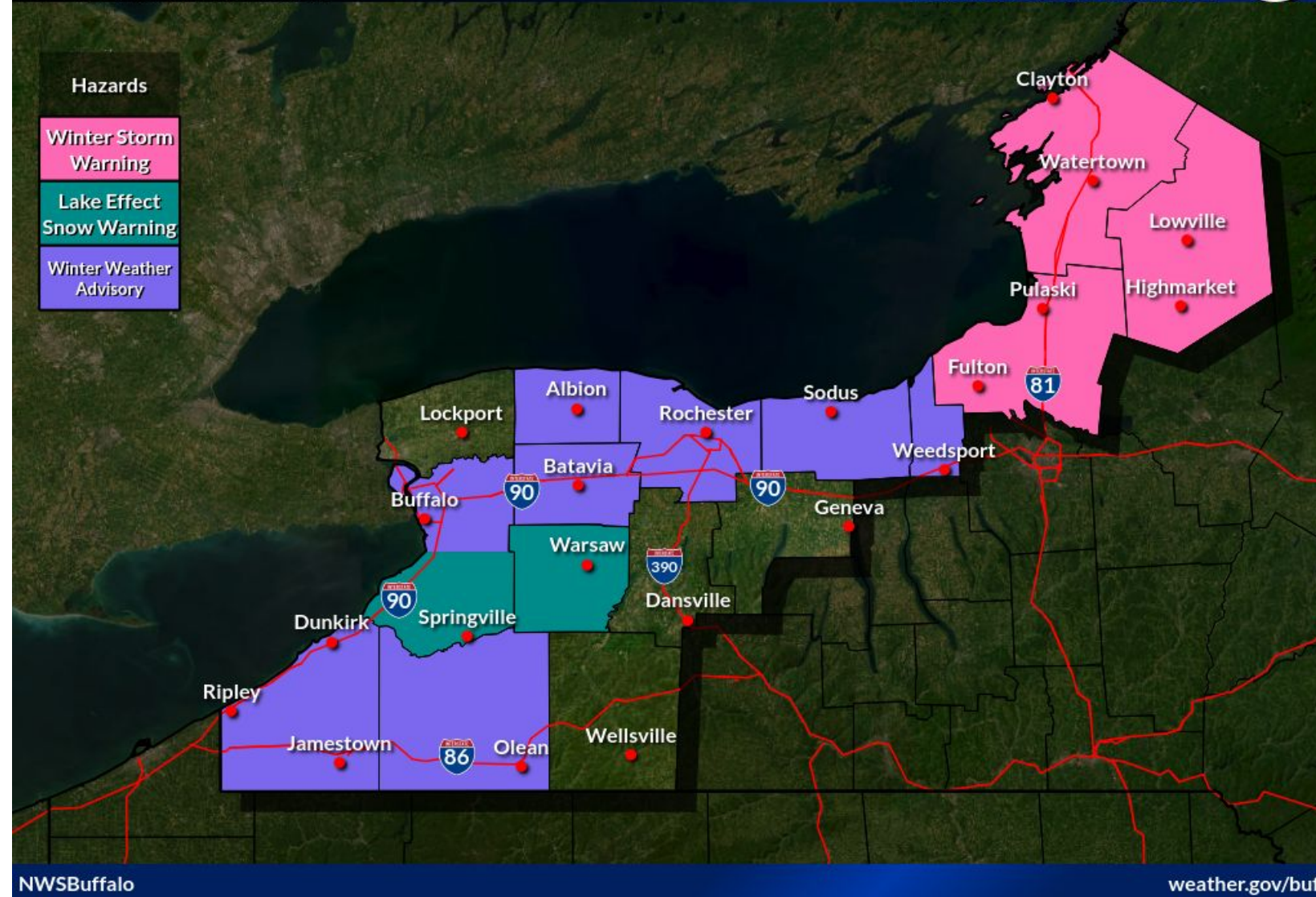
Winter Weather Warnings and Advisories

For Ongoing Lake Effect Snow

Weather Forecast Office

Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 1:49 AM EST



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
Buffalo, NY



Winter Weather Headlines

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

For Extreme Cold Followed by Widespread Heavy Snow

Key Messages

- Extreme cold develops today and lasts through Saturday night
- Widespread heavy snow possible Sunday through Monday evening

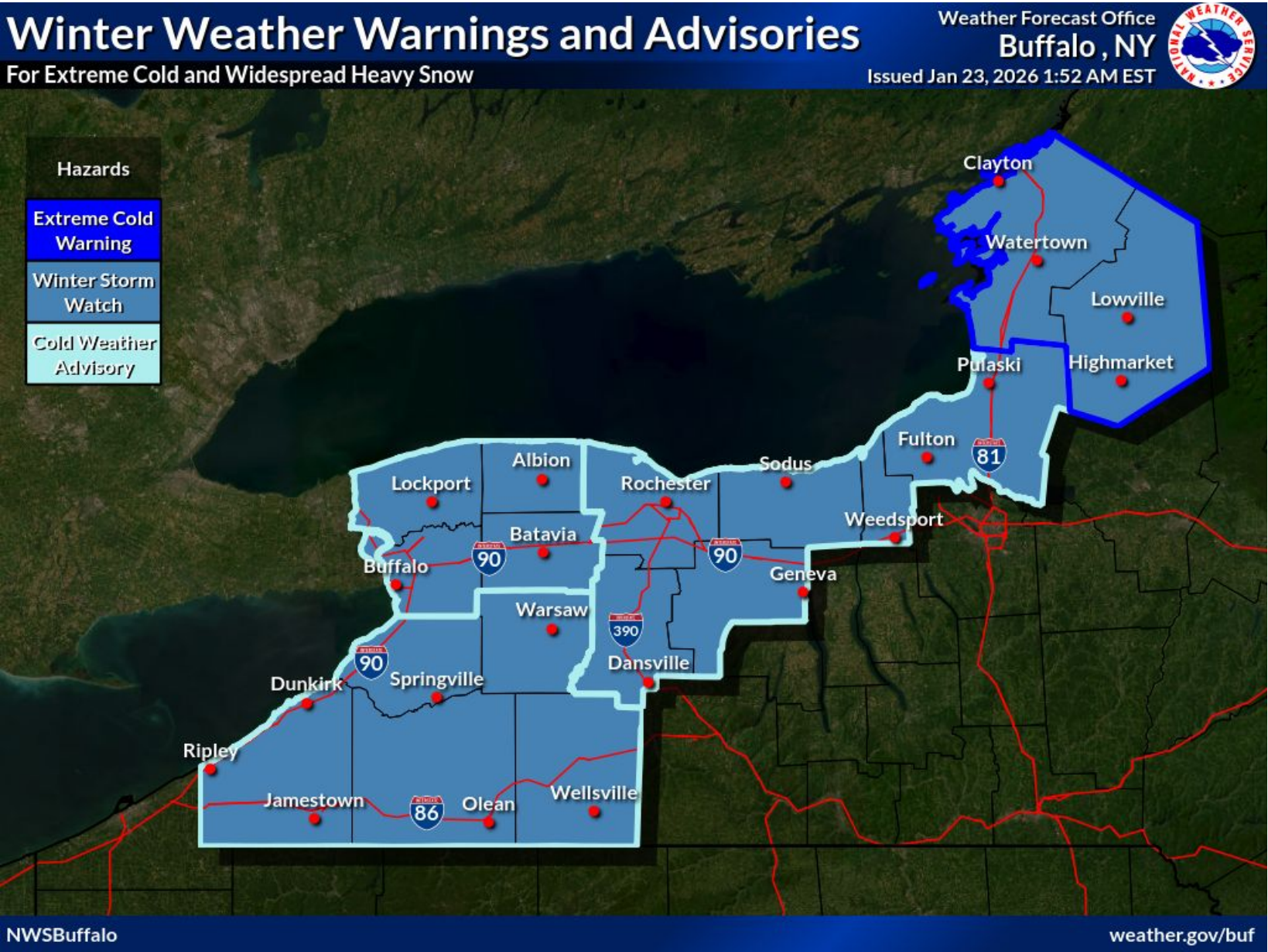
Warning & Advisory Timing:

