

STORM SUMMARY OCTOBER 5, 2013





**STORM SUMMARY NUMBER 06 FOR NORTHERN ROCKIES AND NORTHERN PLAINS
WINTER STORM
NWS WEATHER PREDICTION CENTER COLLEGE PARK MD
400 PM CDT SAT OCT 05 2013**

...EARLY SEASON WINTER STORM BEGINNING TO WIND DOWN...

**BLIZZARD WARNINGS REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE WEST-CENTRAL PORTION OF
SOUTH DAKOTA.**

**WINTER STORM WARNING AND WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES REMAIN IN
EFFECT FOR SOUTH-CENTRAL SOUTH DAKOTA...AS WELL AS NORTHWESTERN
NEBRASKA.**

**FOR A DETAILED GRAPHICAL DEPICTION OF THE LATEST
WATCHES...WARNINGS AND ADVISORIES...PLEASE SEE WWW.WEATHER.GOV**

**AT 300 PM CDT...AN OCCLUDED CYCLONE WITH A CENTRAL PRESSURE OF
1004 MB...29.65 IN...WAS CENTERED IN EASTERN SOUTH DAKOTA...MOVING
SLOWLY EASTWARD. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE RADARS AND SURFACE
OBSERVATIONS INDICATED THAT AS TEMPERATURES GRADUALLY WARMED TO
NEAR FREEZING OR ABOVE AROUND THE STORM...THE COVERAGE OF THE SNOW
IN WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA HAD BEEN SLOWLY DECREASING.
NEVERTHELESS...BLIZZARD CONDITIONS REMAINED IN PORTIONS OF
NORTHWESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA WHERE SUSTAINED WINDS OF UP TO 40 MPH
WERE OBSERVED.**

**...SELECTED STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL IN INCHES FROM 400 AM CDT THU OCT
03 THROUGH 300 PM CDT SAT OCT 05...**

...COLORADO...

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS 1.9 E	19.6
COALMONT 9.3 SSE	13.1
COLLBRAN 4 S	12.5
YAMPA 5.1 S	11.4
MESA 6 S	11.0
OAK CREEK 5.5 E	8.9
CARBONDALE 7 NNE	6.0
MEEKER 2 WSW	6.0
VAIL 2 W	6.0
RIDGWAY 2 NW	5.0
WOLCOTT 2 N	4.5

...NORTH DAKOTA...

REEDER	9.0
NEW LEIPZIG	8.0
NEW SALEM	8.0
RHAME	7.0
BOWMAN	6.0
REGENT 4 E	6.0
FLASHER	3.5
BISMARCK 2 NNW	3.0

...NEBRASKA...

CRAWFORD	13.0
AGATE 18 SE	10.0
CHADRON	10.0
GORDON	4.0

...SOUTH DAKOTA...

SILVER CITY	47.0
LEAD	43.5
PIEDMONT 1 NNW	35.0
RAPID CITY DOWNTOWN	31.0
WHITEWOOD 4.2 NNW	30.4
PORCUPINE 5 E	30.0
HERMOSA 5 W	29.0
SPEARFISH	26.0
WHITEWOOD 4 NNW	25.0
BISON 8 SE	24.0
MARTIN	24.0
SUNDANCE	24.0
DOWNTOWN PIEDMONT 1 NNW	20.0
RAPID CITY 1 E	18.3
FAITH 36.3 W	18.0
WRIGHT	15.0

...SELECTED PEAK WIND GUSTS IN MILES PER HOUR EARLIER IN THE EVENT...

...COLORADO...

LIMON 60

...NEBRASKA...

HARRISON 70
CHADRON ST PARK 3 NNE 67

...SOUTH DAKOTA...

ELLSWORTH AFB 71
USTA 71
RAPID CITY DOWNTOWN 68
RAPID CITY 1 E 67
BRIDGER 2 SW 64
WHITLOCKS BAY REC 3 SSW 63
PENNINGTON 59
WASTA 3 WNW 59
WIND CAVE VISITORS 1 W 59
RAPID CITY AIRPORT 54

...SELECTED STORM TOTAL SNOWFALL IN INCHES WHERE THE EVENT HAS ENDED...

