



Weekly Weather Briefing



Tuesday – December 27, 2016

National Weather Service
Spokane, WA

*Weather Forecasts change. Please check our website for updates.
www.weather.gov/Spokane*

Welcome to the Weekly Weather Briefing for the Inland Northwest from the National Weather Service in Spokane for the week of December 27th.



Overview



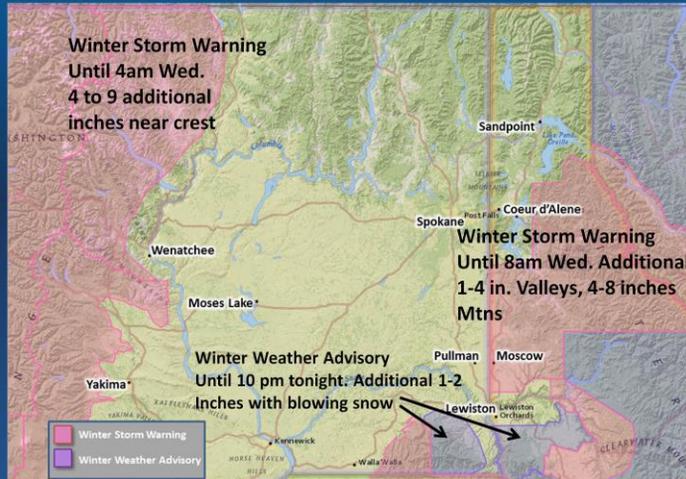
- Mountain Snow showers tonight and Wednesday.
- Light to locally Moderate Snow Thursday and Friday.

Next widespread significant snow storm possible on New Years Day

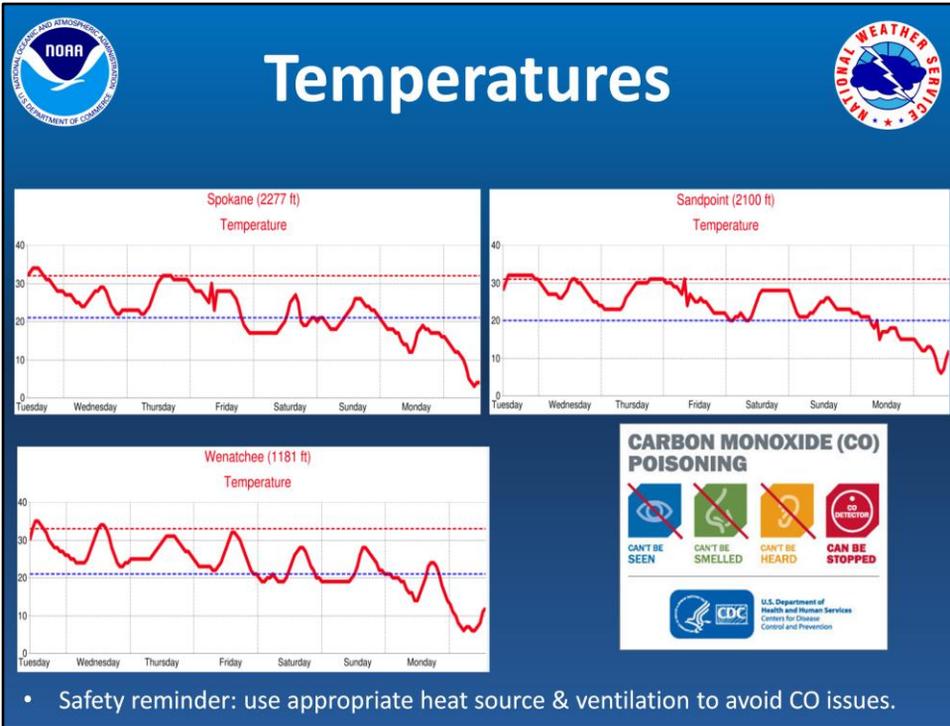
Very Cold and dry Monday and Tuesday

As today's storm exits the area snow showers will taper off in the basin but continue in the mountains with minor to moderate further accumulations through Wednesday. More widespread light accumulations will return on Thursday and Friday as the next winter system transits the region. Saturday will be a quiet break period but another winter storm will ring in the new year with widespread accumulations. A sharp cool down is expected Monday and Tuesday with biting north winds especially on Monday.

Residual Highlights Tonight and Wednesday



A Winter Storm Warning remains tonight over the Idaho Panhandle mountains, and a snow and Blowing Snow Advisory will continue over the Palouse and points southward through this evening.