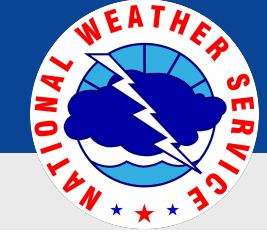
- **Extreme Cold Warning** for Jefferson and Lewis counties from 7PM Friday through 1PM Saturday
- **Cold Weather Advisory** for all of Western NY from 10 AM Friday to 10 AM Saturday
- **Cold Weather Advisory** for the Genesee Valley, western Finger Lakes, and counties southeast of Lake Ontario from 1 PM Friday to 10 AM Saturday
- **Winter Storm Watch** for all of Western and North Central NY early Sunday morning through Monday evening

NEW

Important Updates

- Start time of Cold Weather Advisory moved earlier by a few hours today

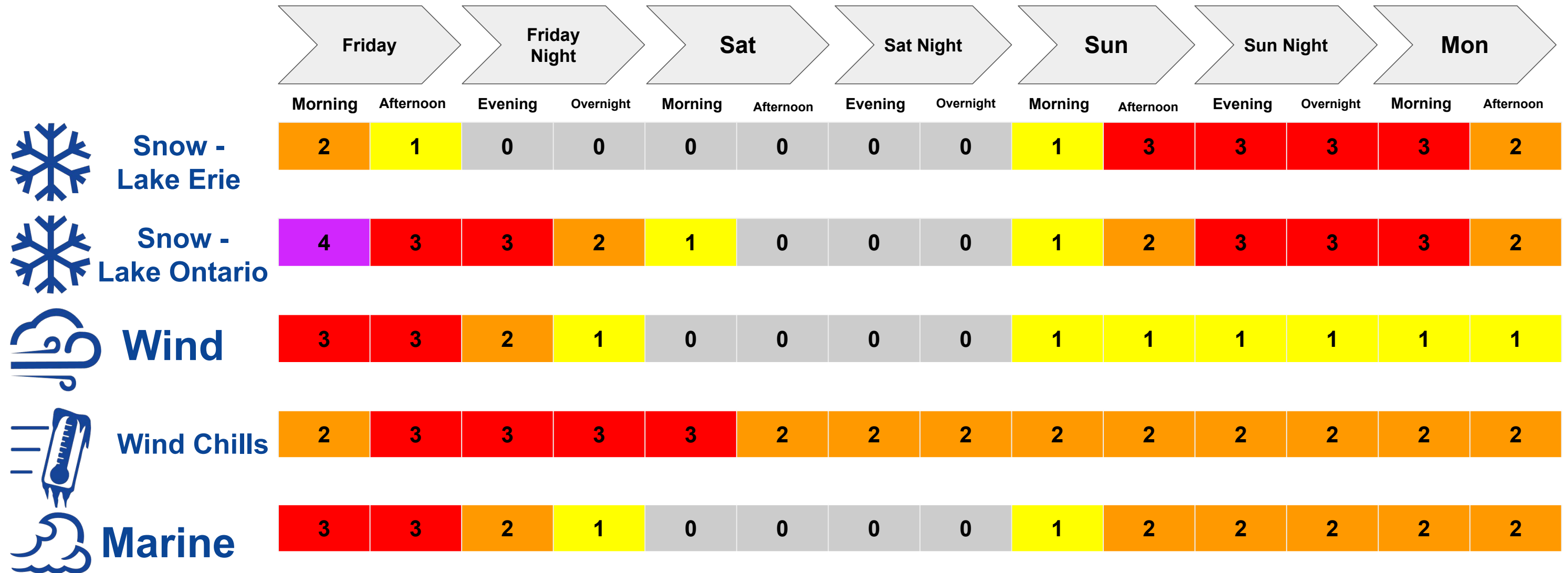




Threats & Potential Impacts Timeline

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

Friday Through Monday



Impacts Levels Legend

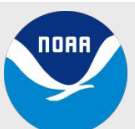
0 - Little to None

1- Minor

2- Moderate

3- High

4- Extreme



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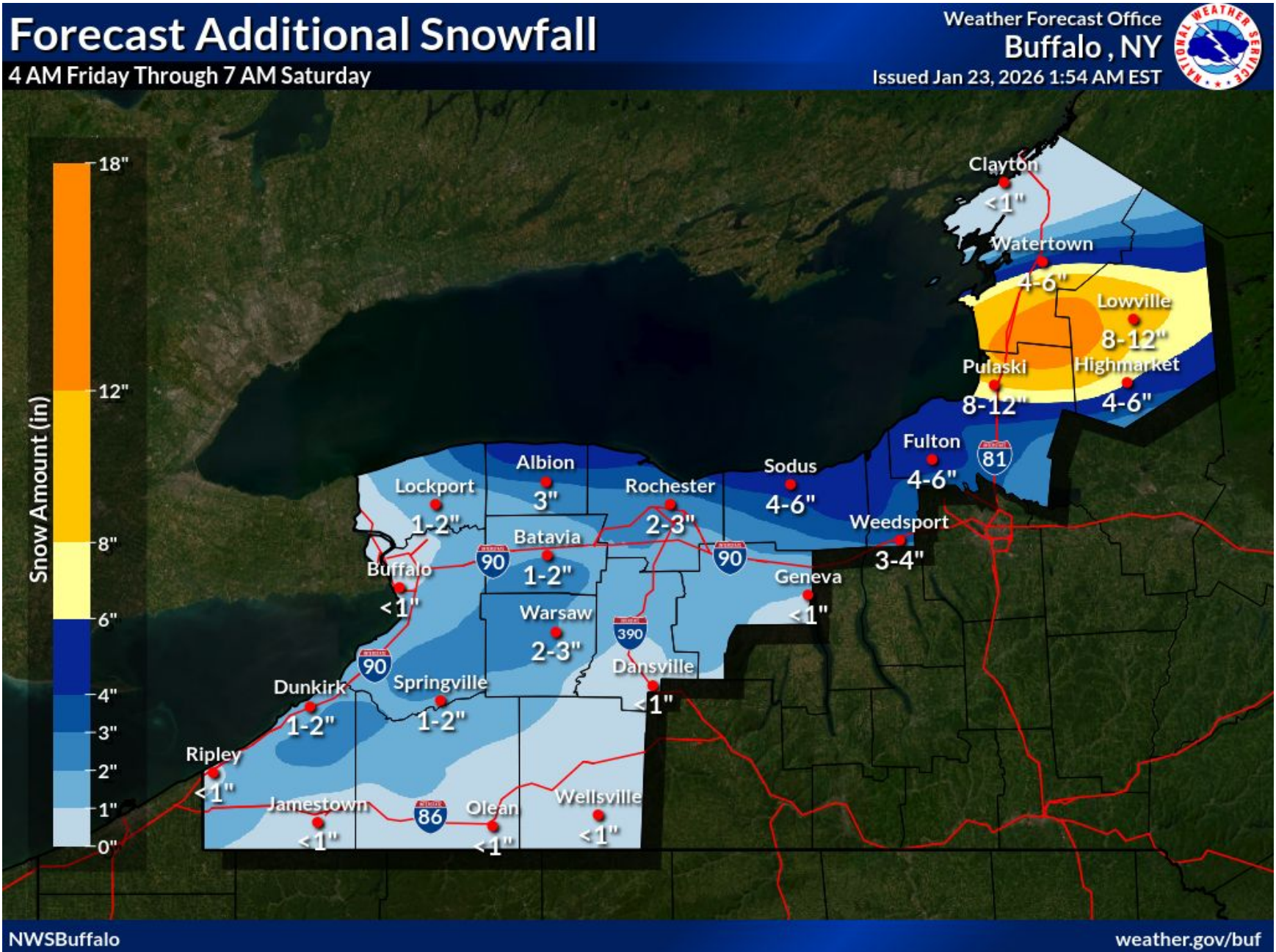
National Weather Service
