Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2006

<u>Location</u> <u>Date/Time</u> <u>Deaths & Property & Event Type and Details</u> Injuries Crop Dmg

NORTH DAKOTA, Central and West

ROLETTE (ND-Z005), MCHENRY (ND-Z012), PIERCE (ND-Z013), MCLEAN (ND-Z021), SHERIDAN (ND-Z022), WELLS (ND-Z023), FOSTER (ND-Z025), MORTON (ND-Z034), BURLEIGH (ND-Z035), KIDDER (ND-Z036), STUTSMAN (ND-Z037), SIOUX (ND-Z045), EMMONS (ND-Z046), LOGAN (ND-Z047), LA MOURE (ND-Z048), MCINTOSH (ND-Z050), DICKEY (ND-Z051)

12/30/06 23:30 CST 0 0

A unique meteorological condition led to very significant heavy snow over central and eastern North Dakota on December 30, 2006. An upper level low cut off over the southwest part of the United States and transported Gulf of Mexico moisture northward. At the same time a second upper level low cut off along the Montana and North Dakota border and acted to pull this moisture into North Dakota. The event was a heavy snow event as the surface low and pressure gradient were relatively weak and did not cause gusty wind or blowing snow. The highest snow totals, in excess of 10 inches, were from Bismarck, to Hazelton, Wishek, and Ashley, and through parts of Stutsman and Foster counties. These were the most significant snow amounts in these areas, from a single storm, in about seven winter seasons. The sheriff in several counties advised no travel. Snow plows were pulled off the highways from Wishek and Gackle, through Medina, Jamestown, and Carrington, to Rolla, due to the low visibility in heavy falling snow. There were many accidents and vehicles in ditches, at least 41 in the Bismarck area and more than 50 in the Jamestown area alone. A church in Jamestown was used as a shelter for 86 stranded people.

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