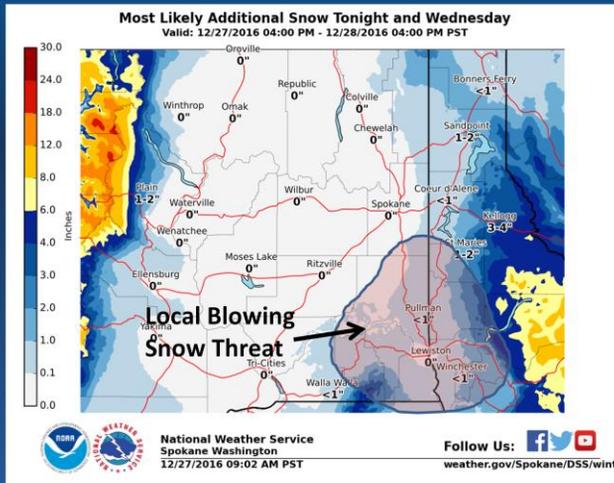
First here is the 7-day forecast for temperatures around the region. Near normal highs and lows for the rest of the work week will give way to a moderate cooling trend this weekend...followed by a sharp drop in temperatures Monday and Tuesday as a cold modified arctic air mass invades the region.



Tonight/Wednesday



Mountain Snow Risk



- Local Blowing Snow continues through Wednesday over SE.
- Continued Snow showers Idaho Panhandle and Cascade Crest.

The region will remain under the polar storm track for the next 24 hours with continued mountain snow showers near the Cascade crest and into the Idaho Panhandle mountains . Breezy conditions with areas of blowing snow will continue over the Palouse...Pomeroy area and the Camas Prairie through Wednesday. Most of the Columbia Basin will be dry...seasonably cool and partly to mostly cloudy.



Thursday to Friday

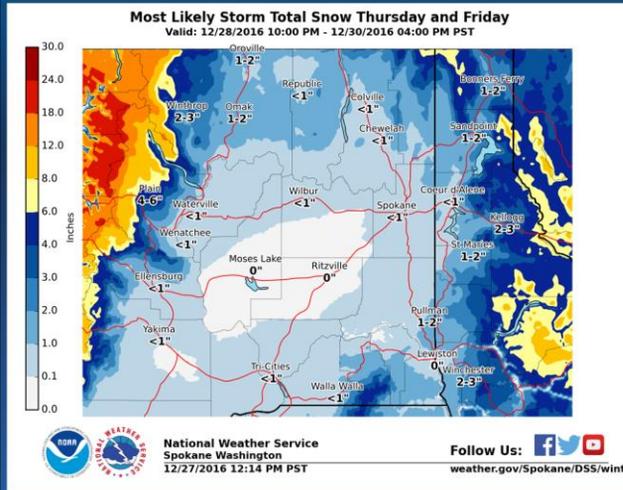


Light to Moderate Snow Risk

Light snow begins under a warm front on Thursday

Continues along trailing cold front on Friday

Drying from north to south on Friday Aft.



On Thursday a warm front will develop over the region. The air mass will be cold enough for snow at all elevations except at Lewiston where a mix of rain and snow or even just rain may occur. Thursday night and Friday the trailing cold front will drop north to south through the area with additional light snow ahead of and along this front. Drying and clearing from the north to south will occur Friday afternoon, with snow showers possibly lingering through late in the day over the southeast.



New Years Eve



Saturday will be quiet and benign during the day

However the next storm system will approach during the evening.

Light snow will begin over most locations during the evening as the New Year celebrations get going.

A cold storm system arriving out of the north will approach the region on New Years Eve. Most of Saturday will be dry with increasing clouds. The storm will begin to produce light snow mainly over the Cascades and Eastern Washington north of Interstate 90 during the evening celebration period. Only minor accumulations are expected before midnight.



New Years Day



Widespread light snow with at least moderate accumulation is possible as this storm passes by the area.

Snow Confidence:



Amount Confidence



On New Years Day at this time it appears that the track of this low will be conducive to producing widespread light snow over all of Eastern Washington and north Idaho. If this track holds then snow amounts will probably be in the moderate 2 to 4 inch range over much of the area with higher amounts possible south of Interstate 90 and in the Cascades. This forecast is a first guess and subject to change as the date approaches.



Monday and Tuesday



Exiting low pressure draws cold modified arctic air into the region from Canada.

Breezy north winds .

Monday and Tuesday will be dry and cold.

Daytime highs in the teens and low 20s.

Overnight lows in the single digits to low teens

The low pressure will move off to the south on Monday and draw some cold modified arctic air into the region. Breezy conditions will develop through the north-south valleys and in the Columbia Basin. This dry air will effectively end any further snow except for a few mountain snow showers. Thus, Monday and Tuesday of next week will be dry and cold.



Looking at the medium range outlook from the Climate Prediction Center: the odds strongly favor below normal temperatures while the signal for above or below normal precipitation is not clear.



Impacts Overview



- Mountain snow showers and local blowing snow Palouse and points south tonight and Wednesday
- Light to Moderate snow Thursday/Friday
- Widespread snow New years eve and New Years Day. Accum. uncertain at this time.
- Cold and breezy but essentially dry Mon and Tues.

Here is an overview of the impacts for the next week.



Stay Informed



www.weather.gov/spokane

-  • Like us on Facebook – NWSSpokane
-  • Follow us on Twitter @NWSSpokane
-  • YouTube (Weekly Weather Briefings)

Here are ways for you to stay informed this week about any upcoming weather. Have a nice week!