

**Ice and Freezing Rain Event**  
**January 12<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
Update #2

January 10<sup>th</sup> 2020  
10:15 am

**Briefing produced as guidance for emergency management officials.**

# Hazard Risk Assessment Page

## Brief Summary

A complex low pressure system will bring messy weather to the province on Sunday with an extended period of ice pellets and/or freezing rain expected over a very large area. Snow accumulation in the north and rainfall in the south is also expected on Sunday.

## Duration

Worst conditions to last 12 to 18 hours.

## Confidence Level

High	
Moderate	<b>X</b>
Low	

## Onset Timing

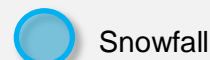
**Southern Zone:** Sunday morning

**Western Zone:** Early Sunday morning

**Central zone:** Early Sunday morning

**Eastern Zone:** Early Sunday morning

## Areas to Monitor



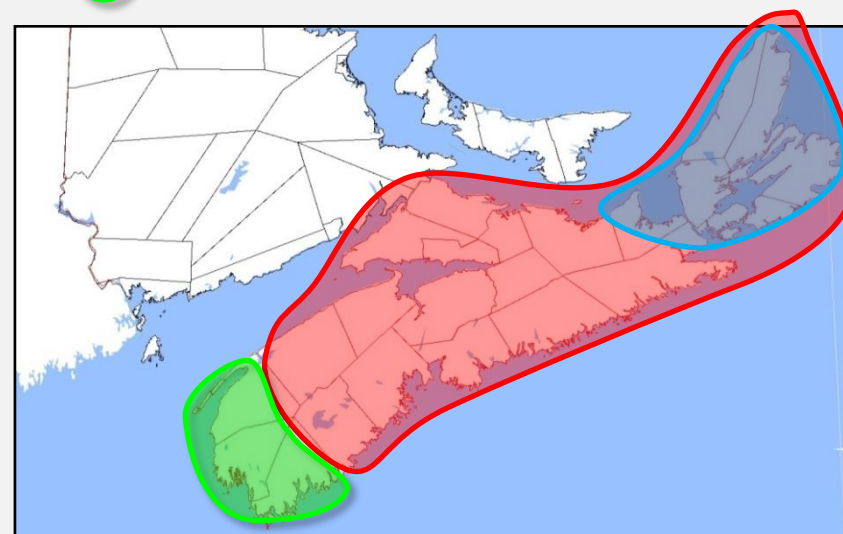
Snowfall



Rainfall



Ice Pellets and Freezing Rain



## Impacts

Similar storms in the past have caused:

- Hazardous driving conditions
- Major travel disruptions
- Ice accumulation on trees, power lines, etc.
- Power outages
- Slippery road and sidewalk conditions from ice build up

**This page is an experimental summary page.** Confidence level is subjective and refers to the overall confidence in the weather scenario based on its complexity and model performance. Low and moderate-confidence storms should be given a wider margin of error. The map highlights regions of higher probability of occurrence of certain hazards but these hazards could extend beyond the highlighted areas depicted on the map. Impacts are based on documented occurrences that have resulted from storms with similar extent and severity of hazards.

# Synopsis

We are still expecting a complex weather set up for the latter part of the weekend. A low center near the Great Lakes Saturday night will extend a warm front to the east and through New England and reach the Maritimes. As is the case with most warm fronts, cold air north of it and warm air south of it, will create conditions favorable for several precipitation types over the Maritimes on Sunday, and confidence is growing that a significant freezing precipitation event will occur over many parts of Nova Scotia on Sunday. Saturday will see showers or periods of rain late in the day with southwesterly winds bringing in mild temperatures during the day. Overnight a trough will push down from the north and bring with it cooler air. This will turn the showers over to freezing rain, ice pellets and now overnight beginning in the north, and will spread southward across most of NS by Sunday morning. As the warm front approaches on Sunday it will maintain this set up of precipitation across NS, with snow in the north, then ice pellets, then freezing rain, then rain furthest south.

During the day Sunday the following weather can be expected:

