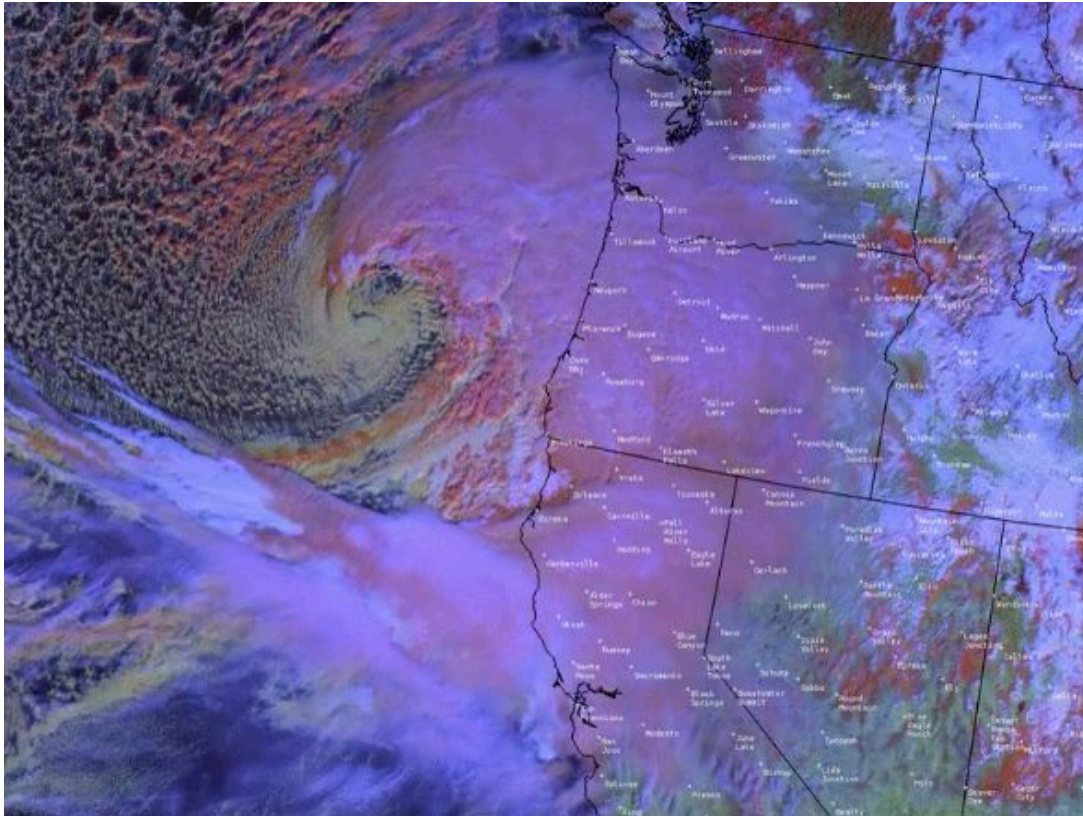


'Bomb cyclone' weather system causing high winds

November 26, 2019



A “bomb cyclone” weather system off the coast of Oregon is causing high winds, downed power lines and isolated power outages.

Marc Spilde, National Weather Service meteorologist from Medford, said the weather system currently about 100 miles due west of Cape Blanco is double the definition of a bomb cyclone where the center of a low pressure system drops 24 millibars in 24 hours or less. He said this system has dropped from 1,020 millibars last night to its current level of 972.

Spilde said he expects the system to spin to about 60 miles off the coast of Brookings by 4 p.m. and the frontal band of system to near Crescent City between 6 and 7 p.m.

“The winds will shift at the point to come in from the north, causing them to be colder, but not the magnitude they are now,” Spilde said.

He added by the time the winds shift direction between 7 and 8 p.m., they will remain sustained between 25-35 miles per hour with gusts up to 45 miles per hour.

Spilde said the current system is causing significant wind speeds along a gradient, southerly track along the Oregon coast, with gusts of more than 70 in Goldbeach.

In addition to the strong winds, Spilde said the system is dropping the snow level to between 500 and 1,000 feet in higher terrain overnight and into Wednesday morning.

“So heading Northeast on Highway 199 up north toward O’Brien, Ore., the higher elevation spot at state line, is expecting several inches of snow, at least. It will be a tough place to get through,” Spilde said.