



Wind Storm to Arrive After Christmas Next Week.

We are returning to an active pattern beginning today as a weak cold front moves through the area. Freezing fog has a good chance of developing in many of the valleys Saturday morning, impacting aviation and travel. Then, a ridge of high pressure builds Saturday and pushes eastward before another weakening front approaches the Pacific Northwest on Sunday. The weather will generally be unsettled for Christmas with very limited impacts. Then, a strong low pressure system will approach the Pacific Northwest Tuesday into next weekend. The main threat will be winds and the associated marine/surf hazards brought by those winds, but periods of moderate rain and snow will be possible next week as well. However, the trajectory and the strength of the low will largely dictate the weather impacts for southern Oregon and northern California. This means we will likely be sending additional emails in the coming days. Details from today's forecast are below.

KEY POINTS

- **Wet or snow covered roads in the Cascades and East Side may flash freeze tonight with temperatures in the teens. Freezing fog also a concern.**
- **While the weather will be unsettled on Christmas with some light to moderate rain at the coast and some light snow in the Cascades, impacts are really not expected.**
- **Winds will be the primary impact for land areas Tuesday night into Wednesday, with isolated treefall and travel difficulties.**
- **South winds reaching storm force are possible, with a 40% chance in the inner waters and up to a 70% chance beyond 10 nautical miles.**
- **High surf with dangerous bar crossings, hazardous beach conditions, beach erosion are possible. Coastal flooding is possible.**
- **A large long-period swell will also arrive Wednesday into Thursday, bringing the potential for large breaking waves of 20 to 30 feet. This could bring impacts to exposed infrastructure at the coast as well as beach erosion.**
- **South winds may bring moderate snow to Mt. Shasta on Wednesday. Snow levels start around 5000 feet and fall to 4000 feet by Friday.**

WEATHER RISK OUTLOOK

Risk levels incorporate potential impacts from weather hazards and likelihood of occurrence for a reasonable worse case scenario.

	Fri 12/22	Sat 12/23	Sun 12/24	Mon 12/25	Tue 12/26	Wed 12/27	Thu 12/28
Wind					Coast, East of the Cascades, Shasta Valley, Rogue Valley (PM)	Coast, East of the Cascades, Shasta Valley, Rogue Valley	
Heavy Rain				Curry County		Curry County	
Snow	Cascades		Cascades			Mt. Shasta Area, Cascades	Cascades
Flash Freeze	Cascades and East Side						
High Surf				All Oregon Beaches	All Oregon Beaches	All Oregon Beaches	All Oregon Beaches

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme

DETAILS

Southern Oregon Coast

High Surf

Impacts:

Beaches will not be safe during periods of high surf. Beach erosion will be possible. Damage to exposed infrastructure possible. Dangerous Bar Crossings. Coastal flooding could be possible for our typical areas.

Timing:

Begins Monday, increases Tuesday and peaks Wednesday. High surf will continue through at least Thursday and likely Friday.

Confidence:

High

A long period swell will arrive Monday bringing breaking waves of 20 to 25 feet to the coast on Monday. Then, southerly storm force winds in the marine waters are possible next week with guidance already indicating a 40% chance of them occurring near the coast. (There is a 70% chance of storm force winds beyond 10 nautical miles). This will create additional problems for south-facing beaches. Then, an even larger long-period west swell will move into waters creating breaking waves of 20 to 30 feet in the surf zone. This will create beach issues for all southern Oregon beaches and could linger into Friday.

Wind

Impacts:

Difficulty traveling for high-profile vehicles. Isolated tree limbs/tree falls possible. A few power outages may be possible.

Timing:

Tuesday night into Wednesday morning.

Confidence:

Moderate

The confidence in the winds will be tied to the location and the strength of the incoming low pressure. Right now, the low is expected to weaken and stay well offshore. If the low were to come in stronger or traverse a bit closer to the coast, the impacts could be more.

Heavy Rain

Impacts:

Ponding of water on roadways. Isolated Rock Falls

Timing:

Wednesday night into Thursday, mainly for Curry County.

Confidence:

Moderate

East of the Cascades

Wind

Impacts:

Difficulty traveling for high-profile vehicles. Isolated tree limbs/tree falls possible. A few power outages may be possible. Loose objects may be blown away.

Timing:

Wednesday

Confidence:

A 30% chance of winds to 45 mph along highway 31, a 70% chance of 45 mph for higher terrain, including highway 97, 139.

The confidence in the winds will be tied to the location and the strength of the incoming low pressure. Right now, the low is expected to weaken and stay well offshore. If the low were to come in stronger or traverse a bit closer to the coast, the impacts could be more.

Freeze

Impacts:

Roads may flash freeze and become slippery.

