



# NOAA/NWS Glasgow Watch, Warning and Advisory Criteria



The National Weather Service issues watches, warnings and advisories based on the guidelines below, but other considerations are also taken into account, such as what the impacts of an event will be to the population, and time of year, day of the week, and/or the hours of the day the event will occur.

Winter Weather Watches	Criteria / Definition
Winter Storm Watch	Conditions are favorable for hazardous winter weather conditions including heavy snow, blizzard conditions, or significant accumulations of freezing rain or sleet in the next 12 to 48 hours. It may also include wind chills if they are expected with the above listed events.
Blizzard Watch	Conditions are favorable for blizzard conditions in the next 12 to 48 hours.
Wind Chill Watch	Conditions are favorable for dangerous wind chills in the next 12 to 48 hours.
Winter Weather Warnings	Criteria / Definition
Winter Storm Warning	Any one or a combination of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-6 inches of snow or more in 12 hours or 8 inches of snow or more in 24 hours.</li> <li>-Sustained winds of less than 34 mph causing blowing snow (with or without snowfall occurring) reducing visibility to more than a ¼ mile for 3 hours or more.</li> <li>-Ice accumulations with liquid precipitation of a quarter of an inch or more.</li> <li>-Wind Chill of ≤ -40 degrees with winds of ≥ 10 mph occurring with any of the above criteria</li> <li>-An event that will cause moderate to major impacts to travel/commerce</li> </ul>
Blizzard Warning	Sustained or frequent gusts of 35 mph or more, frequent visibilities of ≤ ¼ mile, falling and/or blowing snow for 3 hours or more.
Wind Chill Warning	Wind chills of ≤ -40 degrees with winds of ≥ 10 mph, no precipitation occurring
Winter Weather Advisories	Criteria / Definition
Winter Weather Advisory	Any one or a combination of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-2 to 5 inches of snow in 12 hours.</li> <li>-Any accumulating amount of snow of a half inch or more if there is no snow already on the ground and/or there has been no significant snowfall (&gt;1") in the past two weeks.</li> <li>-Wind driven snow that occasionally reduces visibilities down to a ¼ mile.</li> <li>-Wind Chill Advisory criteria along with falling snow and/or blowing snow reducing visibility to down to a ¼ mile.</li> <li>-Sleet</li> <li>-An event that transitions to or from Freezing Rain into any of the above criteria</li> <li>-An event that will cause minor to moderate impacts to travel/commerce</li> </ul>
Wind Chill Advisory	Wind chills of -20 degrees to -39 degrees with winds of ≥ 10 mph, no precipitation occurring
Freezing Rain Advisory	Freezing Drizzle or Freezing Rain with precipitation accumulations of 0.01" to 0.24"

<b>Flooding Products</b>	<b>Criteria / Definition</b>
Flood Watch	The potential exists for a river to exceed flood stage in the next 12 to 72 hours. (Issued for the Milk, Missouri, Poplar and Yellowstone Rivers)
Flash Flood Watch	The potential exists for heavy rains to create flash flooding in the next 6 to 24 hours.
Flood Warning	The river is expected to exceed flood stage in the next 48 hours. Loss of life or property is possible with this type of event. (Issued for the Musselshell, Milk, Missouri, Poplar, and Yellowstone Rivers)
Flash Flood Warning	Flash Flood conditions are occurring or are expected to occur in the next 6 hours. Loss of life or property is possible.
Urban/Small Stream Flood Advisory	This is used for minor flooding in towns, or small creeks, or areas where roads may have running water over them.
Urban/Small Stream Flood Warnings	This is used for significant flooding within a town, or on creeks and streams that are tributaries to mainstem rivers. Loss of life or property is possible.
River Statement	Gives information on a creek or river that is rising, but is not expected to flood.
<b>Summer Watches</b>	<b>Criteria/Definition</b>
Severe Thunderstorm Watch	Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms in and close to the watch area within the next 6 hours.
Tornado Watch	Conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms producing tornadoes in and close to the watch area in the next 6 hours.
<b>Summer Warnings</b>	<b>Criteria / Definition</b>
Severe Thunderstorm Warning	Hail 1" (quarter size) diameter or larger. Wind gusts of 58 mph or greater.
Tornado Warning	Radar or satellite indication and/or reliable spotter reports of a tornado.
Significant Weather Alert	Hail that has significant accumulations over a populated area, but is less than 1" in size Hail from 3/4" to just under 1" Wind gusts greater than 40 mph but less than 58 mph Significant amount of lightning coming through a populated area or over Fort Peck Lake Use for cold air funnel events
<b>Non-Precipitation Advisories</b>	<b>Criteria / Definition</b>
Dense Fog Advisory	Visibility $\leq$ ¼ mile for 3 hours or more.
Lake Wind Advisory	Fort Peck Lake only – Winds sustained at 20 mph or higher for 3 hours or more, or any gusts to 30 mph or higher. (Seasonal product issued from ice out in the Spring to Nov 30 <sup>th</sup> in the Fall).
Dense Smoke Advisory	Used when visibility is a ¼ mile or less, either localized or widespread.
Blowing Dust Advisory	Used when visibility is a ¼ mile or less, either localized or widespread and the wind is gusting or sustained at 25 mph or higher.
<b>High Wind Watch/Warning</b>	<b>Criteria / Definition</b>
High Wind Watch	Conditions are favorable for high winds in the next 12 to 48 hours.
High Wind Warning	Sustained winds $\geq$ 40 mph for at least 2 hours or any gust $\geq$ 58 mph.
<b>Fire Weather Watch / Red Flag Warning</b>	<b>Criteria / Definition</b>
Fire Weather Watch	Conditions are favorable for red flag conditions in the next 12 to 48 hours.
Red Flag Warning	Fire Danger Very High or Extreme, Sustained winds $\geq$ 20 mph and relative humidity $\leq$ 20%, scattered dry thunderstorms, increased tstm activity after a prolonged dry period, abrupt change in wind speed and direction that may affect the area.