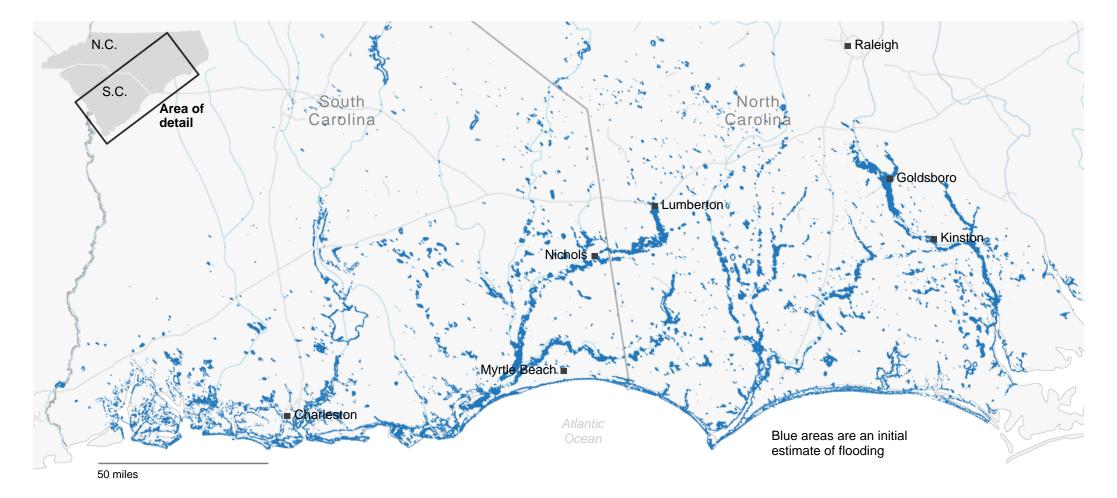


Days after Hurricane Matthew became a post-tropical cyclone and pulled far from North Carolina, flooding continues to threaten cities along swollen rivers well upstream from the coast. Flood levels in some areas have surpassed records set after Hurricane Floyd in 1999.



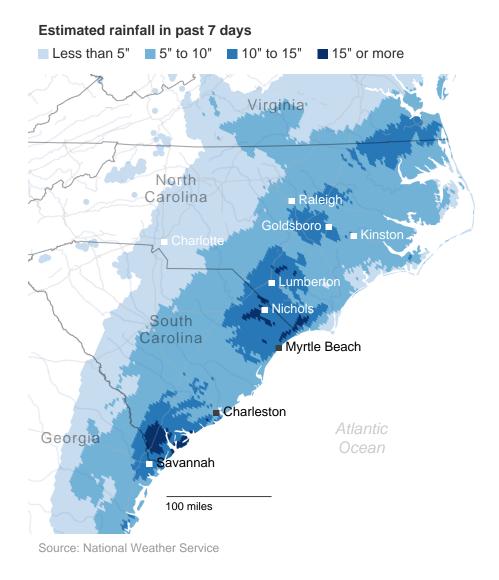
Source: Dartmouth Flood Observatory

Gov. Pat McCrory of North Carolina warned that flooding caused by inland rainfall from the storm is expected to continue through this week. The National Weather Service has predicted major flooding along the Neuse, Tar, Lumber and Cape Fear Rivers, along with many other rivers and creeks.



Chris Keane/Reuters

Some parts of the coast had 18 inches of rain over the past seven days. Heavy rain also fell far inland, creating the runoff that is now causing rivers to crest. More than two dozen people in five states died as a result of the storm, 19 of them in North Carolina.



"In some of the places, it's going to be above major flood stage for days," said Jeanne Robbins, supervisory hydrologist at the United States Geological Survey, referring to a level of flooding that is extensive and possibly life-threatening.

"It's going to take a number of days to come down," Ms. Robbins said.



Aerial photographs show large sections of Lumberton, a town of about 22,000, flooded. The Lumber River rose two feet higher than its previous record level. Hundreds of residents fled.



Chuck Burton/Associated Press



Sean Rayford/Getty Images



The Neuse River near Goldsboro reached 29 feet, surpassing the peak after Hurricane Floyd. Downstream from Goldsboro, the water is expected to continue rising.



Casey Mozingo/The Goldsboro News-Argus, via Associated Press



Randall Hill/Reuters



The Neuse River in Kinston is expected to peak on Saturday at 28 feet, possibly surpassing the record set during Hurricane Floyd. Forecasters expect that all roads on the south side of the city will be flooded.

Casey Mozingo/The Goldsboro News-Argus, via Associated Press