**Snow** – accumulation of 5 to 10 cm over northern areas, with 15 cm or more for northern Cape Breton

**Ice Pellets and Freezing Rain** – an extended period (12 to 18 hours possible) for most of mainland NS

**Rainfall** – amounts 40 to 50 mm possible in the southwest / Tri-County area

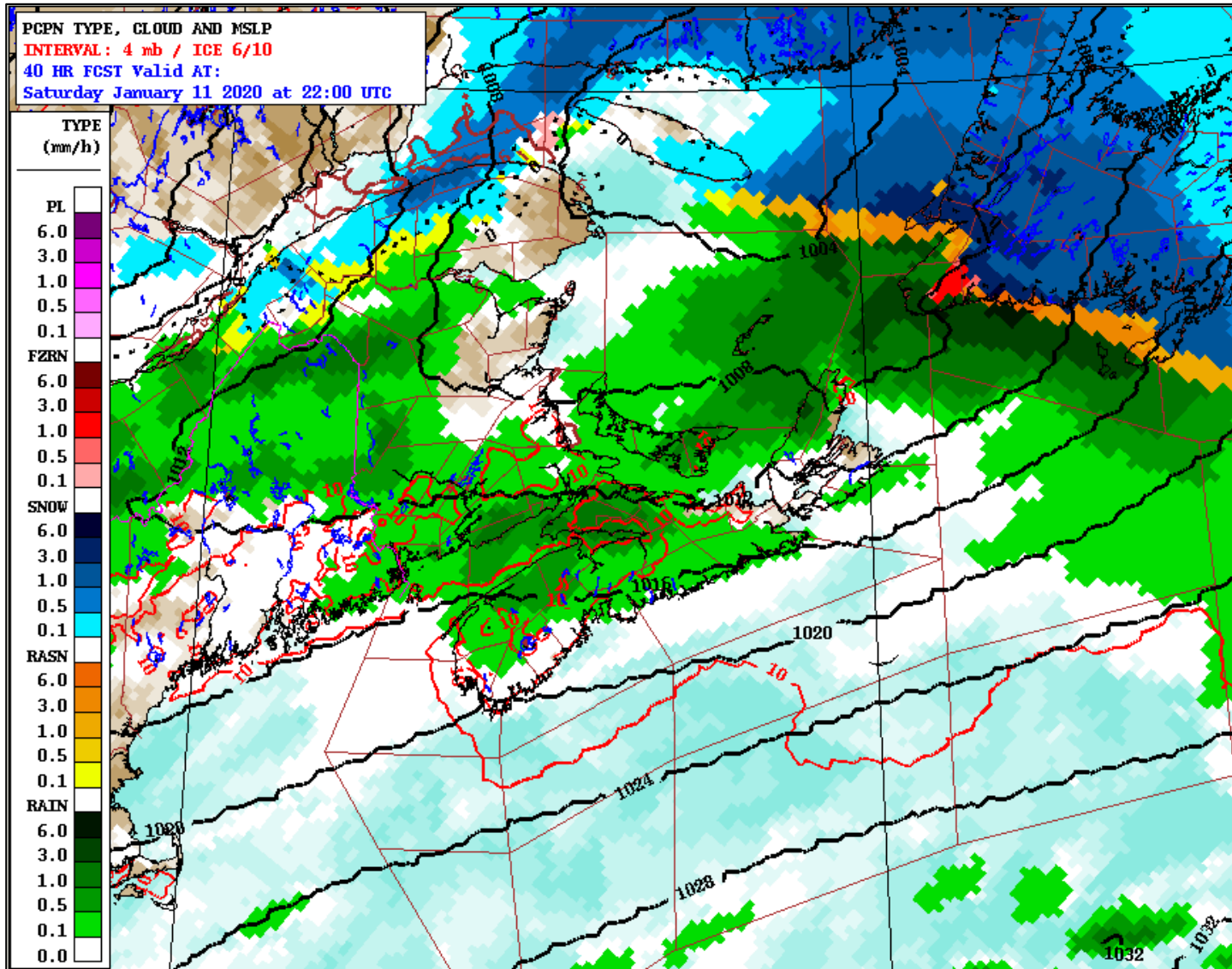
The precipitation will continue until Sunday evening when the warm front and its associated low, both move east and away from the Maritimes. Lingering flurries and temperatures below zero are expected Sunday night, and on Monday day time highs will reach -1 to -4 C across the province.

Special Weather Statements are in effect. Further warnings may be required later.

The latest alerts can be found at: [http://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index\\_e.html?prov=ns](http://weather.gc.ca/warnings/index_e.html?prov=ns)

This briefing package will be updated Saturday.

