

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2006

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

HALE (TX-Z029), COTTLE (TX-Z032)

12/01/06 02:00 CST	0	30K	Winter Weather
12/01/06 10:00 CST	0	0	

Following the widespread snowfall on November 30th, overnight temperatures dropped into the upper teens and 20s over most of the South Plains region. The partially melted snow pack re-froze and caused dangerous driving conditions. A van that carried members of the Paducah High School girl's basketball team tragically crashed after encountering black ice along U.S. Highway 83 southeast of Paducah (Cottle County) just after 09:00 CST. A 14-year-old female student was killed. Seven others, including the team's coach, were injured and transferred to area hospitals. Additionally, schools were delayed in Plainview (Hale County), where officials described city streets as a "solid sheet of ice".

CASTRO (TX-Z022), SWISHER (TX-Z023), BAILEY (TX-Z027), LAMB (TX-Z028), HALE (TX-Z029), COCHRAN (TX-Z033), HOCKLEY (TX-Z034), LUBBOCK (TX-Z035), YOAKUM (TX-Z039)

12/19/06 03:00 CST	0	35K	Winter Weather
12/20/06 05:00 CST	0	0	

PARMER (TX-Z021), CASTRO (TX-Z022), SWISHER (TX-Z023), BAILEY (TX-Z027), LAMB (TX-Z028), HALE (TX-Z029)

12/19/06 03:00 CST	0	140K	Ice Storm
12/19/06 22:30 CST	0	0	

PARMER (TX-Z021), BAILEY (TX-Z027)

12/19/06 22:30 CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
12/20/06 05:00 CST	0	0	

Widespread freezing drizzle and freezing rain developed over the extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle and the northwestern South Plains during the early morning hours of the 19th. By mid morning, numerous accidents had been reported on area roadways. Icy conditions contributed to at least a dozen auto accidents in Bailey, Castro, and Hale Counties. No major injuries were reported. Ice accumulations increased through the day, however, and between one quarter and one half inch of ice glazed most objects. A thin glaze also contributed to a single vehicle roll-over along Interstate 27 in northern Lubbock County. Thick icing damaged Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet weather instruments in Castro and Parmer Counties.

The freezing precipitation transitioned to all snow during the late evening hours. By the time the snow storm had subsided early on the 20th, snow accumulations between one and four inches had been deposited atop the ice. At least two vehicular accidents were reported in Hockley County on snow packed and icy highways. No injuries were reported.

Reported snow accumulations follow:

- 4 inches at Friona (Parmer County)
- 4 inches at Muleshoe (Bailey County)
- 3 inches at Hart (Castro County)
- 3 inches at Levelland (Hockley County)
- 3 inches at Littlefield (Lamb County)
- 2 inches at Denver City (Yoakum County)
- 2 inches at Dimmitt (Castro County)
- 2 inches at Otlon (Lamb County)
- 1 inch at Lubbock (Lubbock County)
- 1 inch at Morton (Cochran County)
- 1 inch at Plains (Yoakum County)
- 1 inch at Plainview (Hale County)
- 1 inch at Sundown (Hockley County)
- 1 inch at Tulia (Swisher County)

YOAKUM (TX-Z039)

12/24/06 17:40 CST	0	0	High Wind (MAX 53 kt)
12/24/06 17:40 CST	0	0	

A strong cold front swept south across the west Texas South Plains during the evening hours of Christmas Eve. Northerly winds behind the front frequently gusted above 45 mph. These winds were accompanied by rain and snow showers. The Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet site near Plains (Yoakum County) recorded a severe gust of 61 mph. No damage was reported.

BAILEY (TX-Z027), LAMB (TX-Z028), COCHRAN (TX-Z033)

12/29/06 19:00 CST	0	0	Winter Weather
12/30/06 07:00 CST	0	0	

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PARMER (TX-Z021), CASTRO (TX-Z022)				
	12/29/06 19:00 CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
	12/30/06 07:00 CST	0	0	

The extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle and the northwestern South Plains received a glancing blow from a powerful winter storm during the overnight hours of 29th and the morning hours of the 30th. This storm resulted in disastrous blizzard conditions north of the region, with up to 30 inches of snow that caused hardships over parts of eastern New Mexico and the western panhandles of Texas and Oklahoma.

Heavy snow accumulations were observed over parts of Parmer and Castro Counties of the extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle. Lighter snow accumulations were reported over Bailey, Cochran, and Lamb Counties in the northwestern South Plains. Although intermittent periods of snowfall began as early as the afternoon hours of the 29th, and persisted until midday on the 30th, the most intense snow occurred between the hours of 19:00 CST and 07:00 CST on those dates respectively.

Observed snow accumulations are listed below:

- 4 inches at Dimmitt (Castro County)
- 4 inches at Farwell (Parmer County)
- 4 inches at Friona (Parmer County)
- 3 inches at Muleshoe (Bailey County)
- 2 inches at Littlefield (Lamb County)
- 2 inches at Morton (Cochran County)