

According to Weatherwise the Moore, Oklahoma tornado of May 20 was the number one weather event of 2013. The EF5 tornado that tore through southern suburbs of Oklahoma City left 24 dead, injured 237, and destroyed 1,196 homes. This was part of a multistate outbreak of tornadoes between May 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> the total cost being \$3.75 billion.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> of the top 10 weather events for 2013 was EL Reno, Oklahoma tornado of May 31, 2013. Part of the multiday storm outbreak caused \$2 billion in damage. The EF3 that traveled through the western suburbs of Oklahoma City was the largest tornado ever observed with a width of 2.6 miles. It took eight lives including four tornado chasers.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of the top 10 US weather events according to Weatherwise magazine was the Boulder Colorado flash flood of September 9<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. This deluge dumped more than 9 inches of precipitation in 24 hours and 14 inches in four days on Colorado foothills unleashing furious flooding on Boulder and the surrounding towns. It damaged and destroyed 1800 homes, and washed out hundreds of miles of road, and cost \$2 billion.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 weather events of 2013 according to Weatherwise magazine was the Northeast blizzard of February 8 and 9. This epic nor'easter dumped 20 to 30 inches of snow on Long Island, New York; central and eastern Massachusetts; southern new Hampshire; and southern Maine, and 3 feet of snow in South Central Connecticut making this one of the strongest blizzards on record for southern and eastern New England.

The 5<sup>th</sup> worst weather event of the top 10 for 2013 according to Weatherwise magazine was the northern Plains blizzard of October 4 through the 7<sup>th</sup> one of the most extreme early winter blizzards of record for any region in the United States. It dumped up to 4 feet of snow in the Black Hills of South Dakota, lashed the region with 70 mile an hour winds, and killed thousands of cattle. This storm also brought tornadoes to Nebraska, heavy rains and flooding to the Ohio Valley, and damaging winds in the Northeast.

The 6<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 weather events of 2013 according to Weatherwise magazine was the western and High Plain's drought between January and December. The small snowpack combined with dry and hot weather set the stage for massive Western wildfires including Colorado's most damaging fire on record, California's third largest fire and the Arizona blaze that killed 19 firefighters. Wheat crop was cut by 26%, and California ended up with its driest year on record.

The 7<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 weather events of 2013 was a vast storm that brought snow from California to Maine, 12 inches on Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas. Up to 22 inches of snow piled up in Kansas, where Wichita measured its heaviest snowfall (14.2 inches) in 50 years. The storm also brought heavy rains to the Southeast.

The 8<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 US weather events of 2013 was a Great Lakes winter storm and plains of April 8 through the 12<sup>th</sup>. An enormous storm system tracked from the Great Basin to the Great Lakes, dropping over a foot of snow from Wyoming to Minnesota, including 28 inches at Rapid City, South Dakota-an all-time record. This storm also hit the plains and South with large hail and tornadoes and spread severe thunderstorms from Texas into Pennsylvania.

The 9<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 weather events of 2013 was the severe winter storm of February 24-28 in the Plains to the Northeast. This was the second major storm this month blanketing most of the southern plains to the Great Lakes, blanketing at least 11 states with 1 foot or more of snow setting February snowfall records in northern Texas (19 inches in Amarillo) and bringing whiteout conditions to Denver Colorado.

**The 10<sup>th</sup> of the top 10 weather events of 2013 was the Midwest tornado outbreak of November 17. One of the nation's three most damaging November outbreaks on record resulted in 74 tornadoes across the Ohio Valley, including the EF4 that destroyed large parts of Washington Illinois.**

**Ref. Weatherwise Magazine - May/June 2014 volume 67/ number 3, page 15**