

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2014

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

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

	12/01/14 00:00 CST	0	Drought
	12/31/14 23:59 CST	0	

December's precipitation was near to above normal for most of the Oklahoma Panhandle, but most of the precipitation fell in a single event near the beginning of the month. Many days of fog early in the month were also an indication of more humid than normal conditions across the region. Most of the Panhandle received at least one half inch of precipitation in December. Extreme (D3) Drought remained across much of the central Oklahoma Panhandle, with the remainder of the Panhandle rated Severe (D2) Drought conditions. Guymon recorded 0.83 inches of precipitation for the month (0.19 inches above normal).

Soil moisture was rated from short to adequate during the month. Crops fared well during the month, with most winter wheat areas receiving near normal moisture. Earlier planted winter wheat was looking good, and many fields were being used for cattle grazing. Rangeland and pasture continued to improve in some areas, but cattle herd sizes remained limited due to prolonged drought and high cattle prices. Upper soil zones were mostly in the 20 to 30 percent full range (slight agriculturally dry), with locations in the eastern Panhandle generally drier. Deeper soil moisture was still below 90 percent of normal across the area. The Palmer Drought Severity Index indicated a rating of Near Normal conditions for the Oklahoma Panhandle. No countywide or statewide burn bans were in effect.

Stream flows across the Oklahoma Panhandle ranged from below normal to much below normal during December. Some stock ponds held water, but others were mostly dry.

Economic losses due to the drought through December were predominantly the result of early losses in some late planted winter wheat and supplemental feed for cattle on drought-thinned rangeland and pastures.

(OK-Z003) BEAVER

	12/06/14 21:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
	12/07/14 09:00 CST	0	

Light southeast winds brought moisture to the eastern portion of the Oklahoma Panhandle during the evening of the 6th and as temperatures cooled fog formed. Dense fog resulted in visibility at or less than one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in Beaver County. By 9:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

(OK-Z003) BEAVER

	12/10/14 00:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
	12/10/14 12:00 CST	0	

A moist air mass and cooling temperatures resulted in the formation of fog across the eastern portion of the Oklahoma Panhandle during the early morning hours of the 10th. Dense fog resulted in visibility at or less than one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in Beaver County. By noon CST, the fog had dissipated.

(OK-Z003) BEAVER

	12/10/14 22:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
	12/11/14 10:00 CST	0	

A moist air mass and cooling temperatures caused fog to form by late evening on the 10th and persist through the early morning hours of the 11th across the eastern Oklahoma Panhandle. Dense fog reduced the visibility to at or below one quarter mile in Beaver County for at least a short period during the indicated time range. By 10:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

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

	12/11/14 19:00 CST	0	Dense Fog
	12/12/14 10:00 CST	0	

A persistent moist air mass resulted in another night of dense fog across much of the Oklahoma panhandle, beginning as early as mid-evening on the 11th for some locations. Visibility at or below one quarter mile occurred for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Beaver (Beaver County) and Guymon (Texas County). By 10:00 AM CST on the 12th, the fog had dissipated.

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

	12/23/14 13:00 CST	0	High Wind (MAX 37 kt)
	12/23/14 14:00 CST	0	

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An upper level weather system passed through the region bringing windy conditions. Sustained winds at or above 35 mph was common across mainly the western portion of the Oklahoma Panhandle during the late morning through mid afternoon.

The following is a list of sustained winds at or greater than 40 mph: 43 mph sustained wind 2 miles east of Goodwell (Texas County) and 41 mph sustained wind 3 miles south-southeast of Boise City (Cimarron County).

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

	12/29/14 18:00 CST	0	Cold/Wind Chill
	12/31/14 09:00 CST	0	

An arctic air mass with temperatures as low as the single digits in combination with north winds around 15 to 25 mph resulted in dangerously cold wind chill values across the Oklahoma Panhandle. Between approximately 6:00 PM on the 29th and 9:00 AM on the 31st wind chill values between minus 10 and minus 15 degrees were common.

The following is the lowest wind chill value for each county: -14 at Kenton (Cimarron County); -12 at Guymon (Texas County), -13 at Beaver (Beaver County).

