

Winter Storm

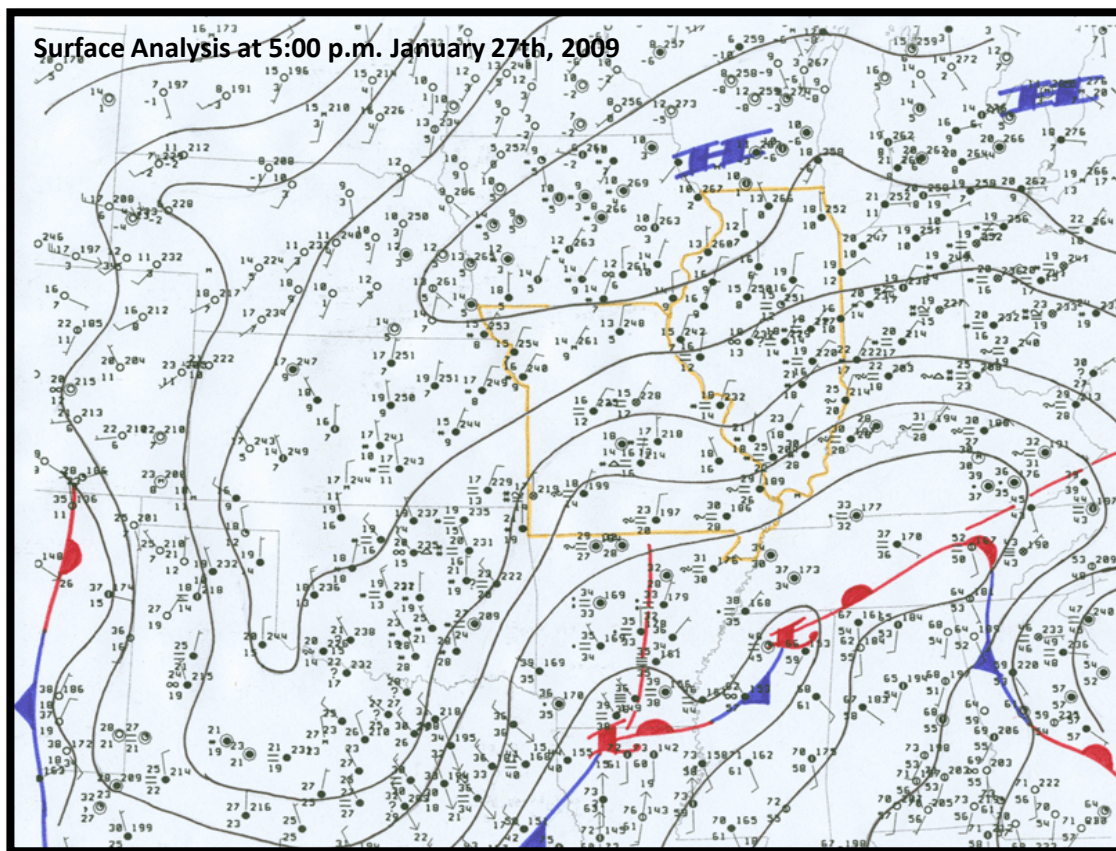
January 26th-28th, 2009

Overview

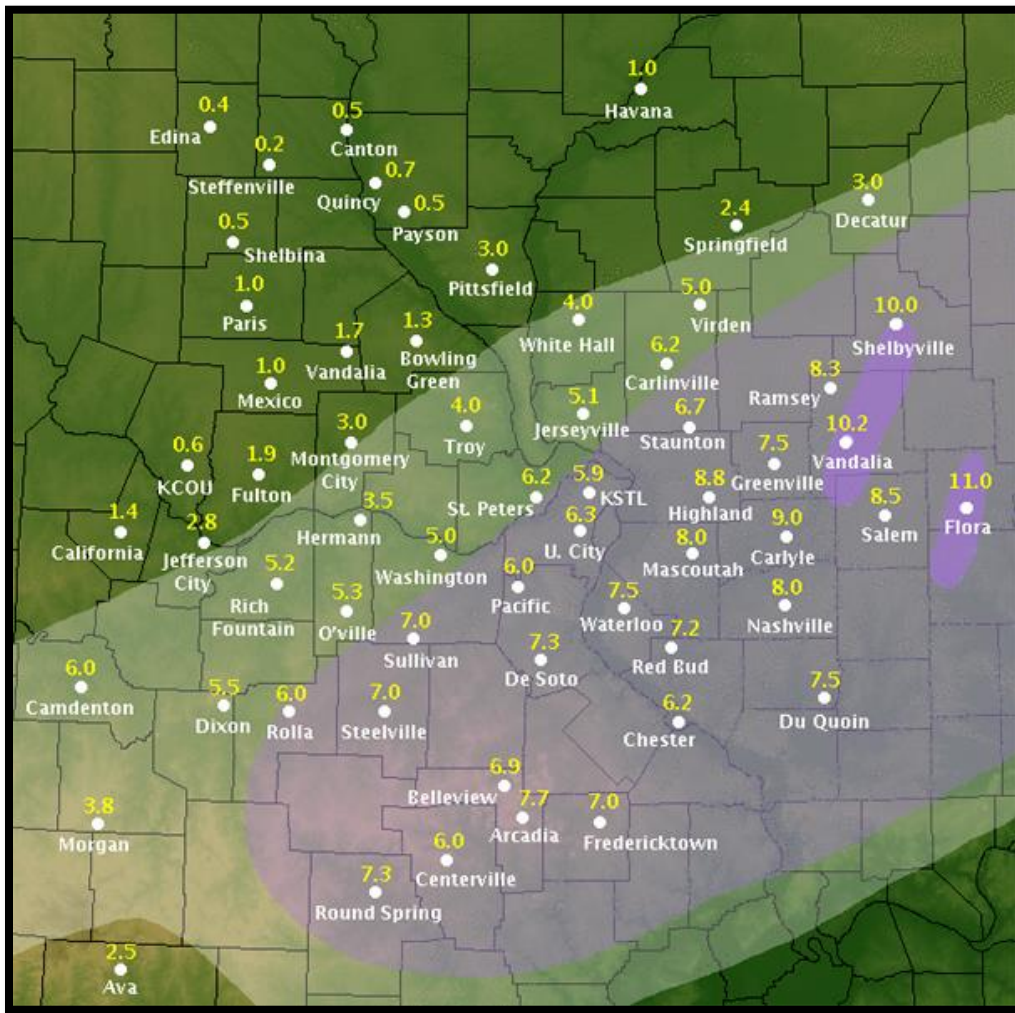
The first major winter storm to affect the Middle Mississippi River Valley of the 2008/2009 winter season was a prolonged event that stretched from the evening of January 26th to the early morning hours of the 28th. The wintry precipitation came in several waves, with the first beginning Monday, January 26th during the evening. Southerly winds brought relatively warm, moist air northward over a fairly shallow cold arctic air mass that was locked in place over the region. The precipitation type varied from mainly freezing rain from Ellington to Fredericktown, Missouri, with heavy sleet further north from Steelville, Missouri to Red Bud, Illinois where some places measured up to 3 inches of sleet Monday night. Precipitation amounts were less further north with around 1 inch of snow in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

On Tuesday the 27th, the heaviest precipitation continued to fall across southeast Missouri and southwest Illinois in the form of mainly sleet with some freezing rain continuing in Reynolds, Iron, and Madison Counties in Missouri. Additional sleet accumulation of up to 1 inch were common from the eastern Ozarks to southwest Missouri during the day on Tuesday. The St. Louis metro area received periods of light snow, sleet, and freezing drizzle with only minor additional accumulation.

As an upper-level disturbance approached the region early Tuesday evening, low pressure developed over the Tennessee Valley, and snow rapidly developed northward across much of east central and southeast Missouri as well as southwest Illinois. The storm system moved east Tuesday night with the precipitation ending by Wednesday morning the 28th. Total snow accumulation ranged from around 6 to 8 inches across eastern Missouri to as much as 10 inches in south-central Illinois. Snow amounts rapidly tapered off to the west and north with Jefferson City, Missouri only measuring 3 inches of snow and Quincy, Illinois only recording one inch of new snow with this storm system.