Buffalo, NY



Forecast Additional Snowfall

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

4 AM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday



- ❑ **Off Lake Erie** - Additional accumulations will focus mainly across the higher terrain south of Buffalo, the Buffalo Southtowns, and southern Genesee County. Most of the additional snowfall will be early this morning
- ❑ **Off Lake Ontario** - The heaviest additional accumulations will focus across central and southern Jefferson County, northern Oswego County, and Lewis County today, with moderate accumulations tonight along the south shore of the lake





Forecast Snowfall - Friday

January 23, 2026

3:30 AM EST

4 AM Friday Through 7 PM Friday

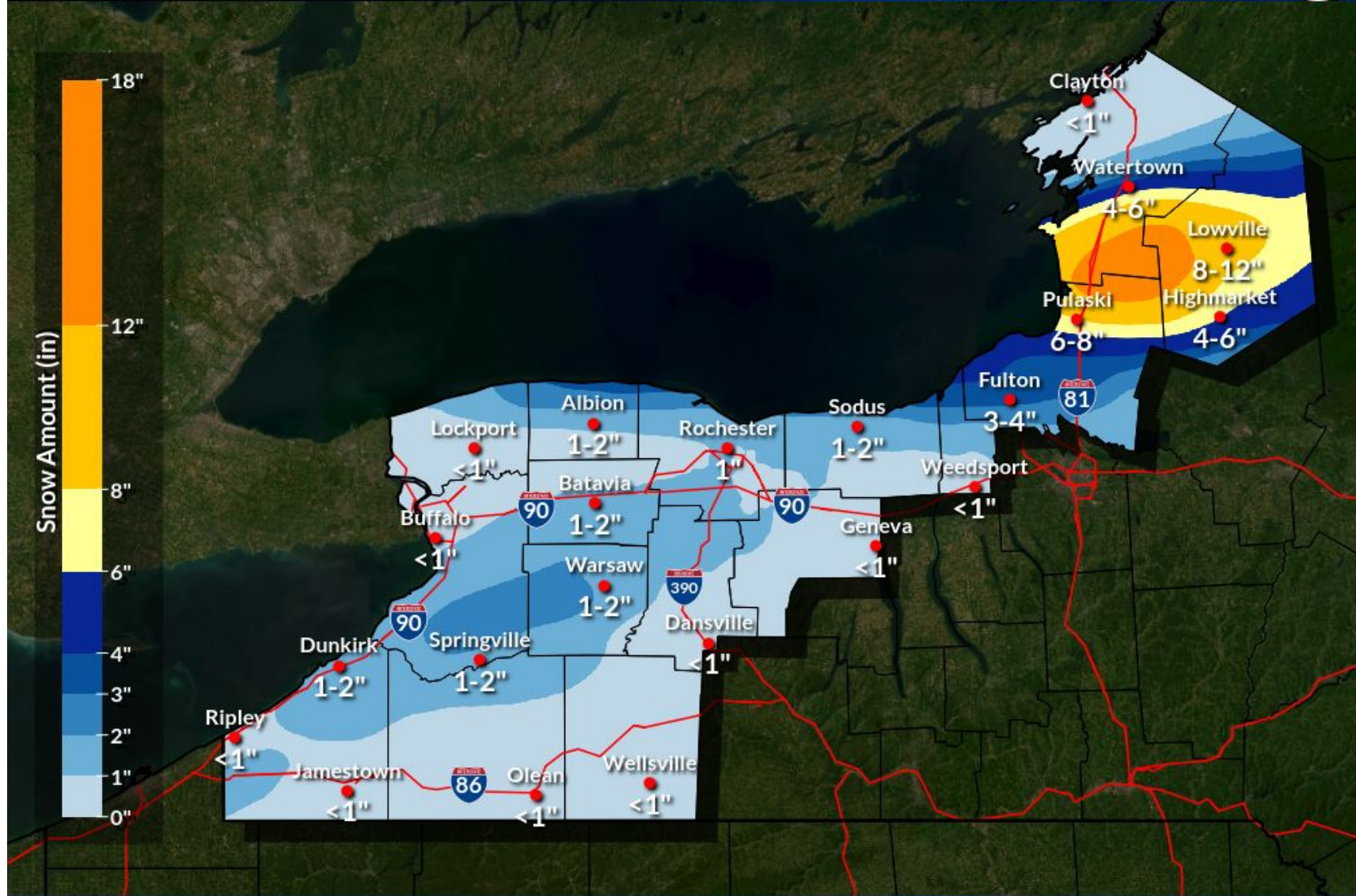
Forecast Snowfall Friday

4 AM Friday Through 7 PM Friday

Weather Forecast Office

Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 1:57 AM EST



NWSBuffalo

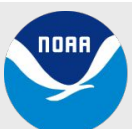
weather.gov/buf

Off Lake Erie:

- ❑ Weakening lake effect snow south and southeast of Buffalo
- ❑ **Snowfall rates:** 1" to 2" per hour at times early this morning, weakening to less than ½" per hour

Off Lake Ontario:

- ❑ Lake effect snow focuses across the Tug Hill Plateau most of the day
- ❑ **Late afternoon:** band moves south across Oswego County, and onshore along much of the south shore
- ❑ **Snowfall rates:** 2" to 4" per hour at times through early afternoon, 1" to 2" per hour at times late afternoon



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Buffalo, NY



Forecast Snowfall - Friday Night

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

7 PM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

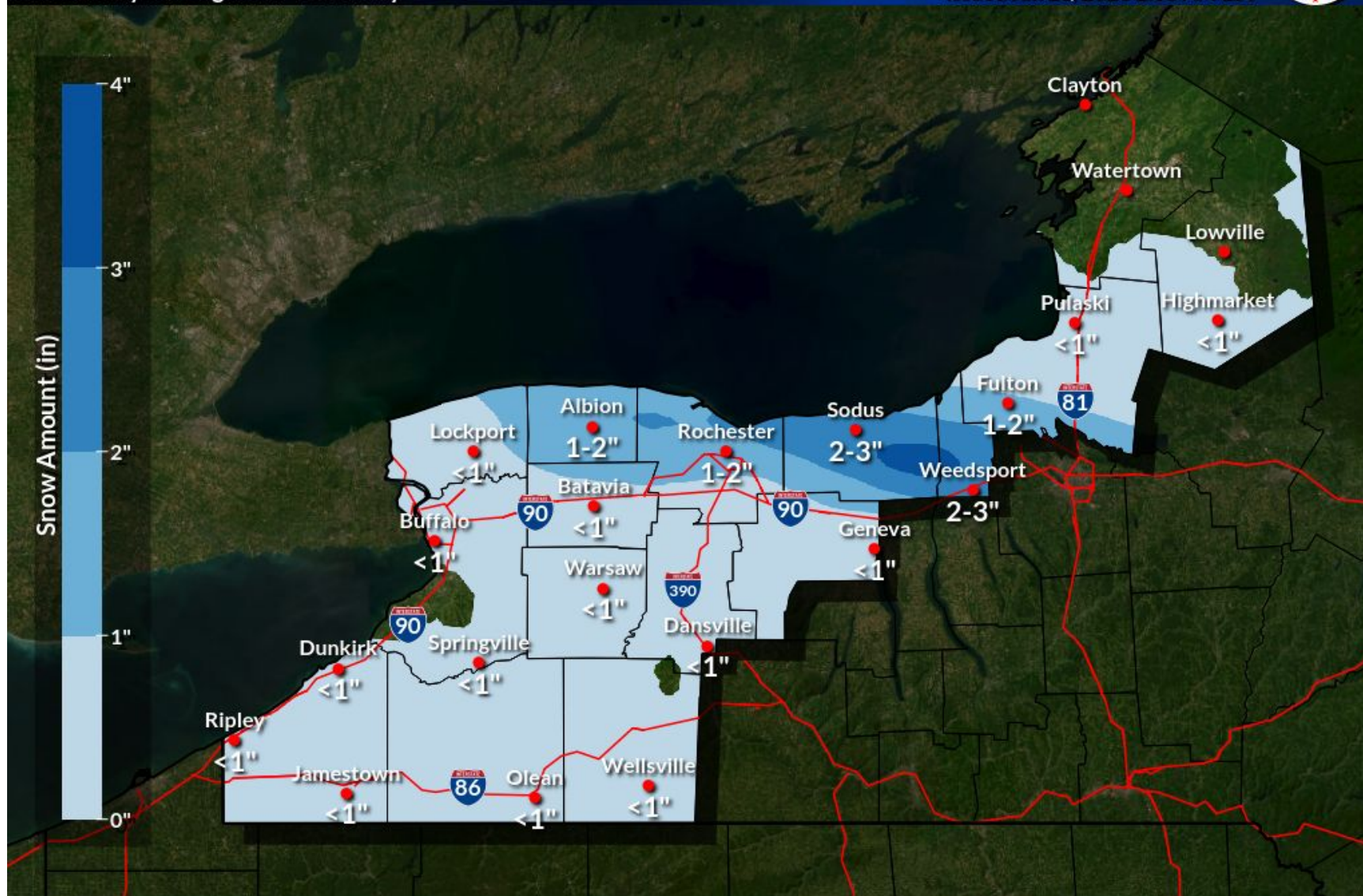
Forecast Snowfall Friday Night

7 PM Friday Through 7 AM Saturday

Weather Forecast Office

Buffalo, NY

Issued Jan 23, 2026 2:00 AM EST



Off Lake Erie:

- ☐ Minimal lake effect snow

Off Lake Ontario:

- ☐ Lake effect snow moves onshore along the south shore early in the evening, with weaker bands overnight southeast of the lake
- ☐ **Snowfall rates:** 1" to 2" per hour at times early evening, then ½" or less per hour overnight