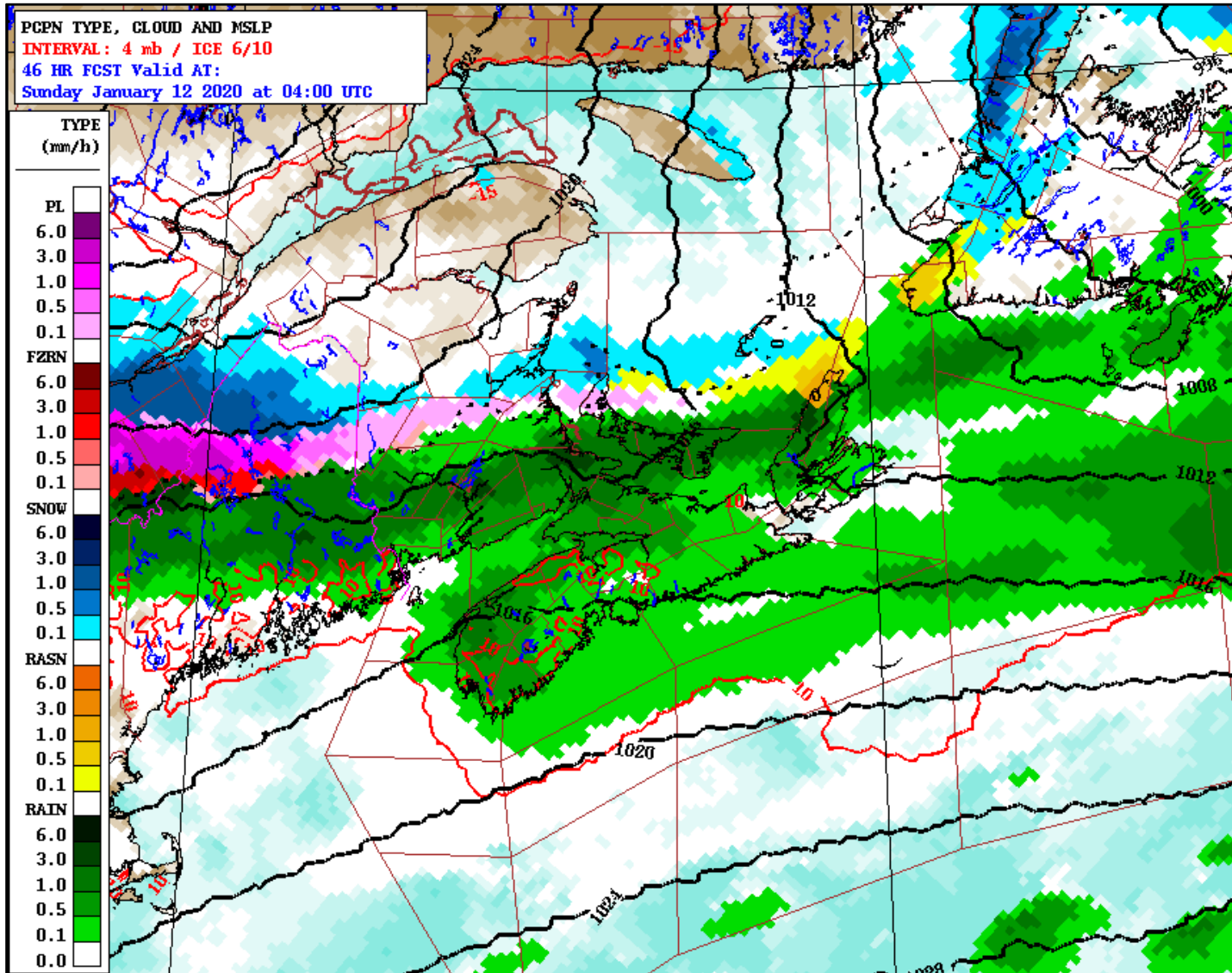
# Model depiction for 6pm Saturday evening



Showers from a trough that will affect NS during the day continue. Winds from the southwest with mild temperatures.

Precipitation Type By Colour:      Blue – Snow                      Red – Freezing Rain  
   Purple – Ice Pellets              Green - Rain

