



Saturday, July 13th, 2024

# Severe Thunderstorms across Southeast Montana

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## Overview


On the afternoon and evening of Saturday, July 13th, 2024, severe thunderstorms occurred across the southeast part of the state. Storms initially occurred as a couple discrete supercells before evolving into a linear mode reaching the MT-SD border. Custer, Fallon, and Carter counties all reported extensive wind damage, from uprooted trees, to snapped power lines. Fortunately, no fatalities or major injuries were reported from these storms.

## Timeline

- **6:00 PM** | Storms reached the northern edge of Rosebud and Custer Counties
- **7:00 PM** | Storms entered the Miles City vicinity
- **7:05-7:25 PM** | Observed gusts of 70 to 72 mph within Miles city, with hail less than an inch
- **7:30 PM** | Wind Gust of 77 mph east of Miles City, or 8 miles SE of Tusler
- **6:30-8:00 PM** | 2.92" of rain reported 9 miles SSE of Angela (Northwest of Miles City)
- **8:22 PM** | Northern edge of the storms reached Baker. Wind Gust of 79 mph observed, with hail less than an inch
- **8:30 PM** | Storms reached Ekalaka. Gusts 63 to 70 mph observed within a 20 miles radius
- **9:30 PM** | All storms have moved southeast and out of Montana

## Damages

Extensive damage was reported across the 3 counties. In Miles City, reports and pictures showed hardwood trees completely uprooted and/or snapped across town, as well as down power poles, and roofs/shingles blown off. Most of town went without power for much of the night into Sunday. Much of the same was reported in Carter County, with power poles completely snapped across the county. Crops were beaten down, and barns and storage sheds were torn apart.



**The cause of the damages?** Straight line winds are the main culprit. While the damage is extreme, there is no evidence that a Tornado occurred in these storms. That said, Microbursts could have easily taken place within the storms, but there is no way to confirm this either. While observed gusts were strong, the damages indicate more powerful winds occurred within these storms that would be estimated 80 to 100 mph. Highest observed gust was 79 mph at Baker. Torrential rain alongside the winds likely enhanced the total impacts.

## Radar Loop

[weather.gov/images/byz/events/2024/RadarLoop\\_13July2024.gif](https://weather.gov/images/byz/events/2024/RadarLoop_13July2024.gif)