Timing:

Tonight

Confidence:

High

Any wet roads in the Cascades or east of the Cascades may flash freeze tonight as temperatures drop into the teens.

Rogue Valley

**Impacts:**

Difficulty traveling for high-profile vehicles. Isolated tree limbs/tree falls possible. A few power outages may be possible. Loose objects may be blown away.

Timing:

Wednesday

Confidence:

20% to 40% of winds to 45 mph in the southern half of the valley.

The confidence in the winds will be tied to the location and the strength of the incoming low pressure. Right now, the low is expected to weaken and stay well offshore. If the low were to come in stronger or traverse a bit closer to the coast, the impacts could be more, especially if the winds line up with the valley.

Shasta Valley

**Impacts:**

Difficulty traveling for high-profile vehicles. Isolated tree limbs/tree falls possible. A few power outages may be possible. Loose objects may be blown away.

Timing:

Wednesday

Confidence:

50% to 80% of at least 45 mph winds.

The confidence in the winds will be tied to the location and the strength of the incoming low pressure. Right now, the low is expected to weaken and stay well offshore. If the low were to come in stronger or traverse a bit closer to the coast, the impacts could be more.

Cascades and Siskiyou

**Impacts:**

Snow on roads

Timing:

Today, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Confidence:

Moderate

While snow on the passes will be possible. Snow levels will be relatively high through the week, and only a couple inches of snow will be possible in the Cascades with each system, even on the Christmas holiday. A dusting of snow may be possible for Interstate 5 at Siskiyou Summit through this period.

**Impacts:**

Wet roads may flash freeze and become slippery.

Timing:

Tonight

Confidence:

High

Any wet or snow covered roads in the Cascades will have the potential to flash freeze tonight as temperatures drop into the teens.

Mt Shasta Region

**Impacts:**

Snow on roads could create difficult travel.

Timing:

Wednesday through Thursday.

Confidence:

Low

Snow levels on Wednesday will start around 5000 feet and fall to 4000 feet as the front passes through. With south winds, snow will be enhanced on the south side of Mt. Shasta, and periods of heavy snow could drive snow levels down to 3500 feet at times. While snow on the roads may be possible, there is only a 20% chance for an inch of snow at Snowman's summit at best, and 10% chance for an inch along I-5 at Black Butte Summit in a 24 hour period.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

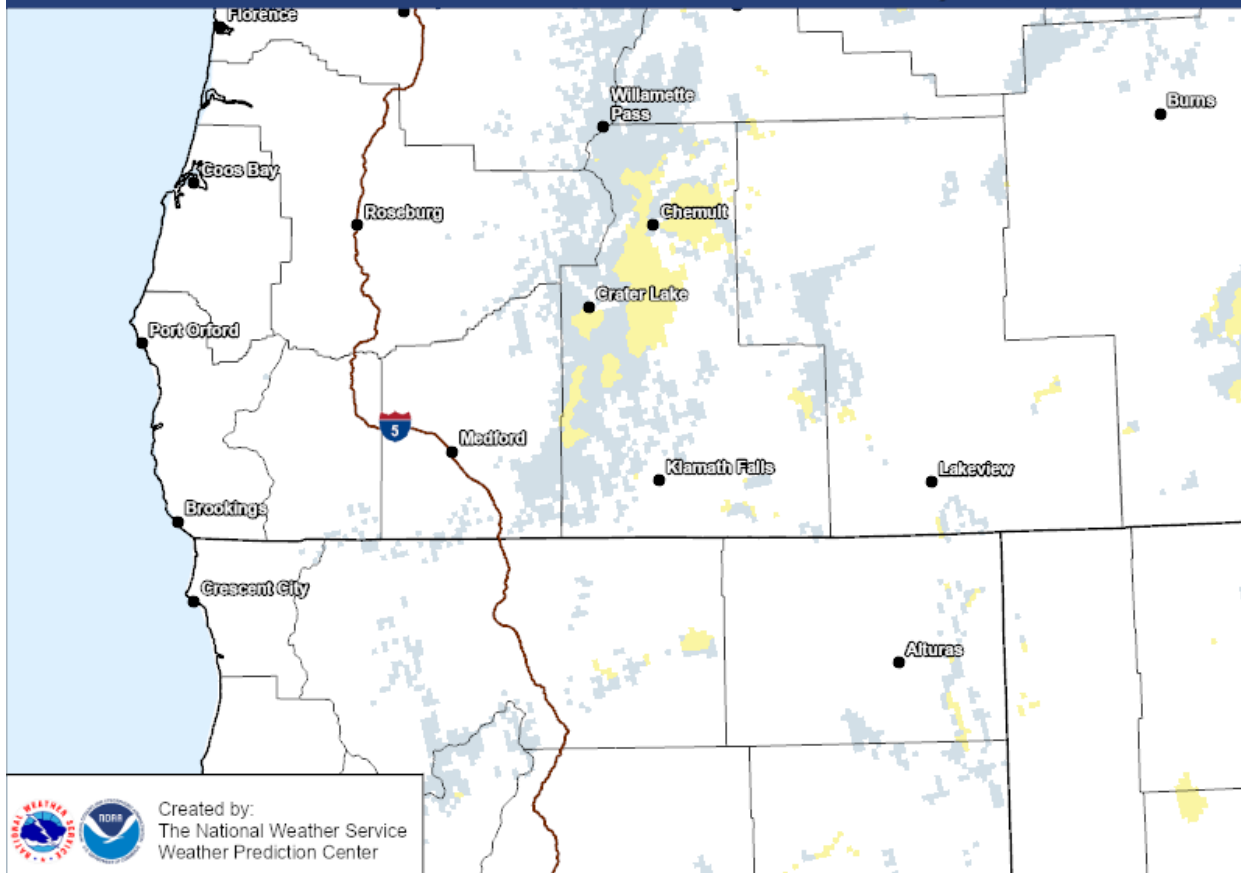
For the latest forecast updates, visit weather.gov/medford.