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

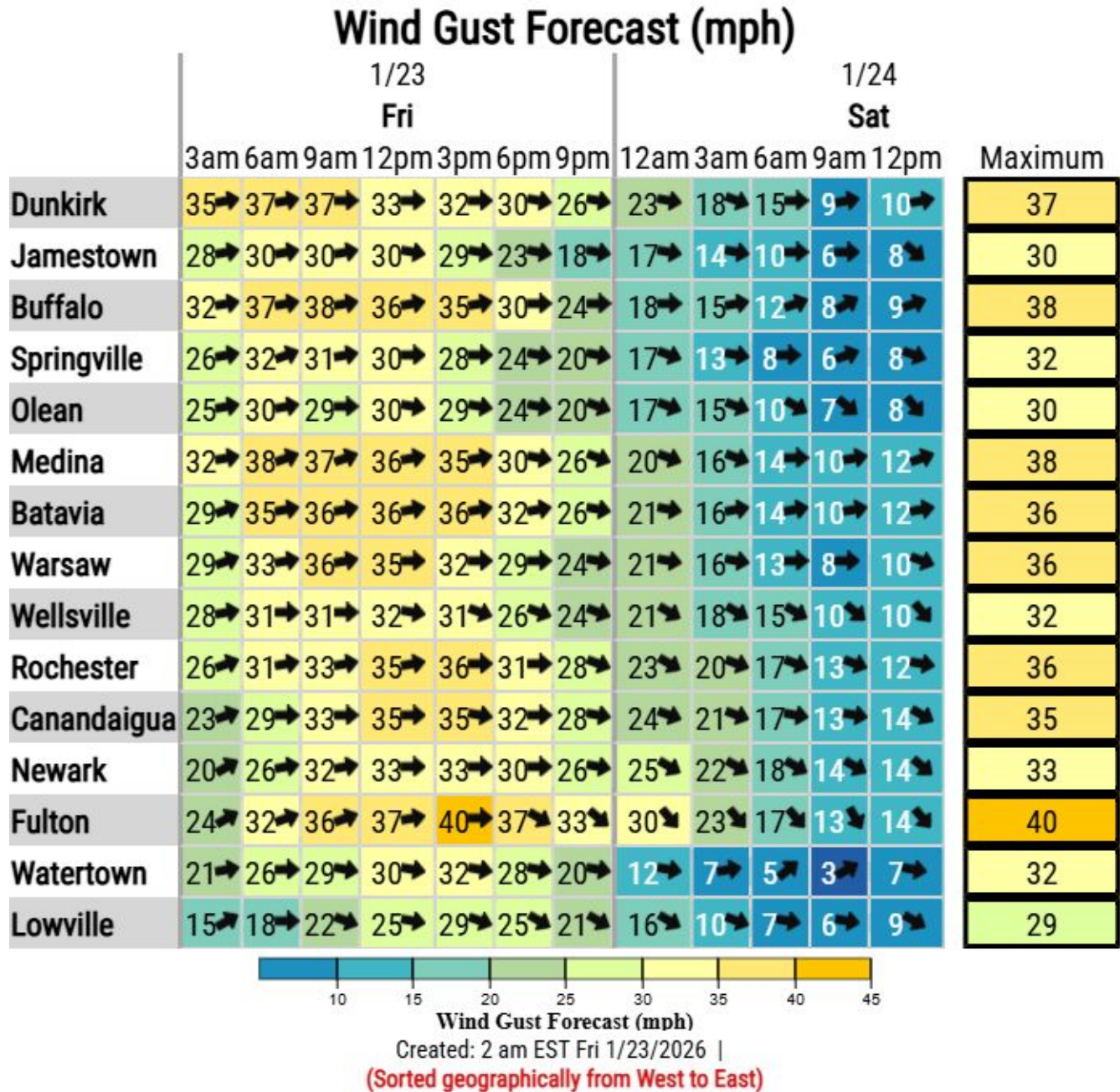
National Weather Service
Buffalo, NY



Forecast Peak Wind Gusts

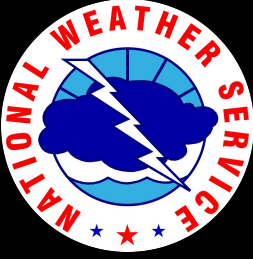
January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

Through Saturday Morning



- Wind gusts in the 30 to 40 mph range will continue through early this evening
- Gusty winds will produce considerable blowing and drifting snow in areas with fresh snow on the ground
- Winds will diminish this evening and especially overnight

