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# As bitter cold hits region, forecasters watch weekend storm

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ACCUWEATHER.COM

**A look at the snowstorm potential for this coming weekend.**

**By John R. Ellement, Matt Rocheleau and J.D. Capelouto**

GLOBE STAFF AND GLOBE CORRESPONDENT JANUARY 19, 2016

Meteorologists are keeping a watchful eye on a possible major winter storm that could hit the region this weekend.

Forecasts show a chance of snow moving in Friday night and continuing through Saturday.

Meteorologists expect significant snowfall, but it is still too early to estimate how much or the exact timing, they said Tuesday.

“If the storm develops to its full potential and takes a track just off the mid-Atlantic and New England coasts, then a blizzard can unfold,” AccuWeather.com said Tuesday in a statement. “The storm could shut down highways and perhaps cause airport closures.”

AccuWeather chief meteorologist Elliot Abrams said in the statement that “this could be a long-duration snowfall that could last more than 24 hours in some locations.”

There’s also a potential for minor coastal flooding and beach erosion due to chances for a period of rough seas coupled with high astronomical tides in the days around the storm.



## How much snow will upcoming storm drop on the region?

Forecasters say the potential exists for a major weather event, with one calling for at least six inches of snow.

The National Weather Service said in a forecast that one model shows the possibility for a foot of snow within the Interstate 95 corridor. But meteorologists there are wary of making definite predictions.

“We need to keep all possible outcomes in play with perhaps a slight hedge toward a more southern solution,” the weather service wrote in a forecast discussion.

“There is high confidence that a storm will take place somewhere along the Northeast USA coast, but low confidence in the details for Southern New England,” forecasters wrote. “The snowfall potential for this storm will need to be monitored.”

The storm could hit almost exactly a year after the “Boston Blizzard of 2015” struck the region. More than 100 inches of snow eventually fell over the course of the winter.

Bitterly cold weather with wind chills below zero and in single digits are expected in Greater Boston throughout Tuesday, the weather service said.

A wind advisory is in effect for Greater Boston until 7 pm.

Don’t expect a warming trend, at least not this week, the weather service said. Temperatures will reach, at best, into the low 30s, later this week, forecasters said.

“Cold weather prevails for the remainder of the work week,” forecasters wrote on their Facebook page.

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