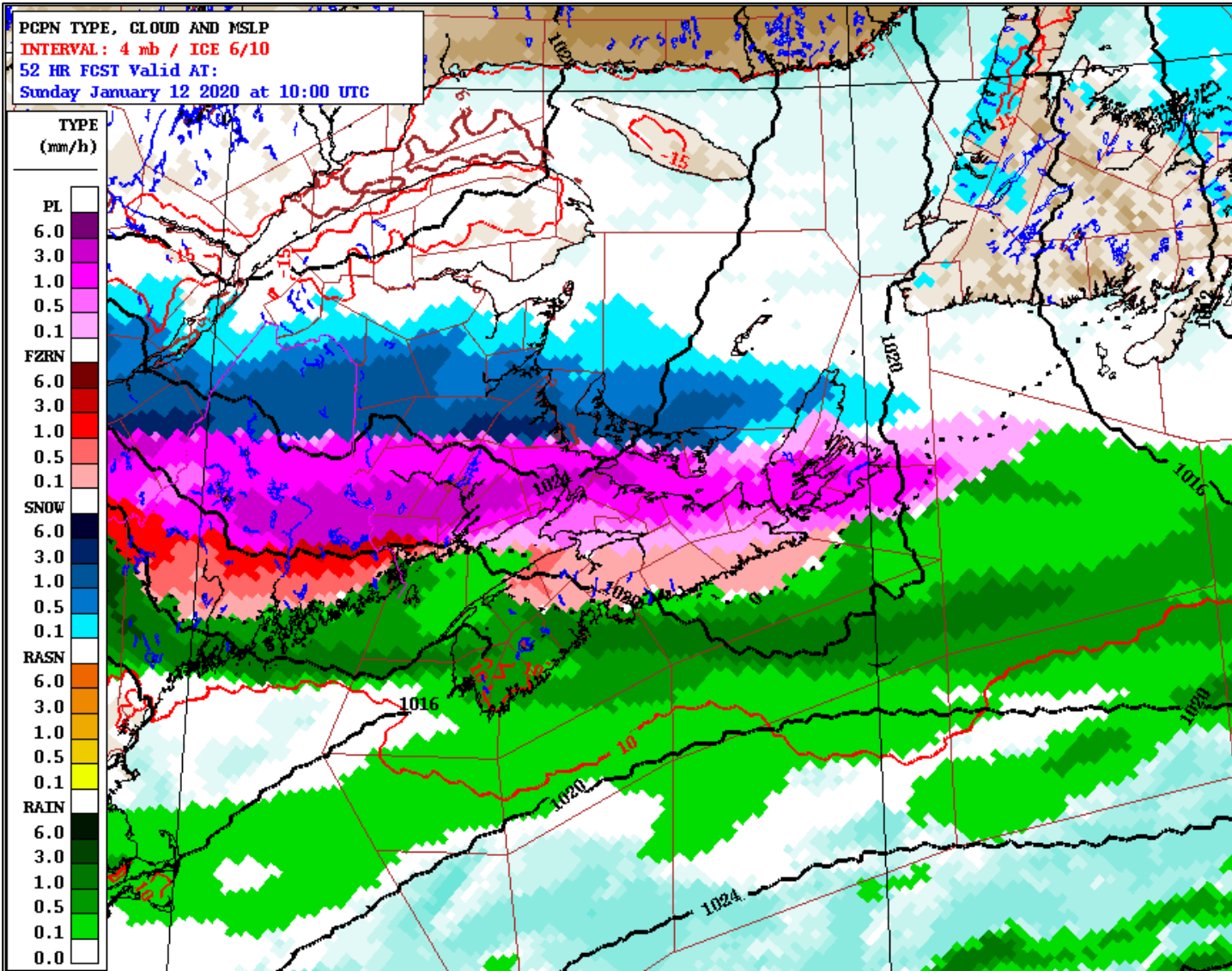
# Model depiction for 12am midnight Sunday



Showers continue without a break from the departing trough and approaching warm front. Colder air over the Gulf about to reach NS behind the trough in northwest winds. Leading edge of freezing precipitation has reached NB.

Precipitation Type By Colour:      Blue – Snow                      Red – Freezing Rain  
   Purple – Ice Pellets              Green - Rain

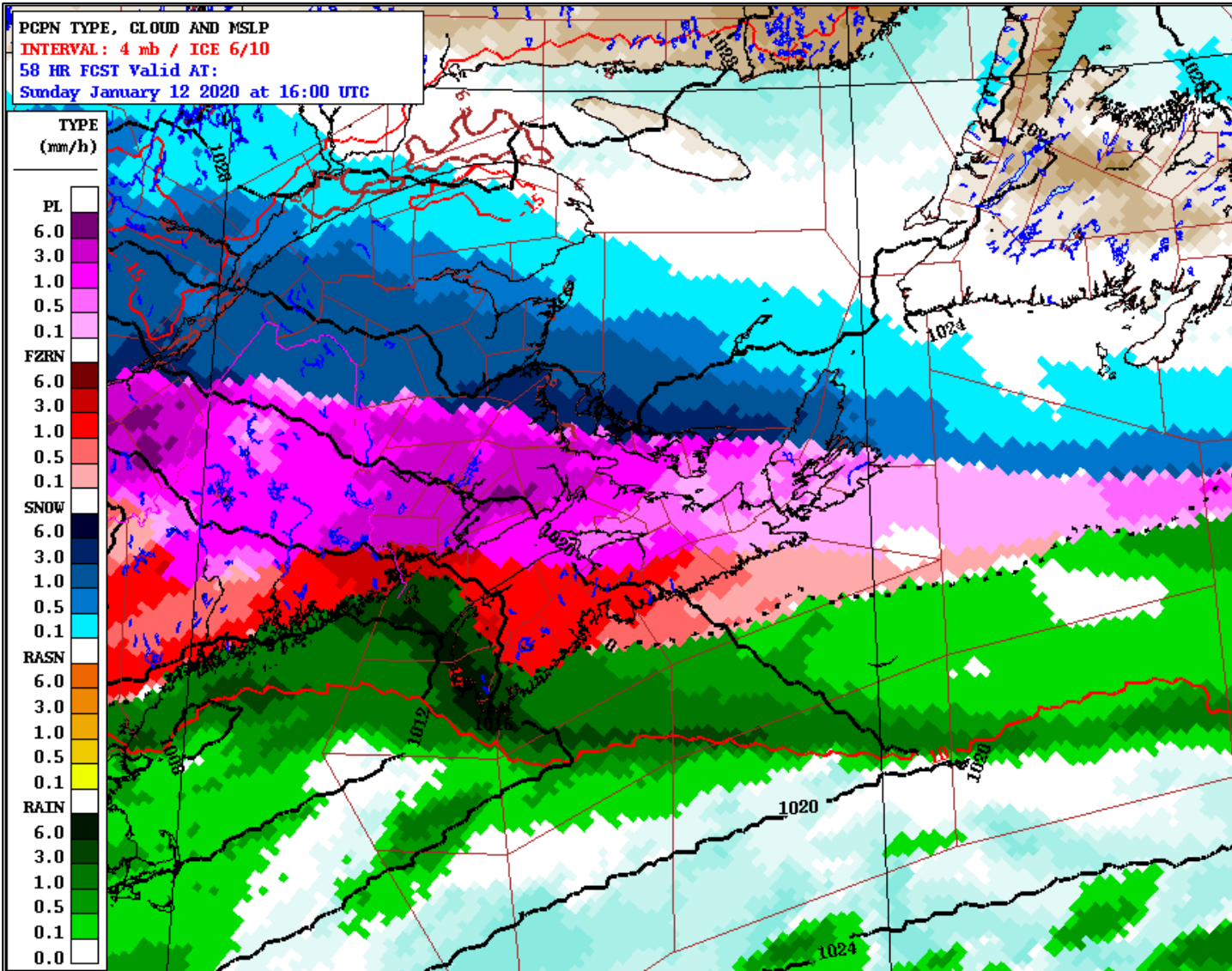
# Model depiction for 6am Sunday morning



