

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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OKLAHOMA, Panhandle

(OK-Z003) BEAVER

	01/27/08 13:00 CST		70K	Wildfire
	01/27/08 21:00 CST		0	

A very large wildfire started one mile northeast of Slapout Oklahoma around 1300 CST. The wildfire was three miles wide and twelve miles long and burned approximately ten thousand five hundred acres as it traveled east and northeast. The wildfire destroyed a vacant house...a barn...and a shed on three separate properties. The wildfire was contained five miles south of Gate around 2100 CST. Emergency Management officials evacuated eastern Beaver County from one mile northeast of Slapout to the Harper County line. No injuries were reported. Twenty-five to thirty fire departments from three states responded to the wildfire. Many of those fire departments remained on the scene after 2100 CST to monitor and contain hot spots and patrol the burned areas.

(OK-Z002) TEXAS

	01/29/08 03:35 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
	01/29/08 03:35 CST		0	

A tight pressure gradient ahead of a cold front resulted in very strong winds across the central Oklahoma Panhandle during the early morning hours. No damage or injuries were reported.

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

	01/28/08 06:00 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
	01/28/08 14:35 CST		0	

A surface trough of low pressure along the lee of the Rockies deepened and produced strong west and southwest winds across the Oklahoma Panhandle. No damage or injuries were reported.

TEXAS, North Panhandle

(TX-Z013) CARSON

	01/05/08 14:00 CST		1K	Wildfire
	01/05/08 14:30 CST		0	

A large wildfire started five miles north of Pantex around 1400 CST and burned approximately one thousand acres. An old barn was destroyed...yet no injuries were reported. The wildfire was brought under control around 1430 CST near County Road G and County Road 15. The fire line was four miles long and a half mile wide. The cause of the wildfire was a faulty lightning arrestor.

(TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON

	01/05/08 14:00 CST		25K	Wildfire
	01/05/08 17:30 CST	5	0	

A very large wildfire began about two miles east of Fritch around 1400 CST on Farm to Market Road 687 about one mile north of Texas State Highway 136. The wildfire spread to the east and northeast and ended up close to Farm to Market Road 1319. Approximately two thousand eight hundred acres were burned with more than seven fire department units responding to the wildfire. The wildfire was reported to be under control around 1730 CST. The cause of the wildfire was determined to be arson. Twenty-six people were evacuated. One firefighter received third-degree burns to his hand. Four others suffered minor injuries. The wildfire threatened several housing developments...but no structures were damaged. Two Borger fire trucks were damaged and had to be towed after colliding while fighting the wildfire. The two trucks collided because of low visibility from smoke.

(TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON

	01/06/08 14:00 CST		3K	Wildfire
	01/06/08 16:00 CST	4	0	

A large wildfire started about four miles south southeast of Sanford around 1400 CST at Windsong Road and Texas State Highway 136. The wildfire moved at a speed of thirty-five miles per hour and burned two and a half miles of open range...or about three hundred acres. The wildfire was contained before reaching the Meadowlark Hill housing division near Borger Texas...however people were asked to evacuate their homes for a brief period. Some fencing was damaged. Texas Highway 136 was partially closed near Meadowlark Hill with only two lanes of traffic open. The wildfire was reported contained around 1600 CST. Four firefighters were injured...including one person who was treated for smoke inhalation.

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(TX-Z010) HEMPHILL				
	01/14/08 13:00 CST		0	Wildfire
	01/14/08 18:00 CST		0	
<p>A large wildfire began about two and a half miles north of Allison...or near the intersection of Texas State Highway 277 and Texas State Highway 2124 around 1300 CST. The wildfire burned approximately three hundred and twenty-five acres...however no damage or injuries were reported. Ten fire departments responded to the wildfire...which was contained around 1800 CST.</p>				
(TX-Z014) GRAY				
	01/28/08 14:00 CST		0	Wildfire
	01/28/08 22:00 CST		0	
<p>A large wildfire started around 1400 CST approximately ten miles south of Pampa. The wildfire briefly shut down Texas State Highway 70 and Farm to Market Road 2375...however no damage or injuries were reported. The wildfire was reported to be one mile wide and four miles long and burned approximately two thousand five hundred and sixty acres. Two ranch homes were evacuated and the wildfire was reported under control around 2200 CST...however hot spots were still being monitored and contained. The wildfire resulted from an unknown electrical cause...according to the Pampa Fire Department.</p>				
(TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON				
	01/15/08 15:00 CST		0	Wildfire
	01/16/08 00:00 CST		0	
<p>A large wildfire started around 1500 CST about one and a half miles north of Stinnett in Hutchinson County...just east of State Highway 136 and 207...and just north of County Road O. The wildfire burned approximately one thousand three hundred acres. Although no damage or injuries were reported...one home and two other structures were saved. The wildfire was contained around 0000 CST. Nine fire departments along with the Texas Forest Service responded to this wildfire.</p>				
(TX-Z015) WHEELER				
	01/30/08 13:00 CST		0	Wildfire
	01/30/08 16:00 CST		0	
<p>A large wildfire began around 1300 CST approximately seven and a half miles southeast of McLean in northwestern Wheeler County...or about a half mile northwest of the intersection of Farm to Market Road 3143 and County Road 30. The wildfire burned four hundred acres. No damage or injuries were reported...however three homes were saved. Five fire departments responded to this wildfire. The fire was contained around 1600 CST. Welding equipment use was determined to be the cause of the wildfire.</p>				
(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z012) POTTER				
	01/29/08 05:38 CST		1K	High Wind (MAX 53 kt)
	01/29/08 07:56 CST		0	
<p>A tight pressure gradient ahead of a cold front resulted in very strong winds across much of the northwestern Texas Panhandle during the early morning hours. Minor damage was reported from the high winds in Dumas...where an awning was blown off a Taylor Mart gas station. No injuries were reported.</p>				
(TX-Z012) POTTER				
	01/31/08 05:42 CST	2	1.55M	Winter Weather
	01/31/08 10:30 CST	2	0	
<p>Two to three inches of snow and windy conditions created areas of near zero visibilities in blowing snow...which resulted in a forty-two car accident on Interstate 40. The accident occurred in the eastbound lanes just west of Whitaker Road at 0542 CST. One person was killed and two people were injured. A sixty-five year-old Amarillo man was identified as the lone fatality. A fire truck from the Amarillo Fire Department became involved in the accident on Interstate 40 when it rolled over while approaching the accident and landed upside down. No one from the four member crew of the fire truck were injured. A thirty-seven year-old man was also killed in a separate accident in the three hundred block of East St. Francis Avenue at 0730 CST due to the poor weather conditions.</p>				
Direct Fatalities: M37VE, M65VE				
(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z002) SHERMAN, (TX-Z003) HANSFORD, (TX-Z004) OCHILTREE, (TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON, (TX-Z009) ROBERTS, (TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL				
	01/28/08 09:34 CST		38K	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
	01/28/08 18:00 CST		0	

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A surface trough of low pressure along the lee of the Rockies deepened and resulted in strong west and southwest winds across much of the Texas Panhandle. The strong winds caused damage in Booker...in the extreme northeast Texas Panhandle. The roof was blown off of a grocery store...which knocked down power lines and caused damage to cars in the nearby parking lot.