Gale Warning for Lake Ontario



WHERE/WHEN

→ All of the U.S. portions of Lake Ontario through 7PM Friday



Wind

→ West winds to 35 knots



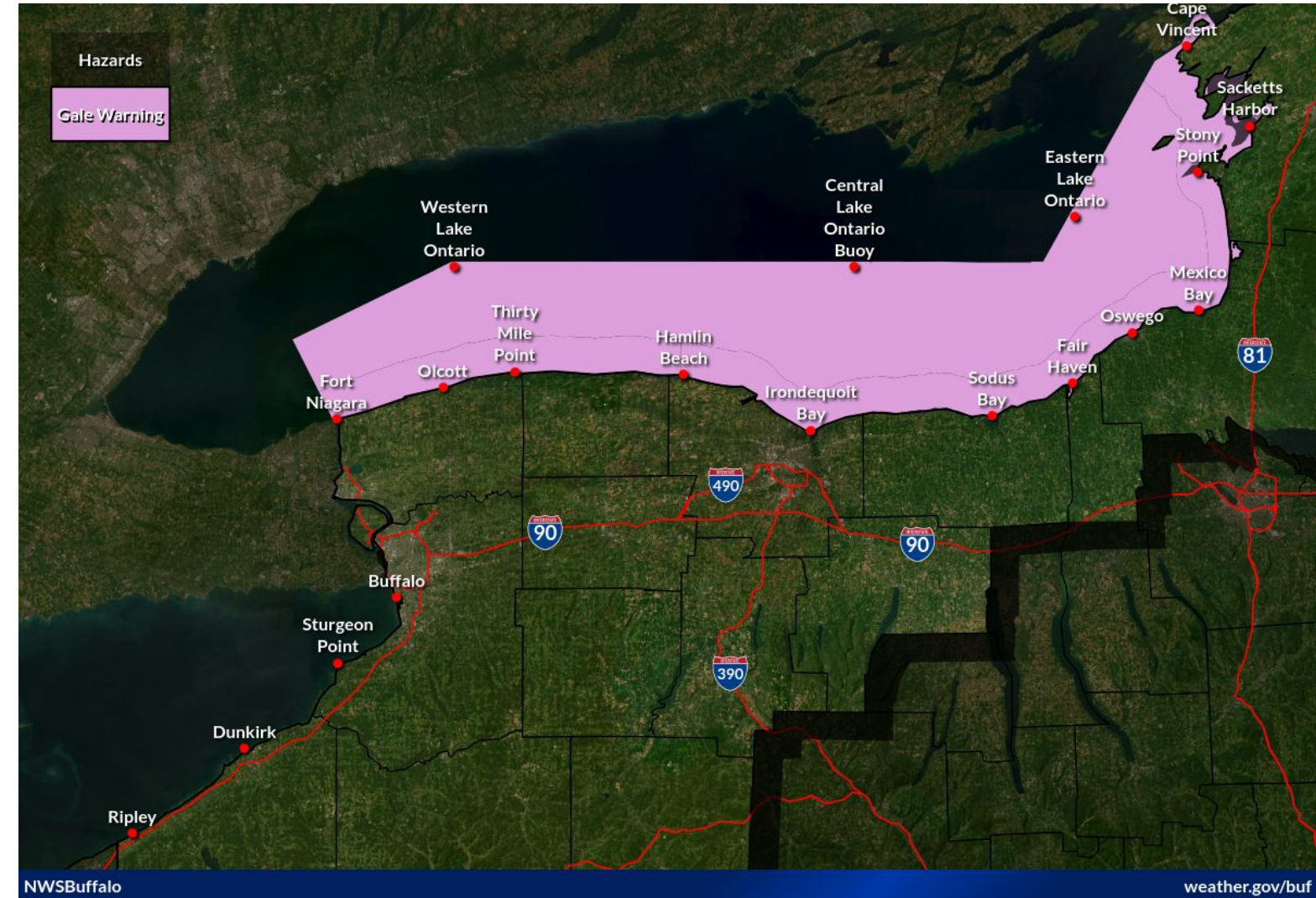
Waves

→ 10 to 16 ft



IMPACTS

→ Strong winds can create hazardous waves which can capsize or damage vessels and reduce visibility



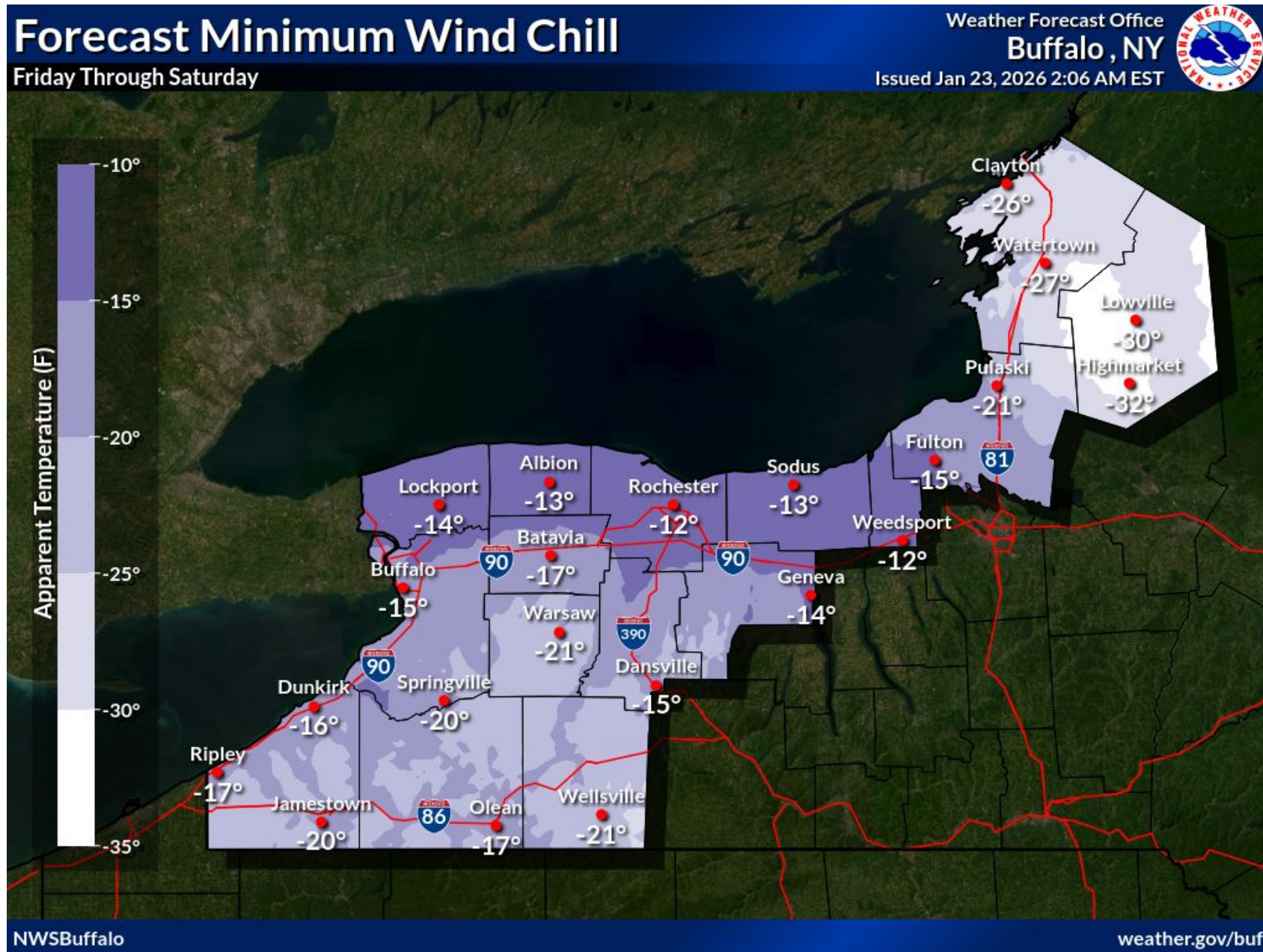
Mariners should consider altering plans to avoid hazardous conditions. Remain in port, seek safe harbor, or alter course.



Forecast Lowest Wind Chills

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

Friday Through Saturday Night



- ❑ **Western NY:**
 - ❑ **Timing:** Coldest wind chills Friday afternoon through Friday night
 - ❑ **Wind Chills:** Coldest wind chills in the 10 below to 15 below range close to the lakes, and 15 below to 25 below across higher terrain
- ❑ **East of Lake Ontario:**
 - ❑ **Timing:** Coldest wind chills Friday night through Saturday morning
 - ❑ **Wind Chills:** 25 below to 30 below range