Freezing precipitation has moved over Cape Breton and most of mainland NS, with ice pellets in the north and freezing rain further south. Rain continues in the southwest.

Precipitation Type By Colour:      Blue – Snow                      Red – Freezing Rain  
   Purple – Ice Pellets              Green - Rain

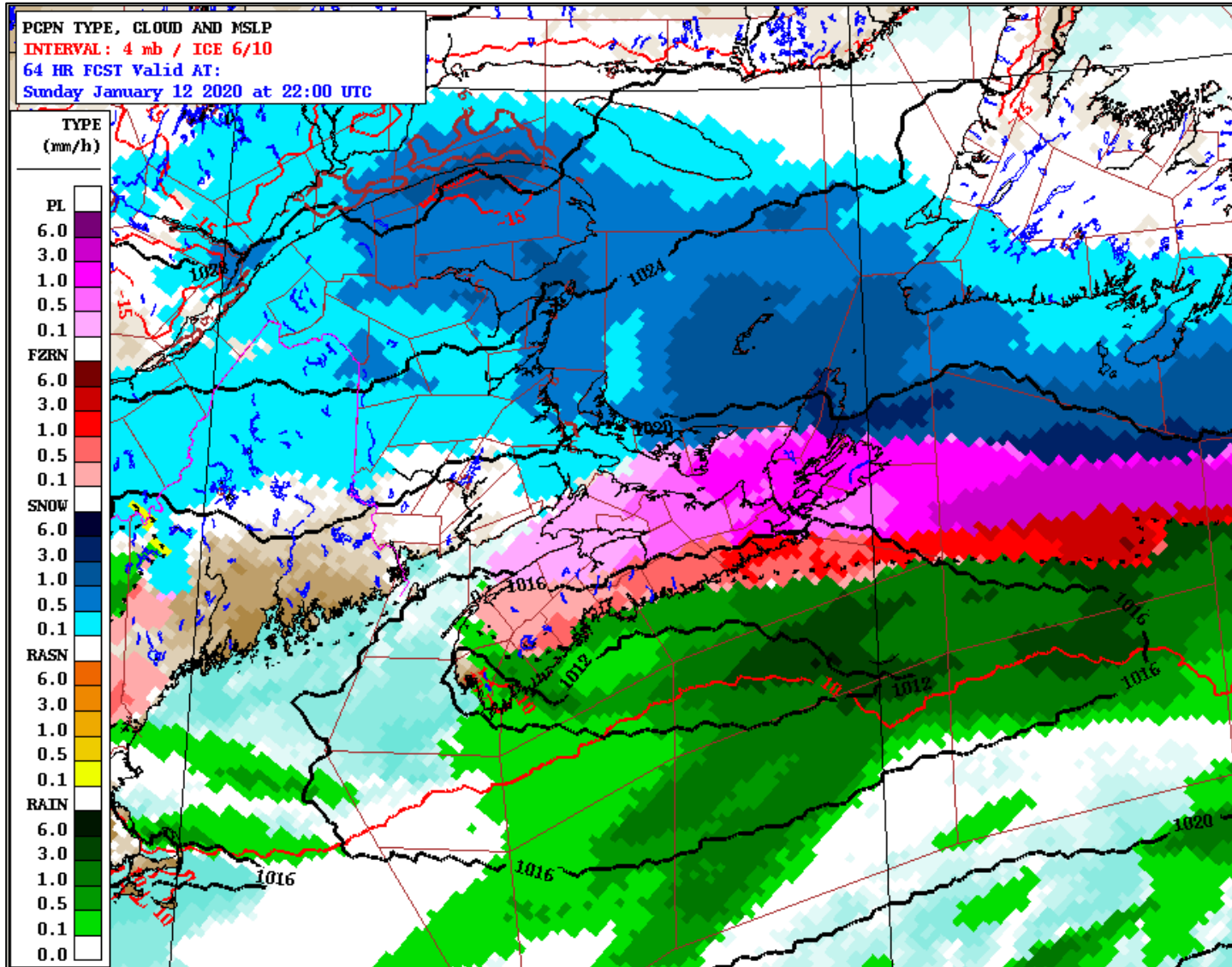
# Model depiction for 12pm noon Sunday



Colder air in the north giving snow. Warmer air in the south giving rain. Freezing precip continues in between, and covers a large portion of NS.

Precipitation Type By Colour:      Blue – Snow                      Red – Freezing Rain  
   Purple – Ice Pellets              Green - Rain

# Model depiction for 6pm Sunday evening



The low center and warm front have moved just south of NS. Precipitation continues across NS (snow north, freezing precip central, rain south).

Precipitation Type By Colour:

Blue – Snow

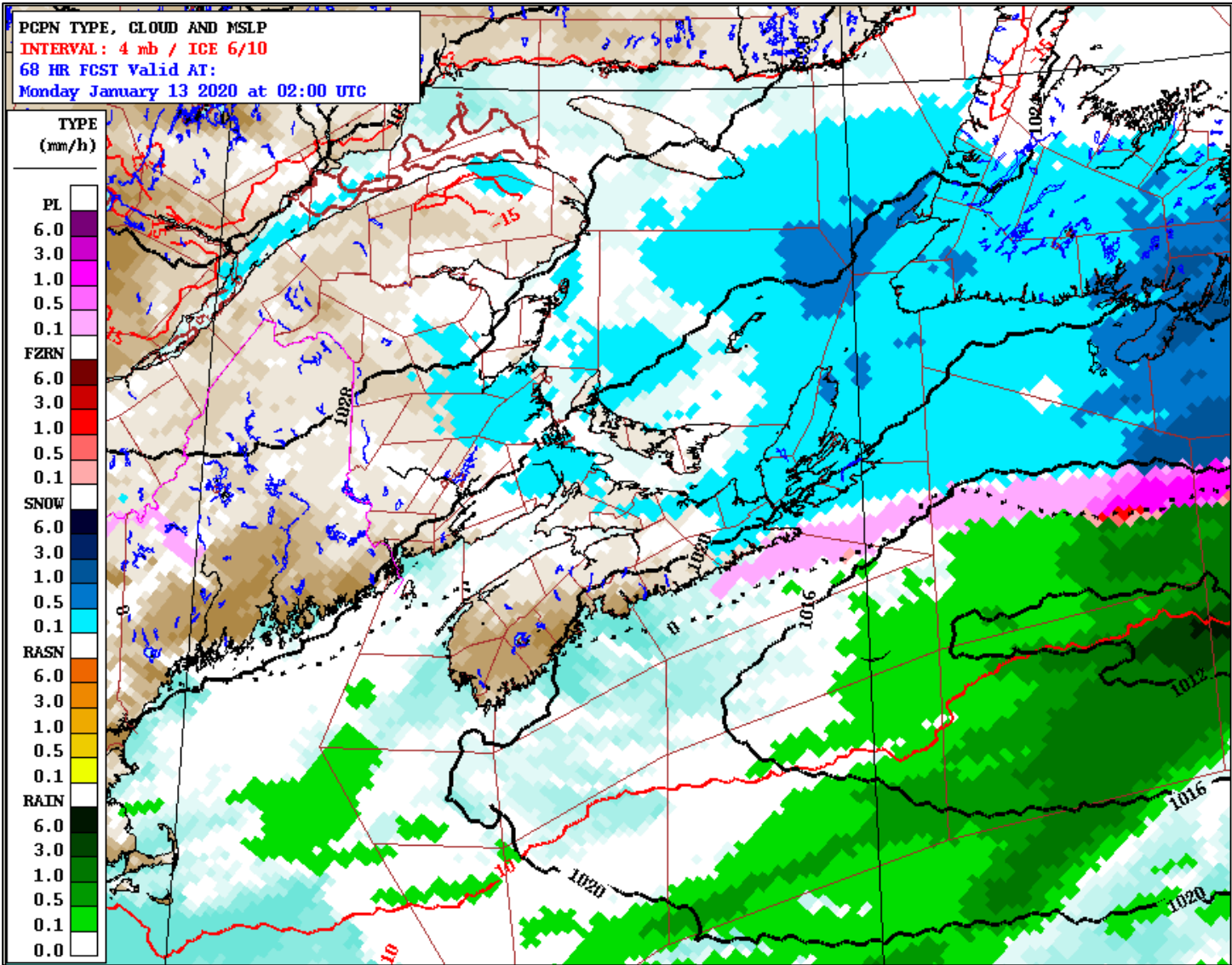
Purple – Ice Pellets

Red – Freezing Rain

Green - Rain



# Model depiction for 12am midnight Monday



Low center and warm front have moved east and pulling away, taking with it the warmer air. Some flurries lingering in the north but will end overnight.

