

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2011

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
----------	-----------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------------

OKLAHOMA, Western, Central and Southeast

(OK-Z043) COAL, (OK-Z046) CARTER, (OK-Z047) JOHNSTON, (OK-Z048) ATOKA, (OK-Z051) MARSHALL, (OK-Z052) BRYAN

01/09/11 06:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/09/11 18:00 CST	0	

An upper level storm system moved from southwest Texas northeast toward the southeast half of Oklahoma. Light rain developed early on the 9th ahead of the system but gradually transitioned to snow as the system got closer. Surface temperatures remained near or just above freezing during the event, which helped limit problems on area roadways. However, bursts of heavier snowfall occurred by mid afternoon, causing the snow to briefly accumulate on rural roadways. Up to four inches was reported with the event, finally ending by early evening.

(OK-Z004) HARPER, (OK-Z005) WOODS, (OK-Z006) ALFALFA, (OK-Z007) GRANT, (OK-Z008) KAY, (OK-Z013) NOBLE

01/09/11 15:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/10/11 18:00 CST	0	

A clipper-type storm system moved through the central Plains during the overnight hours of the 9th and into the 10th. Although much of the heavier winter weather occurred north of the Oklahoma/Kansas border, light snow developed as far south as northern Oklahoma. The snow developed ahead of an arctic front that dropped temperatures into the teens. Some blowing and drifting of the snow occurred behind the front, with a few wind gusts over 30 mph. Snowfall totals ranged from 1 to 3 inches.

(OK-Z018) KINGFISHER, (OK-Z019) LOGAN, (OK-Z023) CADDO, (OK-Z024) CANADIAN, (OK-Z025) OKLAHOMA, (OK-Z026) LINCOLN, (OK-Z028) MCCLAIN, (OK-Z029) CLEVELAND, (OK-Z030) POTTAWATOMIE

01/18/11 00:00 CST	0	Drought
01/31/11 23:59 CST	0	

Because of several months of below normal, and in some cases well below normal, precipitation, the Climate Prediction Center declared parts of central Oklahoma in a D2 drought. Given the fact that the winter months are the driest months of the year on average, it was too early to tell the exact extent of the damage caused by the drought. Farm ponds levels were decreasing, putting some strain on area farmers. The outlook for the winter wheat crop was growing dimmer by the day, but could still recover. Therefore, monetary damages were not available by the end of January.

(OK-Z004) HARPER, (OK-Z006) ALFALFA, (OK-Z007) GRANT, (OK-Z008) KAY, (OK-Z010) WOODWARD, (OK-Z011) MAJOR, (OK-Z012) GARFIELD, (OK-Z013) NOBLE, (OK-Z014) ROGER MILLS, (OK-Z015) DEWEY, (OK-Z018) KINGFISHER, (OK-Z020) PAYNE, (OK-Z031) SEMINOLE, (OK-Z046) CARTER, (OK-Z051) MARSHALL

01/19/11 21:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
01/20/11 12:00 CST	0	

A strong, but fast-moving disturbance moved toward the southern Plains late on the 19th. At the same time, an arctic cold front moved south, with very cold temperatures behind the boundary moved south through Oklahoma. Cloud cover thickened during the afternoon and evening hours of the 19th, keeping temperatures near freezing over northern Oklahoma for much of the day. Not much in the way of precipitation had developed until mid evening, when radar echoes began blossoming across northern Oklahoma. Snow, sleet, and freezing drizzle began affecting areas from Woodward, to Enid, and to Stillwater by around 10 pm, but transitioned to all snow shortly after. Under the more persistent snow bands totals reached as high as 4 inches. Further south, the arctic front quickly moved toward the Red River. Light, but widespread precipitation developed over central and southwest Oklahoma. For the first several hours, much of the precipitation fell as freezing drizzle, which occasionally mixed with light snow. A thin coating of ice accumulated on area roadways, which significantly disrupted the morning commute. Hundreds of accidents occurred state-wide, three of which involved fatalities. The precipitation began to transition to all snow over all areas beginning around sunrise, and quickly came to an end from west to east. The main affects of the storm system had moved east by late morning, with much of the region seeing the sun by mid to late afternoon. Even with the sun, however, the temperatures generally remained in the 20s and lower 30s.

Another significant occurrence with this event was the very cold wind chills. North winds of 15 to 20 mph, with gusts of 30 to 35 mph were common for a good part of the day. With temperatures in the upper teens and 20s, minimum wind chills ranged from 5 to -5 degrees near and north of Interstate 40, to 5 to 15 degrees across the south. The wind also created areas of blowing/drifting snow over northern Oklahoma, which briefly reduced visibilities below one mile at times. The combination of snow/ice, temperatures, and gusty north winds made for an all-around nasty day over Oklahoma and western North Texas. For more information on the Wind Chill Index, you can [click here](#).

(OK-Z004) HARPER, (OK-Z005) WOODS, (OK-Z006) ALFALFA, (OK-Z007) GRANT, (OK-Z008) KAY, (OK-Z009) ELLIS, (OK-Z010) WOODWARD, (OK-Z011) MAJOR, (OK-Z012) GARFIELD, (OK-Z013) NOBLE, (OK-Z014) ROGER MILLS, (OK-Z015) DEWEY, (OK-Z016) CUSTER, (OK-Z017) BLAINE, (OK-Z018) KINGFISHER, (OK-Z019) LOGAN, (OK-Z020) PAYNE, (OK-Z021) BECKHAM, (OK-Z022) WASHITA, (OK-Z023) CADDO, (OK-Z024) CANADIAN, (OK-Z025) OKLAHOMA, (OK-Z026) LINCOLN, (OK-Z027) GRADY, (OK-Z028) MCCLAIN, (OK-Z029) CLEVELAND, (OK-Z030)

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2011

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
POTTAWATOMIE, (OK-Z031) SEMINOLE, (OK-Z032) HUGHES, (OK-Z033) HARMON, (OK-Z034) GREER, (OK-Z035) KIOWA, (OK-Z036) JACKSON, (OK-Z037) TILLMAN, (OK-Z038) COMANCHE, (OK-Z039) STEPHENS, (OK-Z040) GARVIN, (OK-Z041) MURRAY, (OK-Z042) PONTOTOC, (OK-Z044) COTTON, (OK-Z045) JEFFERSON, (OK-Z046) CARTER				
	01/31/11 20:00 CST		0	Winter Storm
	01/31/11 23:59 CST		0	

A powerful winter storm began to take shape during the evening hours of the 31st and continued into the 1st of February. Most of the accumulating snow occurred on February 1, but thunder-sleet and snow did affect many locations after dark on the 31st. The wintry precipitation combined with increasing wind speeds began what was to end up as a powerful winter storm. Snow and sleet accumulations were minimal early on, but continued to deteriorate as the night progressed. A more thorough write-up is included in the February 2011 Storm Data entry.

TEXAS, Western North

(TX-Z083) HARDEMAN, (TX-Z085) WILBARGER, (TX-Z086) WICHITA, (TX-Z090) CLAY				
	01/31/11 20:00 CST		0	Winter Storm
	01/31/11 23:59 CST		0	

A powerful winter storm began to take shape during the evening hours of the 31st and continued into the 1st of February. Most of the accumulating snow occurred on February 1, but thunder-sleet and snow did affect many locations in northern Texas after dark on the 31st, causing significant travel disruptions. Accumulations were minimal early on, but continued to deteriorate as the night progressed. A more thorough write-up is included in the February 2011 Storm Data entry.