

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2009

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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NORTH DAKOTA, Central and West

(ND-Z001) DIVIDE, (ND-Z002) BURKE, (ND-Z003) RENVILLE, (ND-Z009) WILLIAMS, (ND-Z010) MOUNTRAIL, (ND-Z011) WARD, (ND-Z017) MCKENZIE, (ND-Z018) DUNN, (ND-Z019) MERCER, (ND-Z020) OLIVER, (ND-Z021) MCLEAN, (ND-Z031) GOLDEN VALLEY, (ND-Z032) BILLINGS, (ND-Z033) STARK, (ND-Z034) MORTON, (ND-Z041) HETTINGER, (ND-Z042) GRANT

02/09/09 12:00 CST	50K	Heavy Snow
02/10/09 21:00 CST	0	

A powerful and complex winter storm made a direct hit on North Dakota from late in the afternoon on February 8th, through early in the morning on the 11th. Winter Storm and Ice Storm warnings were issued in advance of this storm system as it developed across the southwest part of the nation. As the storm ejected into the plains on Sunday, the first wave of precipitation quickly overspread west and central North Dakota during the evening. Fortunately, warm and moist air preceding this system, coinciding with surface temperatures above freezing, resulted in most of the precipitation falling as rain with much less ice accumulation than expected.

As the storm continued to move northeast on Monday, colder air was pulled south into North Dakota resulting in the second wave of precipitation from the 9th through early on the 11th to fall as all snow. A stationary north to south oriented band of moderate to heavy snow developed across western North Dakota Monday night, and persisted into the day on Tuesday, before gradually shifting eastward Tuesday night. This band of heavy snow remained just to the west of Bismarck and Minot, sparing these areas of the heavier snow amounts which ranged from 8 to 20 inches over western parts of the state.

The heavy snow closed several area highways including Interstate 94 from Dickinson to Mandan Tuesday night, and also resulted in county officials issuing numerous no travel advisories over the west.

(ND-Z034) MORTON, (ND-Z037) STUTSMAN, (ND-Z042) GRANT, (ND-Z045) SIOUX, (ND-Z046) EMMONS, (ND-Z047) LOGAN, (ND-Z048) LA MOURE, (ND-Z050) MCINTOSH, (ND-Z051) DICKEY

02/26/09 23:00 CST	0	Heavy Snow
02/27/09 15:00 CST	0	

A low pressure system developing over the high plains of Montana and Wyoming, pushed southeast into the central plains during the evening hours of the 25th and into the morning hours of the 26th. As this occurred, strong frontogenetical forcing resulted in a band of moderate to heavy snow developing along the North Dakota and South Dakota border area, with snowfall rates upwards of three inches per hour. Storm total snow amounts across the southwest and south central, from Grant County through Dickey County, ranged from six to 18 inches by the morning of the 26th.

The heavy snow resulted in several highways being closed and county officials issuing numerous no travel advisories across southwest and south central North Dakota.