

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2020

| Location | Date/Time | Deaths & Injuries | Property & Crop Dmg | Event Type and Details |
|----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
|----------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|

OKLAHOMA, Panhandle

(OK-Z001) CIMARRON

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---------|
| 12/01/20 00:00 CST | 0 | Drought |
| 12/31/20 23:59 CST | 0 | |

Much of the western Oklahoma Panhandle and south to southeastern Texas Panhandle remained in severe to exceptional drought conditions through the month of December. Some areas did see some snowfall during the month. Liquid to snow ratios remained low and resulted in minimal improvement. Almost all the combined Panhandles, despite the level of drought, experienced struggling winter crops. Even the crops that did eventually sprout late, still had very short stocks. Rangeland grasses continue to be sparse with many ranchers having to purchase feed.

(OK-Z003) BEAVER

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------|
| 12/02/20 06:00 CST | 0 | Heavy Snow |
| 12/03/20 05:00 CST | 0 | |

A rapidly evolving winter storm impacted the Panhandles on December 2nd, 2020. Communities across the Panhandles saw the snowfall threat increase rapidly over a 48 hour period as a rare south/southeastward moving storm system trekked over the region. These systems are somewhat rare and/or are rarely impactful as they typically cut off moisture and keep the Panhandles dry. This storm system was able to pull in a decent amount of Gulf moisture which eventually wrapped around an area of low pressure and caused heavy snowfall amounts in the far northeast section of the Panhandles, mainly the eastern OK Panhandle. Final snowfall amounts ranged anywhere from an inch in the south central Texas Panhandle to around 6 - 12 inches the eastern Oklahoma Panhandle and around 5 inches far northeast Texas Panhandle and central Oklahoma Panhandle. In addition to the snowfall, north winds of 20 to 30 mph with gusts exceeding 40 mph at times lead to reduced visibility due to blowing snow. There were periods where conditions got close to that of a blizzard in the northeast combined Panhandles, as visibility dropped to around 1/2 mile with blowing snow (persistent 1/4 mile needed for a true blizzard). Snowfall was still on the ground in the far northeast combined Panhandles three days after the event occurred.

(OK-Z001) CIMARRON, (OK-Z002) TEXAS, (OK-Z003) BEAVER

| | | |
|--------------------|---|------------|
| 12/12/20 16:00 CST | 0 | Heavy Snow |
| 12/13/20 08:00 CST | 0 | |

An upper level disturbance moved ashore across Washington in the Pacific Northwest on Friday, December 11th. This system moved rapidly southeast across the Central Rockies on Saturday before crossing the Panhandles Region on Sunday, December 13th. Moderate snowfall developed across the northwest combined Oklahoma and Texas Panhandles on Saturday evening. A majority of the snowfall with the system occurred between midnight and noon on Sunday the 13th. Moderate snow and winds gusting to 30 to 40 mph created low visibility of around 1/2 mile at times across the area. This, together with snow accumulating on roadways, led to poor travel conditions and several major accidents occurred on I-40 causing the interstate to be shut down in multiple locations for a period of time. Event snowfall totals of 4 to 8 inches occurred with one band across the Oklahoma Panhandle and even higher amounts around 12" were reported just north in southwest Kansas. Otherwise snowfall totals ranged from around 1 to 5 inches across the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles.

TEXAS, North Panhandle

(TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL COUNTY, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

| | | |
|--------------------|---|---------|
| 12/01/20 00:00 CST | 0 | Drought |
| 12/31/20 23:59 CST | 0 | |

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