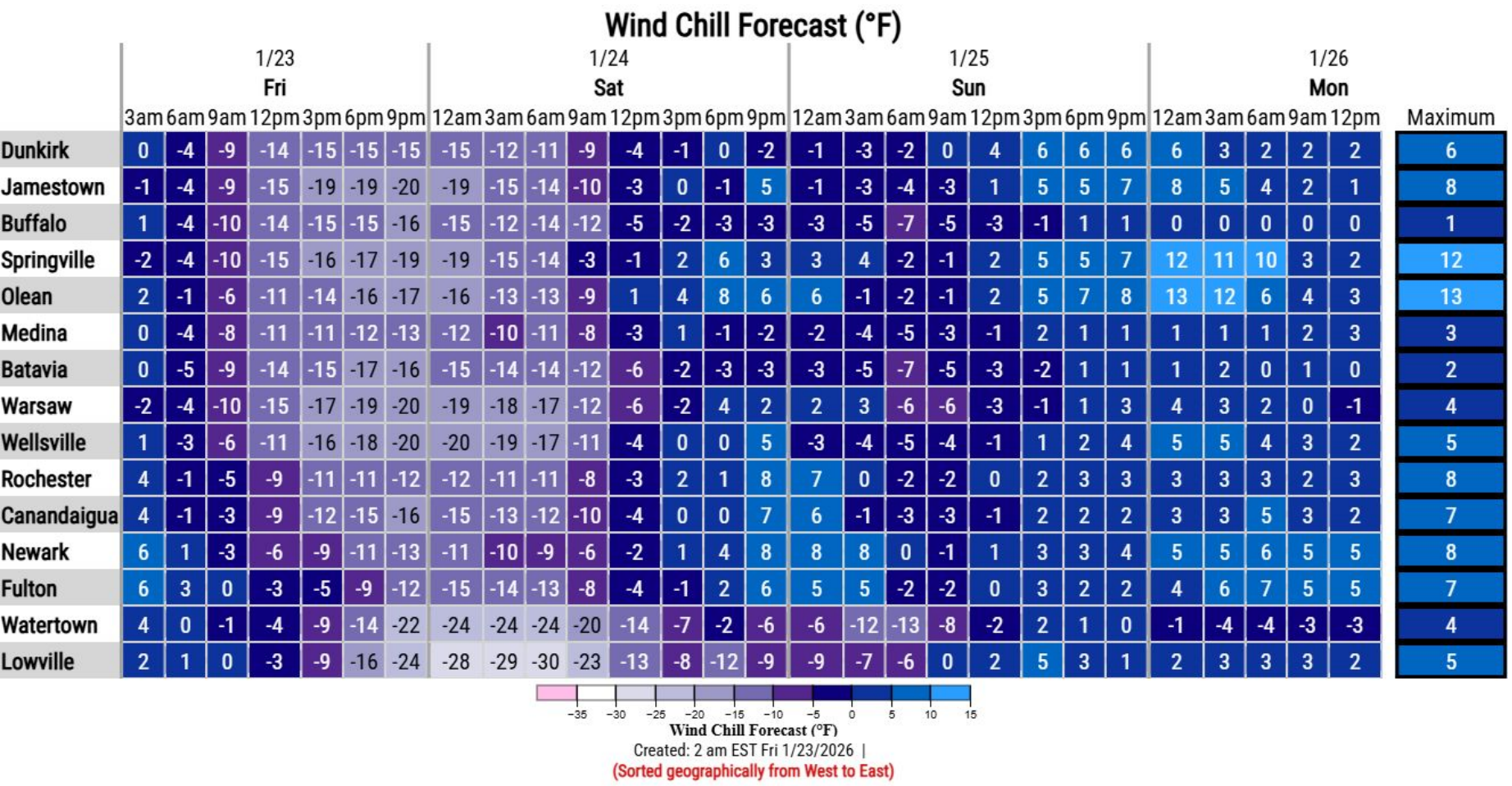




Forecast Wind Chills

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

Friday Through Monday



- ❑ Extreme cold peaks today through Saturday, with very cold temperatures lingering through early next week
- ❑ High temperatures:
 - ❑ Friday: Teens early, falling to single digits
 - ❑ Saturday: Single digits to low teens
 - ❑ Sunday and Monday: Teens
- ❑ Extreme cold combined with gusty winds will create dangerously cold wind chills. The harshest wind chills will be Friday afternoon through Saturday morning



