

***Hazardous Weather
Situation Report
National Weather Service
Lubbock, TX***

***Rain/Snow Weather Event
Wednesday and Thursday
Southern Panhandle/South Plains/Rolling Plains
February 3-4, 2010***

Preliminary Report – 11:30 a.m. CST Wednesday, February 3

EVENT:

...Rain and Snow for West Texas...

A Winter Weather Advisory is in effect until 6 am CST Thursday for parts of the southern Panhandle, South Plains and Rolling Plains. See link below to access this advisory.

An upper storm system currently moving across the western U.S. southward into northern Mexico will continue moving east toward West Texas today and tonight. This large scale trough will finally move east of the region late on Thursday, gradually bringing an end to the precipitation.

Abundant moisture is being drawn north and northeast ahead of this system in the low and mid levels of the atmosphere. This combined with lift from the system is producing widespread moderate rainfall across the area today. As temperatures cool near the surface and colder air moves in aloft from the west, the precipitation is expected to change to snow or a rain/snow mix across the area this afternoon and tonight for areas on the Caprock. Rain and snow showers are possible tomorrow night in the southern Rolling Plains.

Currently, no winter storm warnings are in effect, but if forecast trends suggest that snowfall totals could be higher tonight and tomorrow, a winter storm warning could be issued for the southern Panhandle or the northern South Plains.

CURRENT HAZARDOUS WEATHER:

No hazardous weather has been reported at this time. Widespread rain was occurring late this morning across the region. Some locations have already received near $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch of rainfall since midnight.

IMPACTS:

Rain

Rain amounts are expected to be around 1.0 to 1.25 inches today across the central and southern South Plains (with lighter amounts north), before the rain changes to snow this afternoon or this evening. Storm total precipitation (rain and snow liquid equivalent) amounts may be 1.5 inches or higher in some places.

Snow

The rain is expected to change to snow around 3 pm this afternoon across the southern Panhandle and northwestern South Plains. Farther south in the central and southern South Plains and into the southeastern Panhandle, the changeover is expected after midnight.

24 hour snowfall totals (late this afternoon through Thursday) are expected to range from 4-6 inches from the southwestern Panhandle to under an inch in the southern Rolling Plains. Currently, around 1.5 inches of snow is forecast in Lubbock.

Freezing Rain/Ice Accumulations

No significant ice accumulations are expected at this time.

Roads/Travel

With several inches of snow accumulation expected across the southwestern Panhandle, some roads could become snow packed late today and tonight. Due to the wet nature of the snow and relatively light winds, blowing snow is not expected to be a major impact.

Temperatures/Winds

Temperatures will remain in the 30s today, falling into the upper 20s tonight across the southern Panhandle, and below freezing for most areas on the Caprock eastward into the Rolling Plains. Highs tomorrow will be in the mid to upper 30s.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For the latest weather information about this event, including NWS Lubbock graphiccasts, and current winter weather outlooks, watches, warnings, and advisories, please see the NWS Lubbock webpage at the following URL:

<http://weather.gov/lubbock>

A **Winter Weather Advisory** currently in effect for parts of the Lubbock NWS County Warning/Forecast Area. To access that text product, click on the following URL:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/productview.php?pil=WSWLUB&max=61>

For a map of the current watches, warnings and advisories across the nation, click on the following URL:

<http://www.weather.gov/largemap.php>

For the latest information about winter weather preparedness, see the following URL:

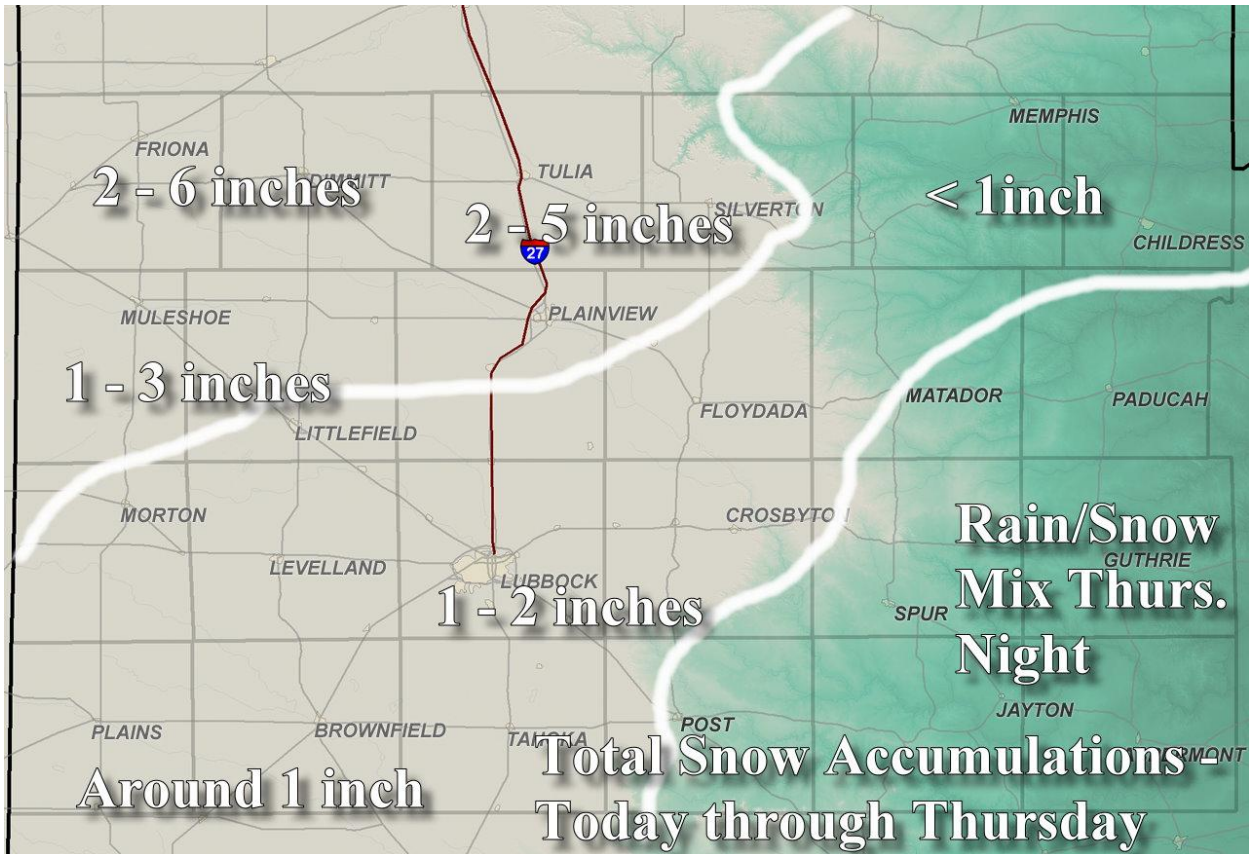
<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/winter/index.shtml>

Decision Support Activities:

We are not currently planning a GoToMeeting webinar today or tomorrow, but please call the 800 number below if you have specific questions, and please monitor NWSChat, NOAA Weather Radio, and our website for the latest weather information. This Hazardous Weather Situation Report may be updated again on Thursday with further details about this rain and winter weather event.

If you have additional questions, please contact our office at **1-800-697-6326** or contact me at one of the numbers listed below.

Supporting Graphics:



Total Snow Accumulations (this afternoon through Thursday)

Jody James
Warning Coordination Meteorologist
National Weather Service - Lubbock, TX
Voice: 806.745.3916 x223
Mobile: 806.773.2705
Email: jody.james@noaa.gov
Web: www.weather.gov/Lubbock

Information in this report is made available for advanced planning and decision support. For additional weather information including forecasts from the NWS, please consult the NWS Lubbock, TX web page at: <http://weather.gov/lubbock>