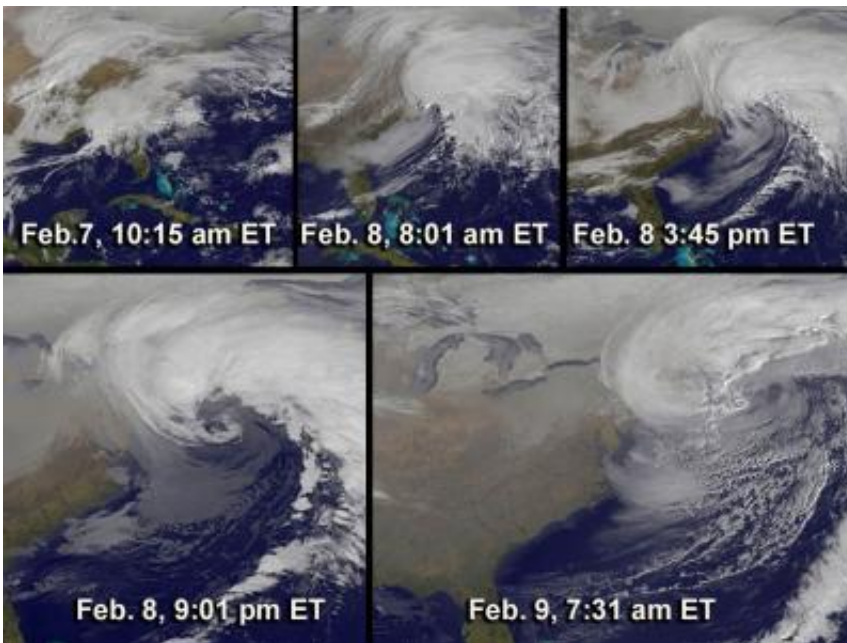


NASA provides satellite views of nor'easter lifespan

February 12 2013



This collage of GOES-13 satellite images shows the development of the nor'easter over several days. Top, left to right: Feb.7 at 1515 UTC (10:15 a.m. ET) shows two separate lows; Feb. 8 at 1301 (8:01 a.m. ET) shows consolidating storms; Feb. 8 at 2045 UTC (3:45 p.m. ET). Bottom, left to right: Feb. 9 at 0201 UTC (Feb. 8 at 9:01 p.m. ET); Feb. 9 at 1231 UTC (7:31 a.m. ET) shows the systems had merged. Credit: Credit: NASA GOES Project

NASA and NOAA satellites have provided animations and images of the coupling of two low pressure areas that created the now historic winter-time nor'easter that brought more than two feet of snow to portions of

the New England states on Feb. 8 and 9, 2013. NASA released an animation of NOAA satellite imagery that shows the lifetime of the historic nor'easter.

The nor'easter dropped between 2 and 3 feet of snowfall over the U.S. Northeast and left more than 650,000 without power in eight states, according to the Associated Press. Several governors established travel bans on Saturday, Feb. 9, to promote clean-up efforts.

NOAA's GOES-13 [satellite](#) sits in a fixed orbit over the eastern United States and continually provides visible and [infrared imagery](#) of the movement of [weather systems](#). NOAA manages the GOES satellite. The NOAA image data was compiled into an animation by NASA's GOES Project at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.



At 10:50 a.m. EST on Feb. 10, 2013, the day after the New England snowstorm, the MODIS instrument aboard NASA's Aqua satellite captured this visible image of the snow cover over the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Credit: Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

The animation runs from Feb. 6 through 9, 2013, and shows two low pressure areas move from the upper Midwest and the Gulf of Mexico and come together over the Atlantic Ocean near the Mid-Atlantic States.

The two low pressure areas formed the nor'easter that brought heavy snowfall to the U.S. Northeast. New England was the victim of a winter [cold front](#) and a Gulf-enhanced warm front merging into a classic nor'easter off the coast of New Jersey. The merged storm was held along the coast by a blocking high pressure area in eastern Canada.

A collage of GOES-13 [satellite images](#) was created at NASA Goddard and shows the development of the nor'easter over several days. GOES-13 images were captured on Feb. 7 at 1515 UTC (10:15 a.m. ET) and clearly showed two separate low pressure areas. Images on Feb. 8 at 1301 (8:01 a.m. ET) and 2045 UTC (3:45 p.m. ET) show the storms consolidating. Images captured by NOAA's GOES-13 satellite on Feb. 9 at 0201 UTC (Feb. 8 at 9:01 p.m. ET) and Feb. 9 at 1231 UTC (7:31 a.m. ET) showed the systems had merged.

According to WCVB-TV, Boston, at 7 a.m. EST on Saturday, Feb. 9, there were about 400,000 customers without power in Massachusetts. The storm had moved east by 2 p.m. EST leaving behind blue skies and gusty winds.

About 24 hours after the storm moved away from the U.S. Northeast, NASA's Aqua satellite passed overhead to capture an image of the

massive snowfall. At 10:50 a.m. EST on Feb. 10, 2013, the day after the New England snowstorm, the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instrument aboard NASA's Aqua satellite captured a visible image that showed snow cover over the New England states, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The image was created by NASA's MODIS Rapid Response Team at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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