Precipitation Type By Colour:

Blue – Snow

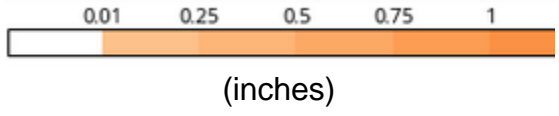
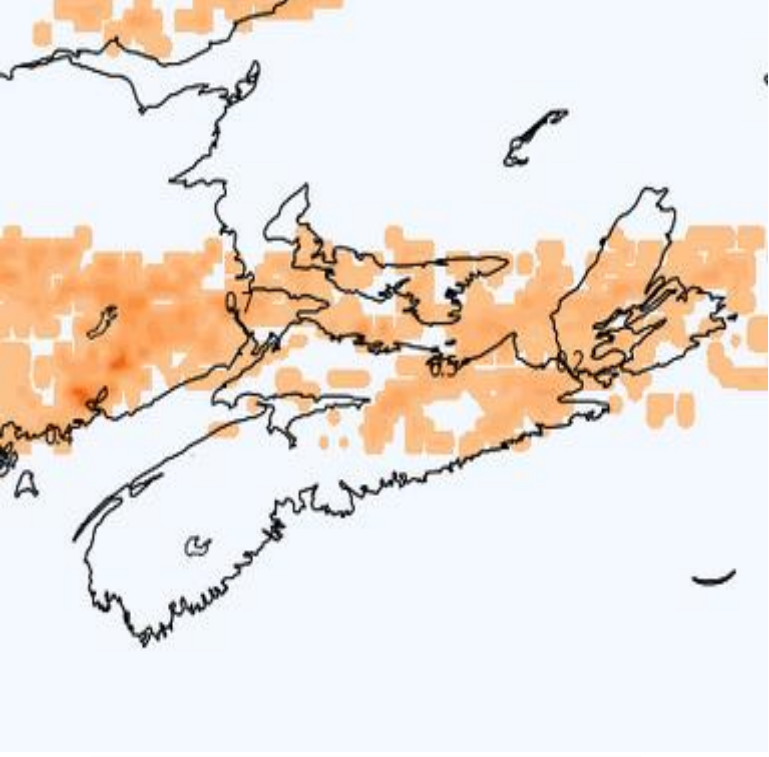
Purple – Ice Pellets

Red – Freezing Rain

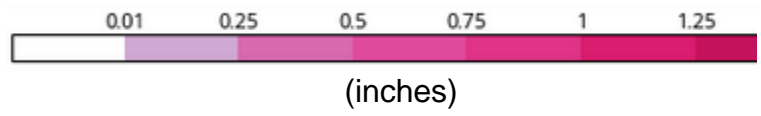
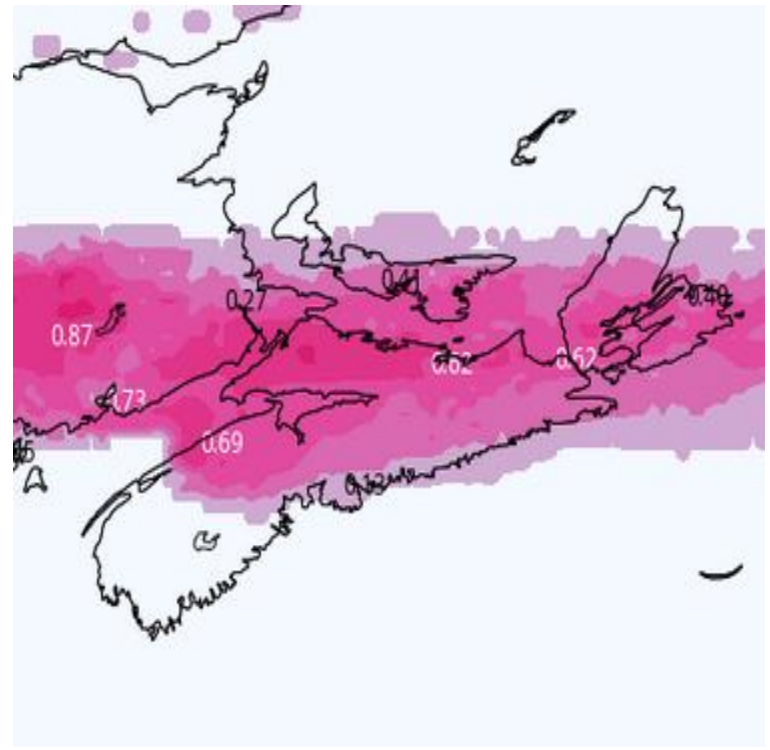
Green - Rain