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

	12/30/14 00:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
	12/31/14 07:00 CST	0	

An upper level weather system brought intermittent light snow to the Oklahoma Panhandle from the early morning hours of the 30th through the morning of the 31st.

The following is a list of snow totals by county: 1 1/3rd inches at Floris (Beaver County) and 2 inches 9 miles north of Griggs (Cimarron County).

TEXAS, North Panhandle

(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z002) SHERMAN, (TX-Z003) HANSFORD, (TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON, (TX-Z009) ROBERTS, (TX-Z010) HEMPHILL, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/01/14 00:00 CST	0	Drought
	12/31/14 23:59 CST	0	

The year ended with a relatively dry month for the Texas Panhandle. Only a few light precipitation events occurred from mid to late December, and these events were not widespread. Most areas measured less than quarter of an inch. Extreme (D3) Drought remained along a line from east of Dalhart to near Clarendon and in the extreme northeastern Panhandle, though a few locations along this line worsened to Exceptional (D4) Drought by the end of December. Conditions in the southwestern Texas Panhandle worsened to a mix of Moderate (D1) Drought to Severe (D2) Drought. Otherwise, the remainder of the Panhandles maintained ratings of Moderate to Severe Drought conditions. Amarillo recorded 0.13 inches of precipitation for the month (0.58 inches below normal), Dalhart recorded 0.33 inches of precipitation (0.21 inches below normal), and Borger recorded 0.14 inches of precipitation (0.63 inches below normal).

Soil moisture was rated from very short to adequate during the month. Crops fared well during the month, with the remaining fall harvest finally getting to be harvested during the drier weather. Earlier planted winter wheat was looking good, and many fields were being used for cattle grazing. Rangeland and pasture continued to improve in some areas, but cattle herd sizes remained limited due to prolonged drought and high cattle prices. Upper soil zones were mostly in the 10 to 30 percent full range (moderate agriculturally dry), with locations in the eastern Panhandle generally drier. Deeper soil moisture was still below 70 percent of normal in much of the Texas Panhandle. The Palmer Drought Severity Index indicated a rating of Near Normal conditions for the Texas Panhandle. Countywide burn bans were supported in several counties.

Stream flows across the Texas Panhandle ranged from near normal in the south to much below normal in the north during December. The reservoirs of Lake Meredith and Palo Duro were below 6 percent and 2 percent capacity respectively, and Greenbelt Lake was near 12 percent capacity. Water watches for several public water systems persisted through December while voluntary to mandatory mild water restrictions were continued.

Economic losses due to the drought through December were predominantly the result of early losses in some late planted winter wheat and supplemental feed for cattle on drought-thinned rangeland and pastures.

(TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z017) RANDALL, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	12/03/14 23:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/04/14 09:00 CST		0	

Light surface winds, abundant moisture, and clear skies resulted in favorable conditions for the formation of fog during the early morning hours of the 4th lasting into the mid-morning hours. Dense fog occurred at many locations across mainly the eastern portion of the Texas Panhandle. Visibility of one quarter mile or less occurred in or near the cities of Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties), Clarendon (Donley County), Claude (Armstrong County), Dumas (Moore County), Panhandle (Carson County), Pampa (Gray County), Wellington (Collingsworth County), and Wheeler (Wheeler County) for at least a short period during the indicated time range. By 9 AM CST, the dense fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z004) OCHILTREE, (TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z017) RANDALL, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/04/14 19:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/05/14 10:00 CST		0	

The pattern of light winds and abundant moisture continued into the evening hours of the 4th, and as temperatures cooled, fog once again formed across mainly the eastern portion of the Texas Panhandle. Visibility of one quarter mile or less occurred in or near the cities of Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties), Clarendon (Donley County), Claude (Armstrong County), Dumas (Moore County), Lipscomb (Lipscomb County), Panhandle (Carson County), Pampa (Gray County), Perryton (Ochiltree), Wellington (Collingsworth County), and Wheeler (Wheeler County) for at least a short period during the time range indicated. By 10:00 AM CST on the 5th, the dense fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/06/14 21:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/07/14 09:00 CST		0	