If you have questions or would like to submit weather reports, photos, or to unsubscribe from these briefings, email nws.medford@noaa.gov or call (541) 773-1067.

GRAPHICS

WSSI Flash Freeze

Valid through Mon, Dec 25, 2023 10 AM PT



Created by:
The National Weather Service
Weather Prediction Center

Potential Winter Storm Impacts Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI) Issued: Fri, Dec 22, 2023 11 AM PT

<p>Winter Weather Area</p> <p>Expect winter weather.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully. 	<p>Minor Impacts</p> <p>Expect a few inconveniences to daily life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winter driving conditions. Use Caution while driving. 	<p>Moderate Impacts</p> <p>Expect disruptions to daily life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving. Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur. 	<p>Major Impacts</p> <p>Expect considerable disruptions to daily life.</p> <p>Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Avoid travel if possible.</p> <p>Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.</p>	<p>Extreme Impacts</p> <p>Expect substantial disruptions to daily life.</p> <p>Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Travel is not advised.</p> <p>Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur. Life-saving actions may be needed.</p>
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Flash Freeze

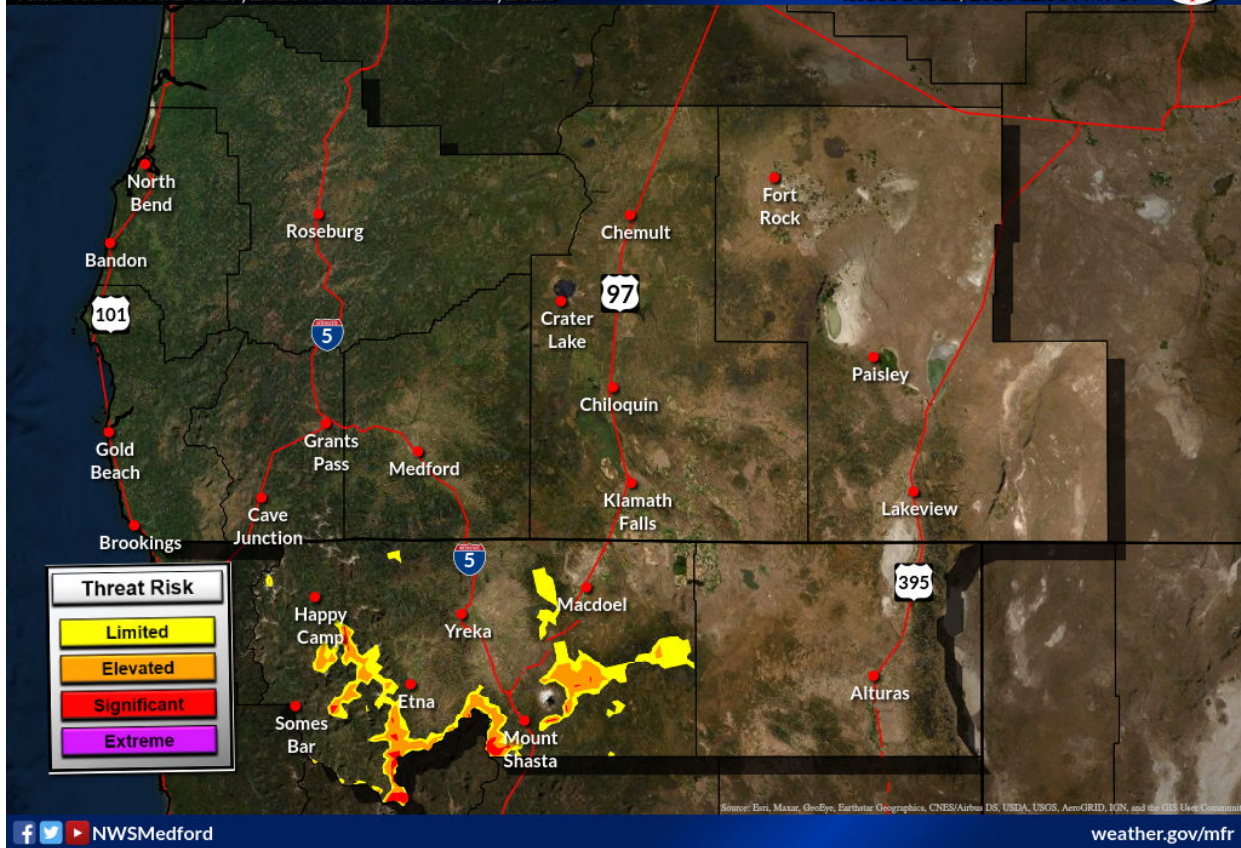
Snow/Sleet Risk for Wed/Wed Night

Weather Forecast Office
Medford, OR



Valid 4 AM Wed Dec 27, 2023 to 4 AM Thu Dec 28, 2023

Issued Dec 22, 2023 12:50 PM PST



Wednesday, December 27, 2023

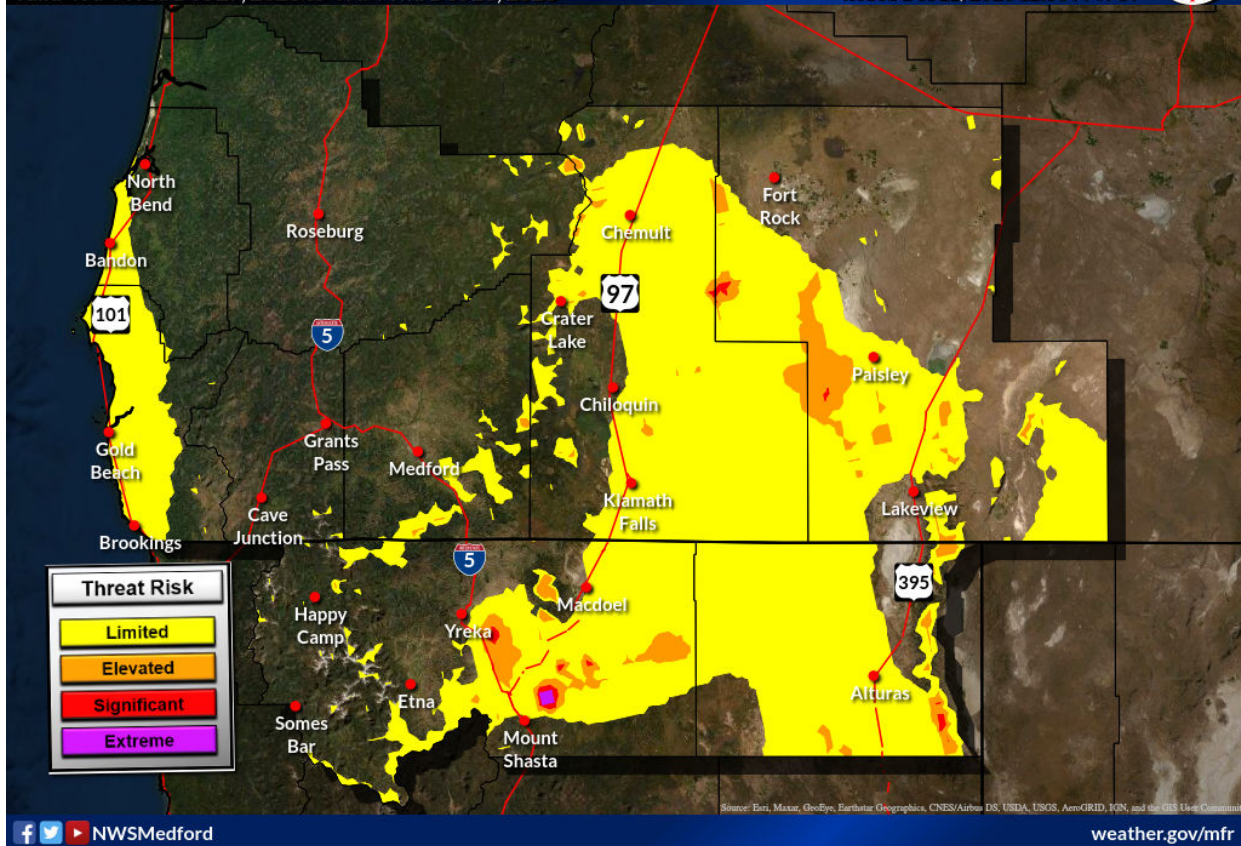
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