

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2007

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
TEXAS, South Panhandle				
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(TX-Z039) YOAKUM				
	12/21/07 14:00 CST		0	Wildfire
	12/21/07 16:00 CST		0	
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(TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z034) HOCKLEY				
	12/21/07 20:20 CST		0	High Wind (MAX 56 kt)
	12/21/07 22:35 CST		0	
<p>Increasingly dry conditions and breezy southwesterly winds created a favorable meteorological environment for rapid fire spread during the afternoon of the 21st. These conditions fueled a 4,500 acre wildfire south of Plains (Yoakum County). By early evening, virga showers moved eastward out of New Mexico and spread over the western South Plains. These showers resulted in widespread westerly winds sustained between 30 and 40 mph with gusts measured to be as high as 65 mph.</p>				
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(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z030) FLOYD				
	12/26/07 02:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/26/07 06:00 CST		0	
<p>A fast moving storm system brought accumulating snowfall to a broad area of the Southern Plains during the early morning hours of the 26th. Although the west Texas South Plains was on the periphery of this storm, light snow accumulations were observed over the extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle and the northern South Plains. Reports of 1 inch or greater accumulations included: 2 inches at Rhea (Parmer County), 1 inch at Caprock Canyon State Park (Briscoe County), 1 inch at Floydada (Floyd County), 1 inch at Plainview (Hale County), and 1 inch at Silverton (Briscoe County).</p>				
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(TX-Z042) GARZA				
	12/08/07 17:00 CST		40K	Dense Fog
	12/09/07 08:00 CST		0	
<p>Fog, occasionally dense, developed rapidly over the central and western South Plains of west Texas during the late afternoon hours of the 8th...and persisted into the morning hours of the 9th. Although widespread, impacts from the fog were most severe in Garza County.</p> <p>A 51-year-old man from San Antonio, Texas, was killed in a weather related vehicle accident approximately 10 miles northwest of Post on U.S. Highway 84. A tractor-trailer, previously stopped at a stop sign at the intersection of U.S. Highway 84 and Texas Farm to Market Road 399, pulled onto the highway in front of the man's southbound vehicle. The car impacted the rear of the truck's trailer. The truck driver reported that he could not see the oncoming vehicle due to dense fog.</p>				
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(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z023) SWISHER, (TX-Z025) HALL, (TX-Z026) CHILDRESS, (TX-Z027) BAILEY, (TX-Z028) LAMB, (TX-Z029) HALE, (TX-Z030) FLOYD, (TX-Z033) COCHRAN, (TX-Z035) LUBBOCK, (TX-Z037) DICKENS				
	12/14/07 20:30 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/15/07 08:00 CST		0	
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(TX-Z028) LAMB				
	12/14/07 20:30 CST		0	Heavy Snow
	12/15/07 08:00 CST		0	
<p>A fast moving winter storm brought a swath of accumulating snowfall to portions of the extreme southern Texas Panhandle and the South Plains. The heaviest snowfall totals occurred over the northwestern west Texas South Plains, where up to 6 inch accumulations were reported at Olton (Lamb County).</p> <p>Other reported snow accumulations included: 3 inches at Morton (Cochran County), 3 inches at Plainview (Hale County), 2 inches at Dimmitt (Castro County), 2 inches at Farwell (Parmer County), 2 inches at Floydada (Floyd County), 2 inches at Littlefield (Lamb County), 2 inches at Muleshoe (Bailey County), 1 inch at Dickens (Dickens County), 1 inch at Childress (Childress County), 1 inch at Lubbock (Lubbock County), 1 inch at Memphis (Hall County), and 1 inch at Tulia (Swisher County).</p>				
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(TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z025) HALL				
	12/27/07 09:00 CST		0	Freezing Fog
	12/27/07 17:00 CST		0	

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(TX-Z021) PARMER, (TX-Z022) CASTRO, (TX-Z024) BRISCOE, (TX-Z029) HALE				
	12/27/07 15:00 CST		50K	Winter Weather
	12/27/07 20:00 CST		0	
(TX-Z023) SWISHER				
	12/27/07 15:00 CST		75K	Heavy Snow
	12/27/07 20:00 CST		0	
(TX-Z035) LUBBOCK				
	12/27/07 17:00 CST		2K	Strong Wind (MAX 39 kt)
	12/27/07 18:00 CST		0	
LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 3.3 E BROADVIEW [33.65, -101.89], 3.7 W (LBB)LUBBOCK INTL AR [33.67, -101.88]				
	12/27/07 17:18 CST		0	Tornado (EF0, L: 1.64 mi , W: 75 yd)
	12/27/07 17:23 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

A non-mesocyclonic tornado was photographed by the public as it traversed across open county just north of Lubbock around 17:20 CST on the 27th. The tornado apparently developed as towering cumuliform clouds formed above an advancing low-level boundary. Witnesses report that the tornado persisted for five minutes. No damage was reported.

LUBBOCK COUNTY --- 2.1 ESE SLATON [33.42, -101.62], 2.8 ESE SLATON [33.42, -101.60]				
	12/27/07 17:30 CST		0	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.79 mi , W: 50 yd)
	12/27/07 17:34 CST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

The local media relayed video of a tornado near U.S. Highway 84 between Slaton and Southland. The video showed a well-developed tornado just east of the highway over open fields. No damage was reported.

A very dynamic storm system brought a variety of severe weather impacts to the South Plains of west Texas late on the 27th.

Moist and sub-freezing upslope northeasterly flow behind a cold front resulted in persistent ice fog through much of the day over the extreme southeastern Texas Panhandle, particularly along the Caprock Escarpment. Although ice accumulated on most exposed surfaces, no adverse impacts were reported.

By late afternoon, weather impacts became much more intense and diverse. An area of heavy snow developed over the extreme southwestern Texas Panhandle and the northwestern South Plains. The area of wintry precipitation quickly moved northeastward, but not before accumulating snows occurred over the area and resulted in treacherous travel conditions. Roadways, including major interstate highways, became snowpacked - and remained dangerous through much of the morning hours on the 28th.

Reported snow accumulations follow: 4 inches at Happy (Swisher County), 3 inches at Lazbuddie (Parmer County), 3 inches at Tulia (Swisher County), 2 inches at Nazareth (Castro County), 1 inch at Dimmitt (Castro County), 1 inch at Plainview (Hale County), and 1 inch at Silverton (Briscoe County).

South of the snow band, strong winds advected eastward behind a dryline-like feature that moved over the western and central South Plains. Wind gusts in excess of 40 mph were recorded at a number of Texas Tech University West Texas Mesonet sites over the western South Plains. Wind contributed to the failure of a metal shed building in northwest Lubbock. In addition, two non-mesocyclonic tornadoes were observed and photographed in the Lubbock vicinity. These tornadoes developed near a deepening surface low and its associated surface boundaries, and beneath towering cumulus clouds within a strongly unstable low-level airmass. No measurable precipitation occurred in association with the tornadic cumuliform clouds.