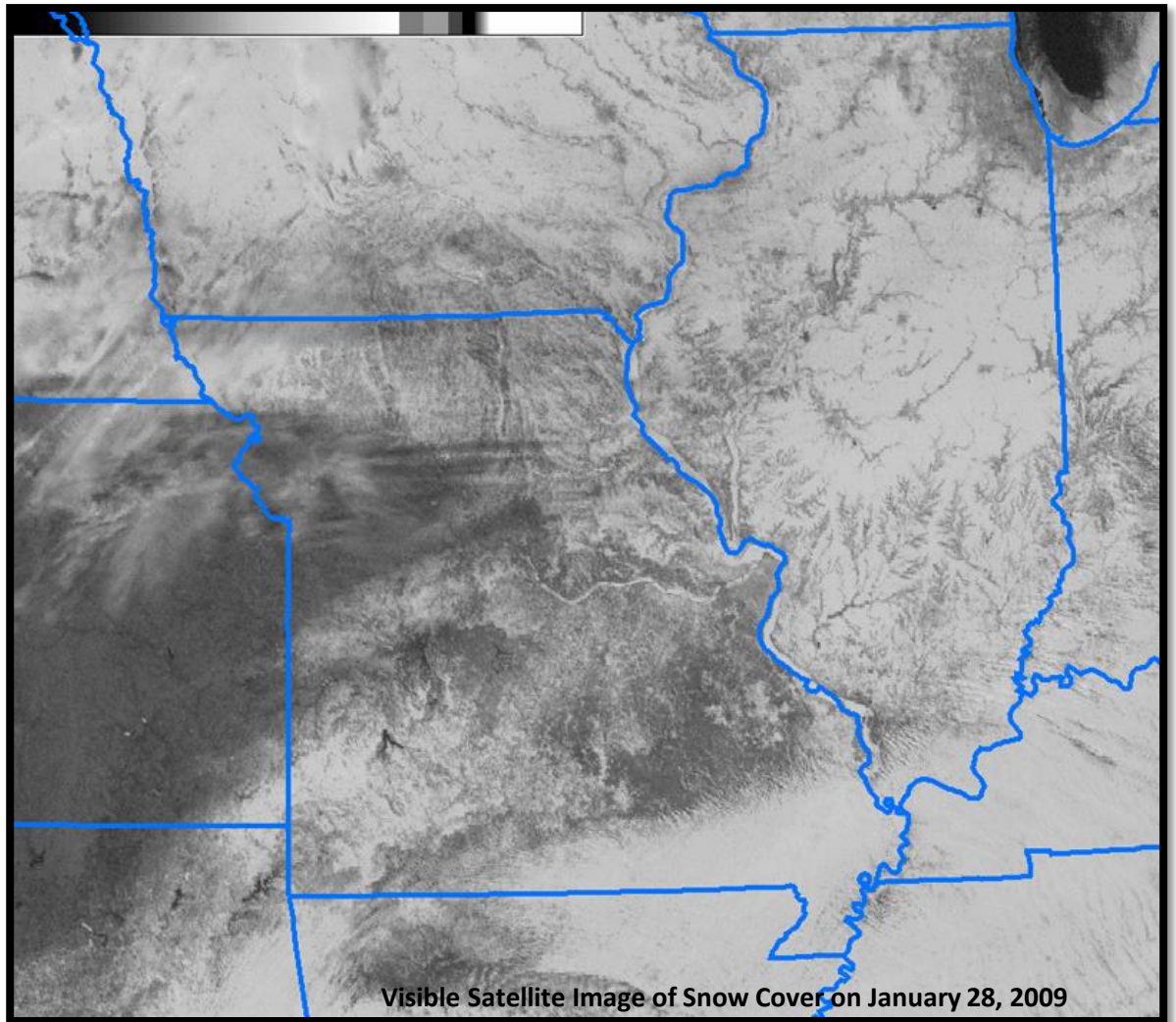
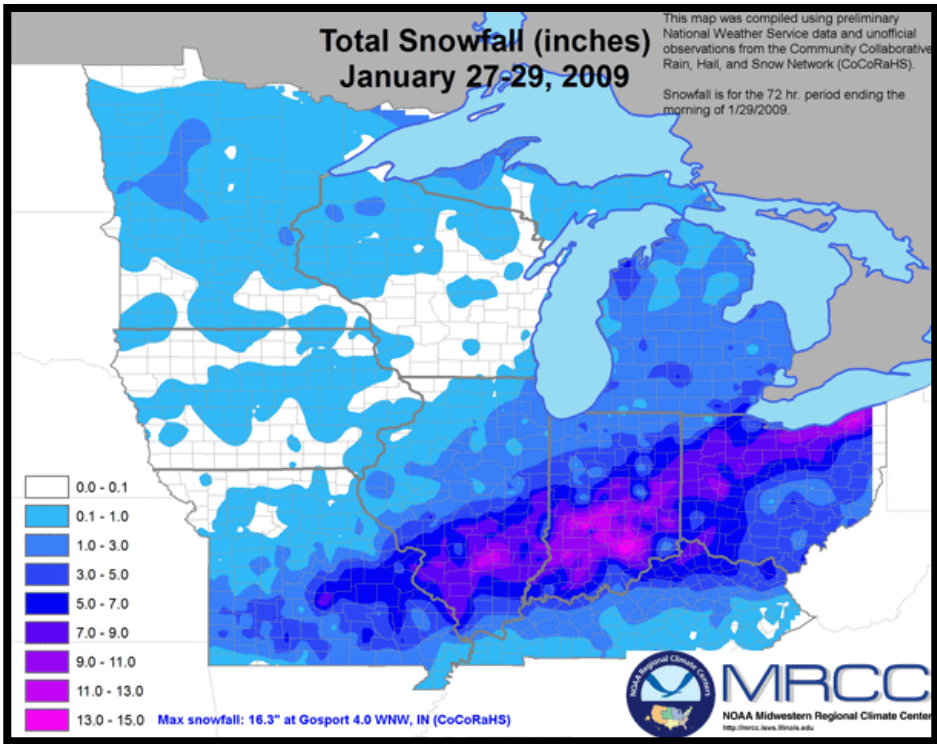


Storm Total



Storm Total Snow and Sleet Accumulation January 26-28, 2009

Storm Total



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