Dressing for Cold Weather

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

adding layers will help keep you warm as the temperature drops

CHILLY

1-2 layers

outer layer to keep out wind, rain

long layer

warm shoes water proof

weather.gov/safety

COLD

2-3 layers

warm hat

outer layer to keep out wind, wet snow

gloves

boots water proof

1-2 layers

EXTREME COLD

3+ layers
1 insulating

warm hat

face mask

outer layer to keep out wind

gloves

boots water proof

2+ layers



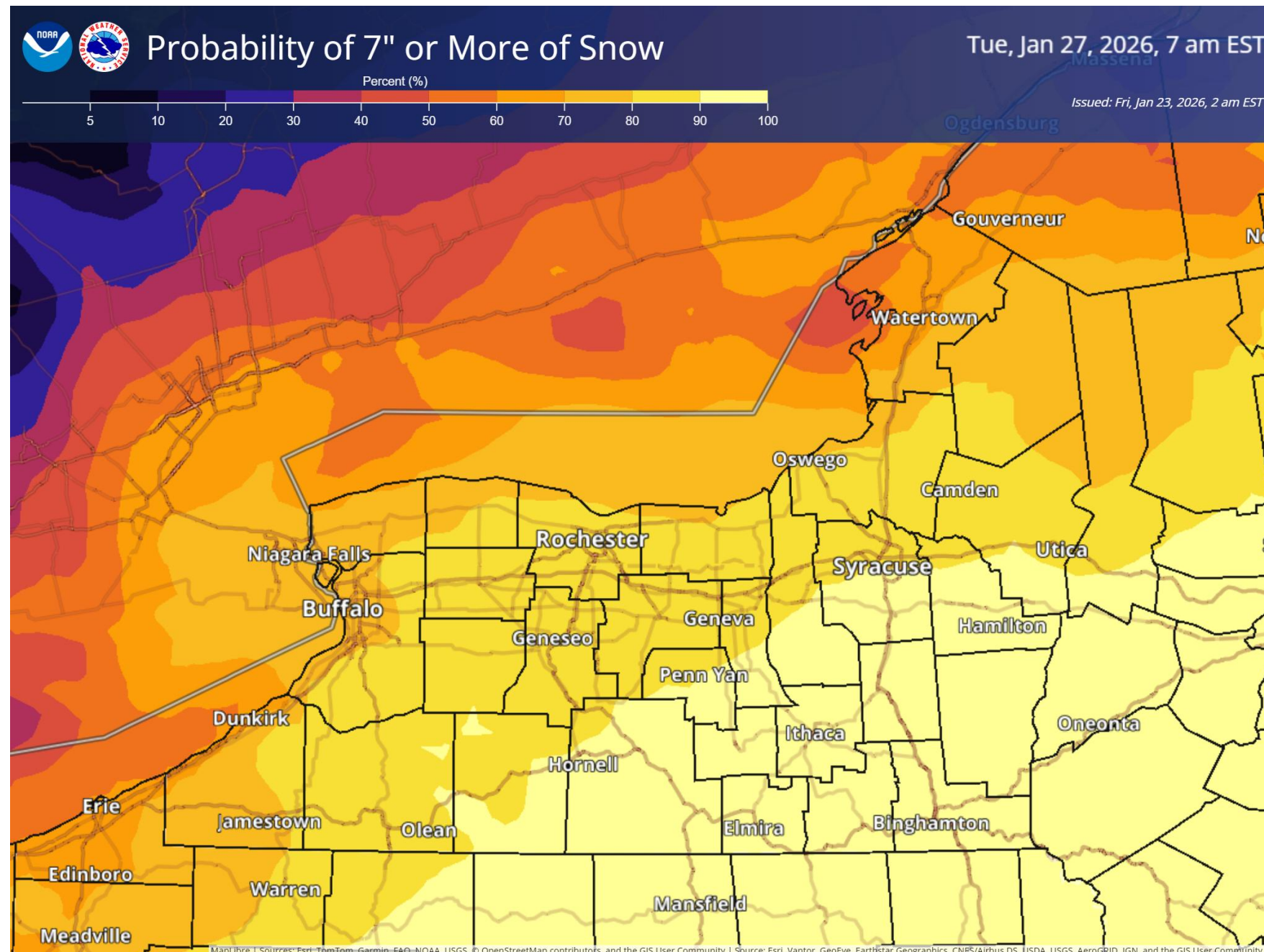


Widespread Heavy Snow Possible

January 23, 2026

3:30 AM EST

Early Sunday Morning Through Monday Evening



- Widespread heavy snow is likely
- **Timing:** Snow will develop from south to north Sunday morning through midday, with the heaviest snow later Sunday afternoon through Monday morning
- **Confidence:** There remains some uncertainty with the track and intensity of this system, which will impact final snowfall amounts
- Lake enhancement may bring locally higher totals along the south shore of Lake Ontario



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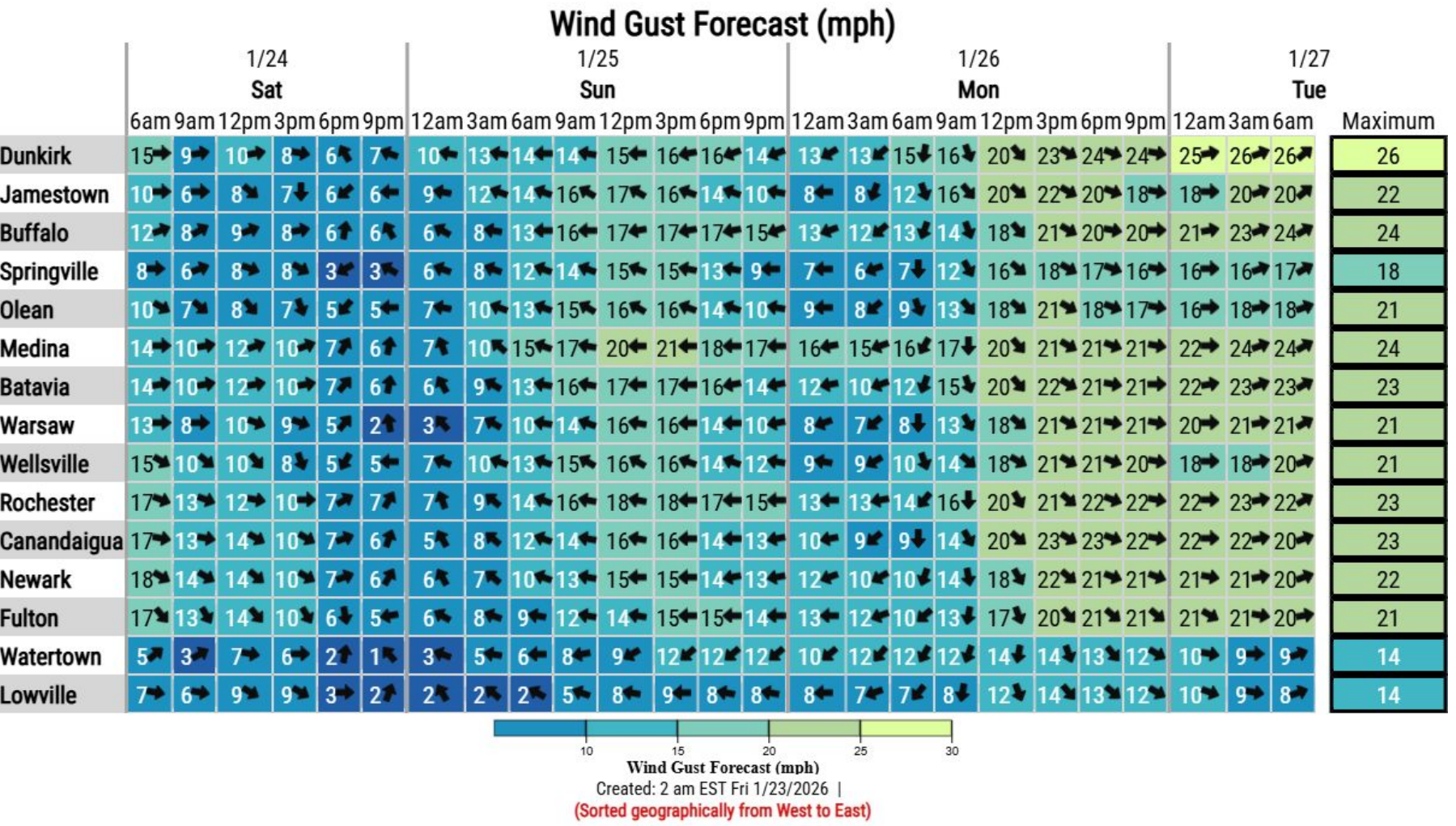
National Weather Service
Buffalo, NY



Forecast Peak Wind Gusts

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM EST

Saturday through Monday Night



- After a brief lull in the winds Saturday and Saturday night, winds will begin to increase Sunday through Monday Night
- Peak wind gusts will range between 20-25 mph
- Winds will not be as strong as recent days, but still enough to produce minor blowing and drifting snow



Contact and Next Briefing Information

January 23, 2026
3:30 AM

For Western and North Central New York

Next Briefing

→ Saturday, January 24, 2026 by 6 AM

Disclaimer

- Information contained in this briefing is time-sensitive
- Do Not Use After: 4 AM Saturday, January 24, 2026

Contact Information

Web

→ weather.gov/buf

Phone

→ (716) 565-0204

Email

→ bufstorm.report@noaa.gov

Facebook

→ facebook.com/NWSBuffalo

Twitter

→ [@NWSBUFFALO](https://twitter.com/NWSBUFFALO)

