

Snow, Sleet, and Freezing Rain

February 20th-21st, 2015

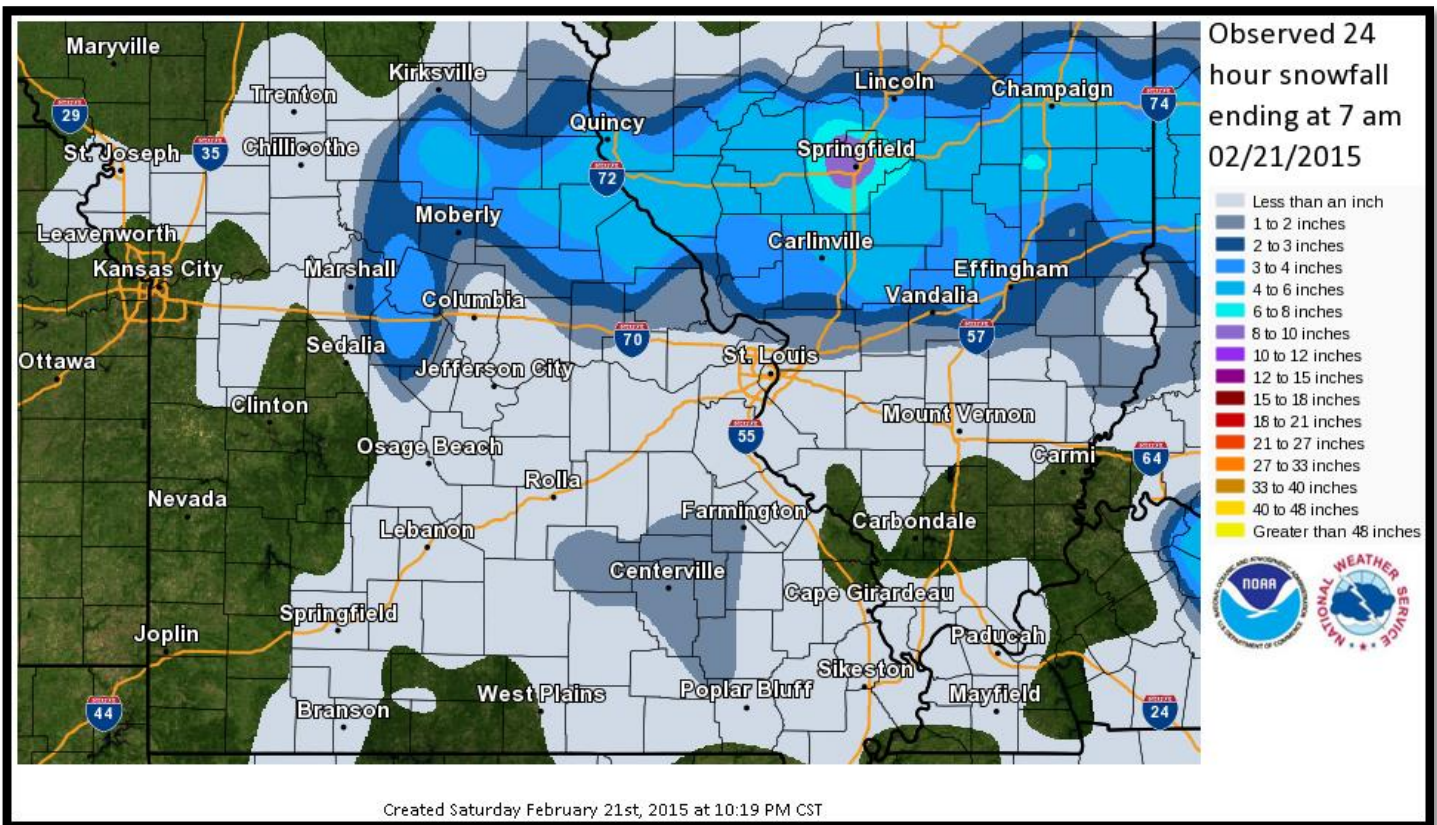
Overview

A wintry mix rapidly developed simultaneously across many locations in the bi-state region during the early evening hours of Friday, February 20th. The precipitation initially started off as freezing rain with some sleet for most of the area, except in the far northern sections of Missouri and into central Illinois, where it began as snow.

During the course of the evening, two main areas of precipitation developed. The first was oriented west to east and stretched across much of northern Missouri and into central Illinois. This band of mixed wintry precipitation gradually became all snow during the course of the evening and continued through the late night hours before ending Saturday morning the 21st. While minor accumulations of sleet and a glazing of ice from freezing rain came from this band, the big story was the heavy snow accumulations that occurred, where up to 7 inches of snow fell in parts of northeast Missouri and west-central Illinois. Still even heavier amounts of snow were realized in parts of central Illinois around Springfield (in excess of 8 inches).