Light southeast winds brought moisture to the Texas Panhandle during the evening of the 6th and as temperatures cooled fog formed. Dense fog resulted in visibility at or less than one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Claude (Donley County), Lipscomb (Lipscomb County) and Wellington (Collingsworth County). By 9 AM CST, the dense fog had dissipated. By 9:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z010) HEMPHILL, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/07/14 22:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/08/14 08:00 CST		0	

Light surface winds, abundant moisture, and clear skies resulted in favorable conditions for the formation of fog during the evening of the 7th lasting through the early morning hours of the 8th. Dense fog resulted in visibility at or less than one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Canadian (Hemphill County), Lipscomb (Lipscomb County), Wellington (Collingsworth County) and Wheeler (Wheeler County). By 8:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z002) SHERMAN, (TX-Z003) HANSFORD, (TX-Z004) OCHILTREE, (TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z009) ROBERTS, (TX-Z010) HEMPHILL, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/10/14 00:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/10/14 12:00 CST		0	

A moist air mass and cooling temperatures resulted in the formation of fog across the Texas Panhandle during the early morning hours of the 10th. Dense fog resulted in visibility at or less than one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Dallhart (Dallam and Hartley counties), Stratford (Sherman County), Spearman (Hansford County), Perryton (Ochiltree County), Lipscomb (Lipscomb County), Miami (Roberts County), Canadian (Hemphill County), Pampa (Gray county), Wheeler (Wheeler County), Clarendon (Donley County), Wellington (Collingsworth County) and Claude (Armstrong County). By noon CST, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z004) OCHILTREE, (TX-Z005) LIPSCOMB, (TX-Z008) HUTCHINSON, (TX-Z009) ROBERTS, (TX-Z010) HEMPHILL, (TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/10/14 22:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/11/14 10:00 CST		0	

A moist air mass and cooling temperatures caused fog to form by late evening on the 10th and persist through the early morning hours of the 11th across the Texas Panhandle. Dense fog reduced the visibility to at or below one quarter mile for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties), Perryton (Ochiltree County), Lipscomb (Lipscomb County), Canadian (Hemphill County), Clarendon (Donley County), Claude (Armstrong County), Hereford (Deaf Smith County), Miami (Roberts County), Pampa (Gray County), Panhandle (Carson County), Stinnett (Hutchinson County), Vega (Oldham County), Wellington (Collingsworth County), Wheeler (Wheeler County). By 10:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

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(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-Z010) HEMPHILL				
	12/11/14 22:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/12/14 10:00 CST		0	

A persistent moist air mass resulted in another night of dense fog across much of the Texas panhandle, beginning as early as late evening on the 11th for some locations. Visibility at or below one quarter mile occurred for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Dalhart (Dallam and Hartley counties), Dumas (Moore County), Perryton (Ochiltree County), Libscomb (Libscomb County), Canadian (Hemphill County), Miami (Roberts County), Stinnett (Hutchinson County) and Stratford (Sherman County). By 10:00 AM CST on the 12th, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH				
	12/13/14 00:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/13/14 11:00 CST		0	

The final in a series of consecutive days with dense fog occurred during the early morning hours of the 13th. Visibility at or below one quarter mile occurred for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties), Clarendon (Donley County), Claude (Armstrong County), Hereford (Deaf Smith County), Miami (Roberts County), Pampa (Gray County), Panhandle (Carson County), Vega (Oldham County), Wellington (Collingsworth County), Wheeler (Wheeler County). By 11:00 AM CST, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z012) POTTER				
	12/14/14 12:28 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 52 kt)
	12/14/14 12:28 CST		0	

A intense weather system passed just north of the area bringing strong winds to the southern portion of the Texas Panhandle. Wind gusts between 35 and 50 mph were common. A wind gust of 60 mph occurred 3 miles east of Bushland (Potter County).

