

STATE OF TEXAS, STATE OPERATIONS CENTER (SOC)

SUBJECT: Winter Weather Event

SITUATION REPORT #1

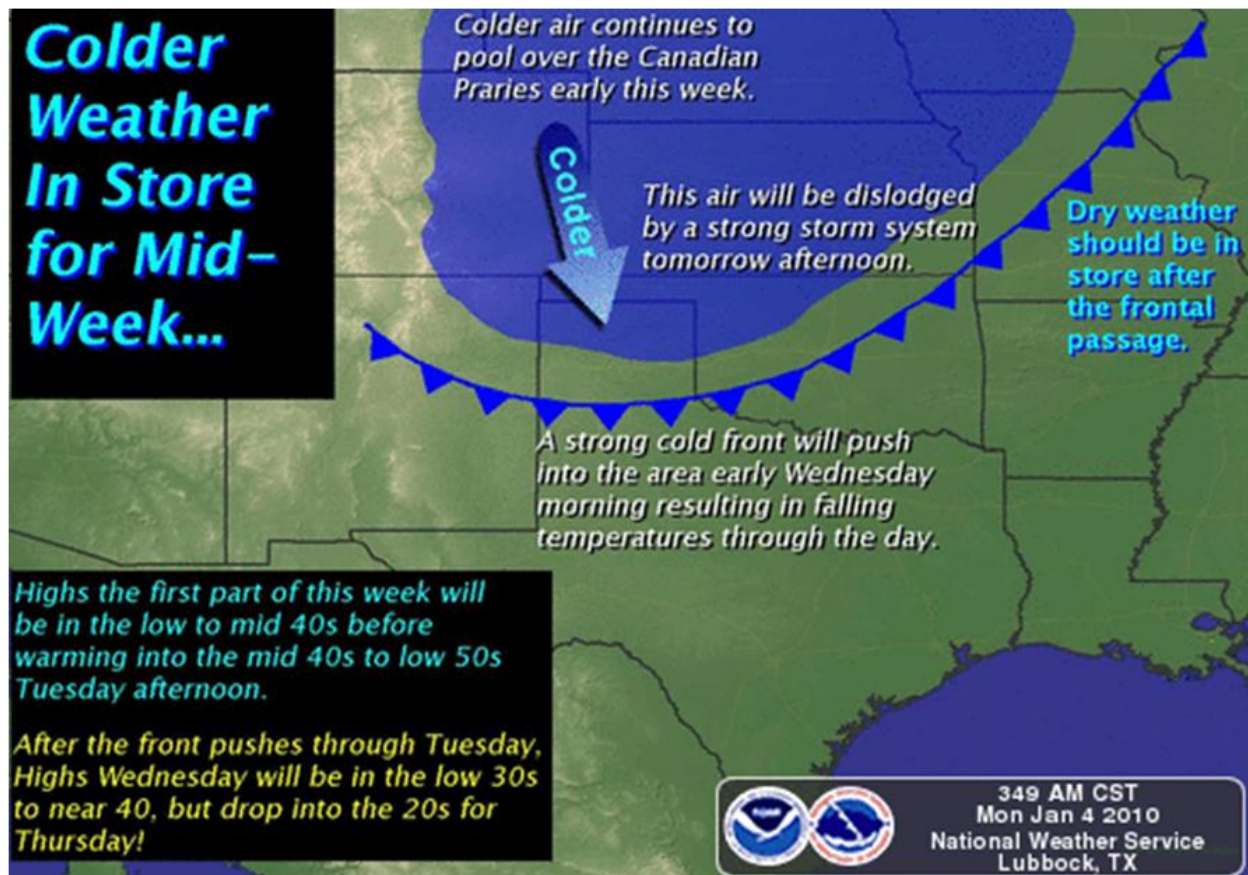
DATE AND TIME COVERED: Monday, January 04, 2010, 04:00 PM

1. CURRENT SITUATION:

A strong arctic cold front will enter the Panhandle Wednesday afternoon and move rapidly southward across the entire State by early Thursday. Some areas may receive record lows as temperatures are expected to reach 20 to 30 degrees during daylight hours, with a wind chill of -5 to -15 degree range. Areas north of Interstate (IH) 10 can expect single digits Thursday night through Friday evening.

Light rain will accompany the arctic front as it moves across the State. Central and eastern portions of the State can expect a mixture of sleet and light snow making elevated surfaces such as bridges and overpasses to be exceptionally dangerous. Motorists are asked to use caution when crossing these areas and be prepared for extended delays while traveling. The Panhandle and northern sections of the State may receive some snowfall; however, accumulation amounts are expected to be light. Western sections can expect a mixture of sleet and drizzle. The precipitation is expected to end by late Thursday, with the arctic cold lasting through Sunday.

2. AREAS AFFECTED BY EVENT:



3. **Road Closures:** Texas Department of Transportation maintains an online interactive map that provides a listing of all road closures. This map can be found at the following web link: http://www.txdot.gov/gis/hcrs_main/viewer.htm

Road conditions in neighboring states can be monitored at the following links. However, please note that it is unknown how current this information may be:

- Oklahoma - <http://www.dps.state.ok.us/cgi-bin/weathermap.cgi>.
- New Mexico Road Conditions can be monitored at <http://nmroads.com/#> .
- Arkansas road closures can be monitored at <http://www.arkansashighways.com/roads/web-road%20closings.htm>

The SOC contacted Oklahoma and New Mexico to request that they forward to the SOC any road closures in their respective states that might impact Texas travel.

4. **COMMENTS:**

The SOC and the National Weather Service Southern Region Headquarters coordinated a winter weather preparedness conference call at 3:00 PM on Monday evening. No additional calls have been scheduled. The SOC will continue to monitor the situation. The SOC is at Level I (Emergency Conditions) to support border security operations.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the DEM Homepage at www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

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