Winter Weather Briefing

Issued: 2:55 PM MST Tuesday February 01, 2022

Event Overview

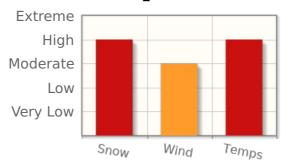
A major winter storm will target the region tonight through Thursday with areas of heavy snow, gusty winds, blowing snow, low visibility, bitter cold, dangerously cold wind chills, and potentially widespread travel impacts. Snow will develop over northern NM tonight and spread southward into central NM through Wednesday morning. The heaviest snowfall is expected between noon and midnight Wednesday with periods of heavy snow and major travel impacts. Very cold temperatures and bitterly cold wind chills will persist Thursday through Friday night. Cold weather may extend lingering travel impacts into Friday.

Key Impacts

- Widespread light to moderate snow will impact northern and central NM with heavy snow in the high terrain and nearby highlands. Travel will become difficult to impossible with road closures possible.
- Gusty winds will lead to areas of blowing snow and low visibility, especially around the ABQ metro area, the eastern plains, and the higher terrain.
- Bitterly cold temperatures may burst pipes, elevate the risk for frostbite and hypothermia, and place higher demand on heating resources.



Hazard Impact Levels



Confidence in Hazard



Timing

The most significant impacts are expected between noon and midnight Wednesday when heavy snowfall, blowing snow, low visibility, and major travel disruptions are expected.

Winter Travel Planner

	Tue 2/1	Wed 2/2	Thu 2/3
Albuquerque Metro Area	Low	High	Low
I-25 La Bajada Hill and Santa Fe Metro	Low	High	Moderate
I-25 Glorieta Pass	Low	High	Low
I-25 Raton Pass	Low	High	Low
I-25 Socorro to Los Lunas	None	Moderate	Low
I-40 Albuquerque to Clines Corners	Low	High	Moderate
I-40 Santa Rosa to Texas Border	None	High	Moderate
I-40 Grants to Gallup	None	Moderate	Low
Highway 550 near Continental Divide	Low	Moderate	Low
U.S. 70 Ruidoso to Hondo	None	High	Moderate