(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z002) SHERMAN, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL				
	12/20/14 00:00 CST		0	Dense Fog
	12/20/14 12:00 CST		0	

Abundant moisture caused fog to occur during the morning of the 20th. Dense fog with visibility at or below one quarter mile happened for at least a short period during the indicated time range in or near the cities of Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties), Dalhart (Dallam and Hartley counties), Dumas (Moore County), Hereford (Deaf Smith County), Vega (Oldham County). By Noon CST, the fog had dissipated.

(TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH				
	12/22/14 18:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/23/14 03:00 CST		0	

Much colder air behind a cold front arrived the night of the 22nd. This, in combination with an approaching upper level weather system, resulted in the development of light snow with accumulations around or slightly more than one inch across the far southwestern portions of the Texas Panhandle. One inch of snow accumulated three miles west of Bootleg (Deaf Smith County). One and a half inches of snow accumulated at Vega (Oldham County).

(TX-Z007) MOORE, (TX-Z017) RANDALL				
	12/23/14 11:25 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 55 kt)
	12/23/14 22:18 CST		0	

An upper level weather system passed through the region bringing windy conditions. Sustained winds at or above 35 mph was common across mainly the western portion of the Texas Panhandle during the late morning through mid afternoon.

The following is a list of sustained winds at or greater than 40 mph: 50 mph sustained wind 2 miles northeast of Lake Tanglewood (Randall County) and 41 mph sustained wind 3 miles north-northeast of Umbarger (Randall County).

The following is a list of wind gusts at or greater than 58 mph: 59 mph wind gust 2 miles northeast of Lake Tanglewood (Randall County); 63 mph wind gust 3 miles west of Dumas (Moore County) and 63 mph wind gust in Dumas (Moore County).

(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z002) SHERMAN, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY				
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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	12/26/14 09:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/26/14 15:00 CST		0	

Light snow fell across portions of the Texas Panhandle with accumulations at or above one inch confined to the far northwest corner of the Panhandle. One inch of snow accumulated in Dalhart (Dallam and Hartley counties) and three quarters of an inch had accumulated in Stratford (Sherman County).

(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-Z010) HEMPHILL, (TX-Z011) OLDHAM, (TX-Z012) POTTER, (TX-Z013) CARSON, (TX-Z014) GRAY, (TX-Z015) WHEELER, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH, (TX-Z017) RANDALL, (TX-Z018) ARMSTRONG, (TX-Z019) DONLEY, (TX-Z020) COLLINGSWORTH

	12/29/14 18:00 CST		0	Cold/Wind Chill
	12/31/14 09:00 CST		0	

An arctic air mass with temperatures as low as the single digits in combination with north winds around 15 to 25 mph resulted in dangerously cold wind chill values across the Texas Panhandle. Between approximately 6:00 PM on the 29th and 9:00 AM on the 31st wind chill values between minus 10 and minus 15 degrees were common.

The following is the lowest wind chill value for each county: -12 at Dalhart (Dallam and Hartley counties); -12 at Stratford (Sherman County); -12 at Spearman (Hansford County); -12 at Perryton (Ochiltree County); -12 at Lipscomb (Lipscomb County); -14 at Dumas (Moore County); -11 at Border (Hutchinson County); -10 at Miami (Roberts County); -10 at Canadian (Hemphill County); -11 at Vega (Oldham County); -11 at Amarillo (Potter and Randall counties); -11 at Panhandle (Carson County); -11 at Pampa (Gray County); -11 at Hereford (Deaf Smith County); -10 at Claude (Armstrong County); -10 at Shamrock (Wheeler County); -10 at Clarendon (Donley County) and -10 at Wellington (Collingsworth County).

(TX-Z001) DALLAM, (TX-Z006) HARTLEY, (TX-Z016) DEAF SMITH

	12/30/14 00:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/31/14 07:00 CST		0	

An upper level weather system brought intermittent light snow to the northwestern portion of the Texas Panhandle from the early morning hours of the 30th through the morning of the 31st.

The following is a list of snow totals by county: 1 1/2 inches of snow accumulated at Dawn (Deaf Smith County); 3 1/5th inches in Texline (Dallam County); and 3 inches accumulated at Dalhart (Hartley County).