# Model Predicted Freezing Precipitation by 8pm Sunday

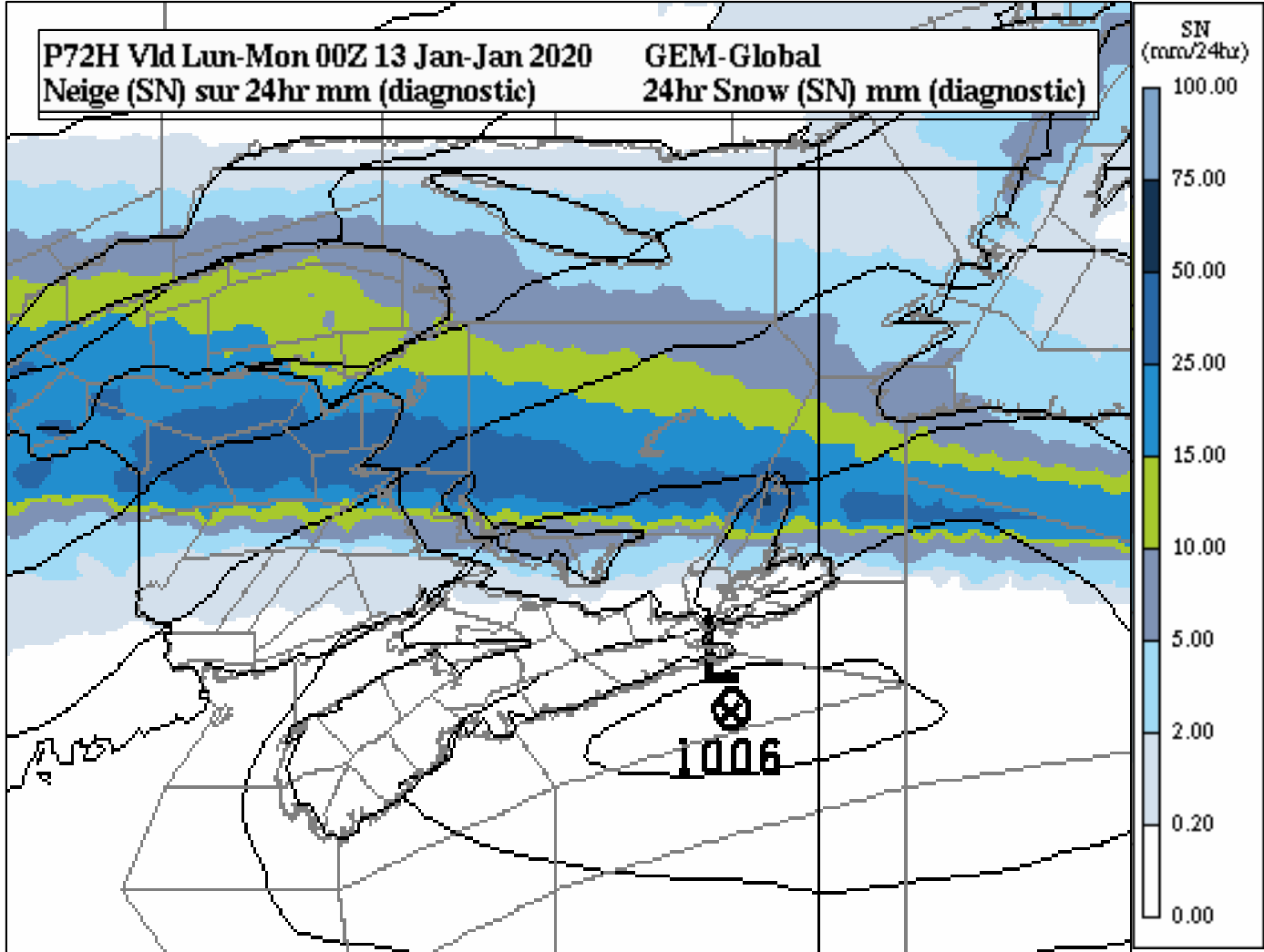
### Ice Pellets



### Freezing Rain



# Model Predicted Snowfall (cm) 8pm Sunday



# Model Predicted Rainfall (mm) 8pm Sunday