The other main area of precipitation was setup over southern Missouri and far southern Illinois. The precipitation here began as freezing rain, but as thunderstorms developed the icy precipitation switched to heavy sleet. Heavy accumulations of pure sleet of near one inch occurred here as well as thick layer of ice of nearly one-quarter inch. This wintry mix continued throughout the night and into Saturday morning before finally winding down briefly as snow, adding a light dusting to the ice that had already fallen.

In-between these two areas, covering much of the I-70 corridor between Saint Louis and Columbia, precipitation was lighter but just as persistent, resulting in ice accumulations that resulted in numerous accidents during the evening, and then adding light snow accumulations of up to two inches during the overnight hours and early morning hours of Saturday.



Storm Total Snowfall

PRELIMINARY LOCAL STORM REPORT...SUMMARY
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ST LOUIS MO
 308 PM CST SAT FEB 21 2015

..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT.LON...
..DATE...MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION..ST..	...SOURCE....
..REMARKS..			
0530 AM	HEAVY SLEET	4 SW POTOSI	37.90N 90.83W
02/21/2015	M0.8 INCH	WASHINGTON MO	CO-OP OBSERVER
MIX OF SNOW AND SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN...MOSTLY SLEET WITH A GLAZE AROUND 0.1			
0600 AM	HEAVY SLEET	4 SE BELLEVIEW	37.64N 90.70W
02/21/2015	M1.5 INCH	IRON MO	CO-OP OBSERVER
MIX OF SNOW AND SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN...MOSTLY SLEET...LIGHTNING AND THUNDER AND A GLAZE AROUND 0.2			
0600 AM	HEAVY SLEET	FARMINGTON	37.78N 90.43W
02/21/2015	M1.0 INCH	ST. FRANCOIS MO	CO-OP OBSERVER
MIX OF SNOW AND SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN...MOSTLY SLEET...LIGHTNING AND THUNDER WITH A GLAZE NEAR 0.1			
0700 AM	SNOW	3 N GRAFTON	39.02N 90.43W
02/21/2015	M1.8 INCH	JERSEY IL	TRAINED SPOTTER
MIX OF SNOW...SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN WITH A LIGHT GLAZE			
0715 AM	SNOW	HANNIBAL	39.71N 91.38W
02/21/2015	M5.5 INCH	MARION MO	TRAINED SPOTTER
0730 AM	SNOW	NOKOMIS	39.30N 89.29W
02/21/2015	M5.0 INCH	MONTGOMERY IL	EMERGENCY MNGR
0730 AM	SNOW	PITTSFIELD	39.61N 90.81W
02/21/2015	M5.0 INCH	PIKE IL	PUBLIC
0730 AM	HVY SNOW	PAYSON	39.82N 91.24W
02/21/2015	M7.0 INCH	ADAMS IL	PUBLIC
0730 AM	HVY SNOW	LOUISIANA	39.44N 91.06W
02/21/2015	M6.5 INCH	PIKE MO	PUBLIC
0800 AM	HVY SNOW	NOKOMIS	39.30N 89.29W
02/21/2015	M6.2 INCH	MONTGOMERY IL	TRAINED SPOTTER
0800 AM	HVY SLEET	15 WSW STE GENEVIEVE	37.89N 90.30W
02/21/2015	M1.0 INCH	STE. GENEVIEVE MO	CO-OP OBSERVER
MIX OF SNOW...SLEET AND FREEZING RAIN...MOSTLY SLEET...WITH A LIGHT GLAZE			

Storm Total Snowfall

0851 AM	SNOW	KIRKWOOD	38.58N	90.42W
02/21/2015	E1.2 INCH	ST. LOUIS MO	TRAINED	SPOTTER
	STORM TOTAL OF 1.2 INCHES OF SNOW AND SLEET...ALSO A LIGHT GLAZING OF ICE			
1000 AM	SNOW	3 SSW SAVERTON	39.60N	91.29W
02/21/2015	M4.5 INCH	RALLS MO	TRAINED	SPOTTER
1000 AM	SLEET	1 SW NEW HANDOVER	38.38N	90.24W
02/21/2015	M0.4 INCH	MONROE IL	TRAINED	SPOTTER
	SLEET SNOW MIX			
1030 AM	SLEET	3 N UNION	38.49N	91.01W
02/21/2015	M0.4 INCH	FRANKLIN MO	TRAINED	SPOTTER
	SLEET SNOW MIX			
1030 AM	HVY SNOW	NOKOMIS	39.30N	89.29W
02/21/2015	M6.7 INCH	MONTGOMERY IL	TRAINED	SPOTTER
1110 AM	SNOW	CARLINVILLE	39.28N	89.88W
02/21/2015	M5.5 INCH	MACOUPIN IL	TRAINED	SPOTTER
1159 AM	HVY SNOW	2 S CENTER	39.48N	91.53W
02/21/2015	M7.0 INCH	RALLS MO	TRAINED	SPOTTER

Any questions regarding this event review should be address to w-lsx.webmaster@noaa.gov