...MONTANA...

PONY 5 SW 32.0
MCALLISTER 10 WNW 24.0
MELVILLE 4 W 21.3
MELVILLE 0.3 W 18.0
RED LODGE 1.9 S 18.0
BIG SKY 21 S 17.0
JACKSON 14 SSW 16.0
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS 18 W 14.0
LIVINGSTON 6.6 ESE 13.3
GRANT 18 W 12.0

...WYOMING...

CASPER 22 SSE 34.0
BARNUM 13 W 27.0
BUFFALO 13 WSW 24.0
CASPER 7 S 24.0
LANDER 19 SSW 20.0
MUDDY GAP 18.0
CASPER AIRPORT 15.0
POWDER RIVER SCHOOL 15.0
RAWLINS 14.1
RAWLINS 34 NE 14.0
LANDER 5.7 SW 13.8
BOSLER 12 ENE 12.0
CASPER 2.6 E 12.0

AS THE STORM BEGINS TO WEAKEN...AND THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND THE STORM CONTINUES TO WARM...THE SNOW CURRENTLY ACROSS THE WESTERN PART OF THE NORTHERN PLAINS IS EXPECTED TO GRADUALLY CHANGE OVER

TO RAIN TONIGHT. A FEW ADDITIONAL INCHES OF SNOW CAN BE EXPECTED BEFORE THE SNOW CHANGES OVER TO RAIN.

An estimated 75,000 cattle were killed in an under-reported early-season snowstorm that struck South Dakota on October 4th. News of the losses have slowly been percolating out.

US South Dakota Blizzard 100,000 Cattle Killed!! Most Costly in History

KEVN TV in Rapid City S.D. headlined on October 7th, "Ranchers suffer serious losses in blizzard," and said that ranchers "found cattle huddled up along fence lines, along creek bottoms, and in road ditches, all dead. Silvia Christen with the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association says she has talked to ranchers who have lost 20% to 50% of their cattle." To make it worse, "there was a bitter statement from Senator Tim Johnson's office this morning that the losses come at the very time the USDA's Farm Service offices have been shut down. As a result, the Senator says, ranchers won't even be able to document their losses." KEVN continued: "Thousands of carcasses will have to be disposed of in the coming days. Silvia Christen says, 'There's a health hazard with those animals laying out there in the ditches and they need to be picked up. We need to identify whose animals those are.' The blizzard killed huge numbers of cattle because of the unique nature of the storm. Ranchers say the heavy, wet snow stuck to the cattle's hair and made them soaking wet. Then, freezing temperatures and seventy-mile-an-hour winds chilled the animals until they died of exposure. Most of the cattle will be discovered and disposed of in the coming days, but some are probably buried under snow drifts, and won't be discovered until spring."

Here is the video of KEVN's report: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le4vc8Dd0x0>
The Rapid City Journal bannered on October 8th, "Tens of Thousands of Cattle Killed in Friday's Blizzard," and reported: "'This is absolutely, totally devastating,' said Steve Schell, a 52-year-old rancher from Caputa. 'This is horrendous. I mean the death loss of these cows ... is unbelievable.' Schell said he estimated he had lost half of his herd, but it could be far more. He was still struggling to find snow-buried cattle and those that had been pushed miles by winds that gusted at 70 miles per hour on Friday night. Martha Wierzbicki, emergency management director for Butte County, said the trail of carcasses was a gruesome sight across the region. 'They're in the fence line, laying alongside the roads,' she said. 'It's really sickening.'"

Another report of this disaster appeared on [Dawn Wink's blog](#). She said (accompanying her report with photos): "The worst blizzard in recorded history of South Dakota just swept through the state. Tens of thousands of cattle are predicted dead and the much of the state is still without power. ... The only reason I know this is because my parent's ranch ... lies in the storm's epicenter. Mom texted me after the storm."