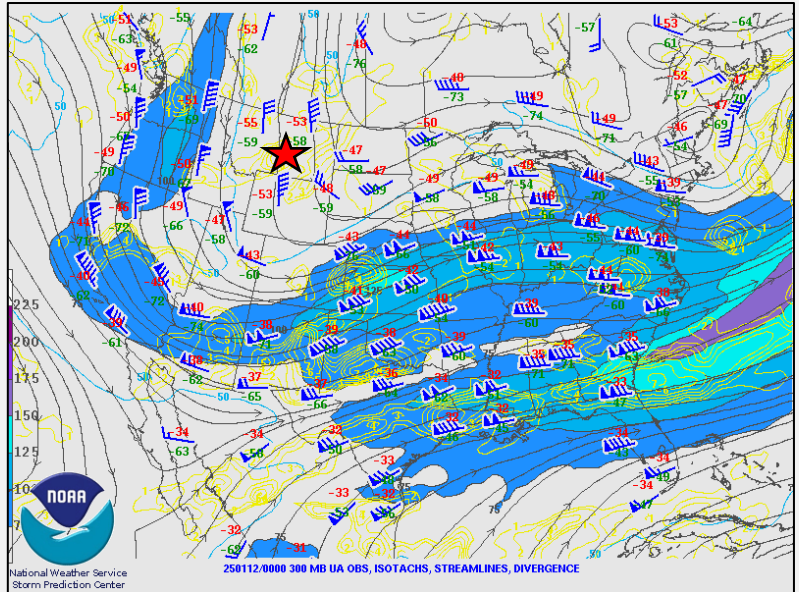


# Heavy Snow

## January 11-12, 2025

National Weather Service – Billings, MT

**OVERVIEW:** A series of weak disturbances embedded within a moist and unstable northerly flow, resulted in a prolonged period of upslope snowfall in central parts of our forecast area. This includes locations mostly east of Billings and west of Miles City & Broadus, but also the western mountains. The northern Bighorns and Pryor Mountains received the most snowfall. Western lower elevations experienced persistent downslope westerly winds and were thus much drier, including Red Lodge. Areas closer to the Dakotas received some snow at the onset of this event, but drier air kept amounts lower than central areas. To the right is a 300mb (jet stream level) analysis on the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup>, showing the northerly flow over the northern Rockies.



**SNOWFALL:** Snow amounts over the 2-day period were quite heavy over the mountains and in Big Horn, Sheridan, and southern Rosebud Counties. There were reports of as much as a foot of snowfall at lower elevations. The Pryor, Bighorn and Crazy Mountains saw two feet or more of accumulation. The water content of the mountain snowfall was significant (1 to 2 inches), and by the end of the event many river basins were reporting snow water in the existing snowpack between 80-100% of median for the date, and in fact the Musselshell Basin was 125% of median due to heavy snow over the nearby Little Belt and Crazy Mountains. After a slow start to high elevation precip in the 2025 water year (beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>), the significant snowfall received during the first half of January has been a welcome sight!



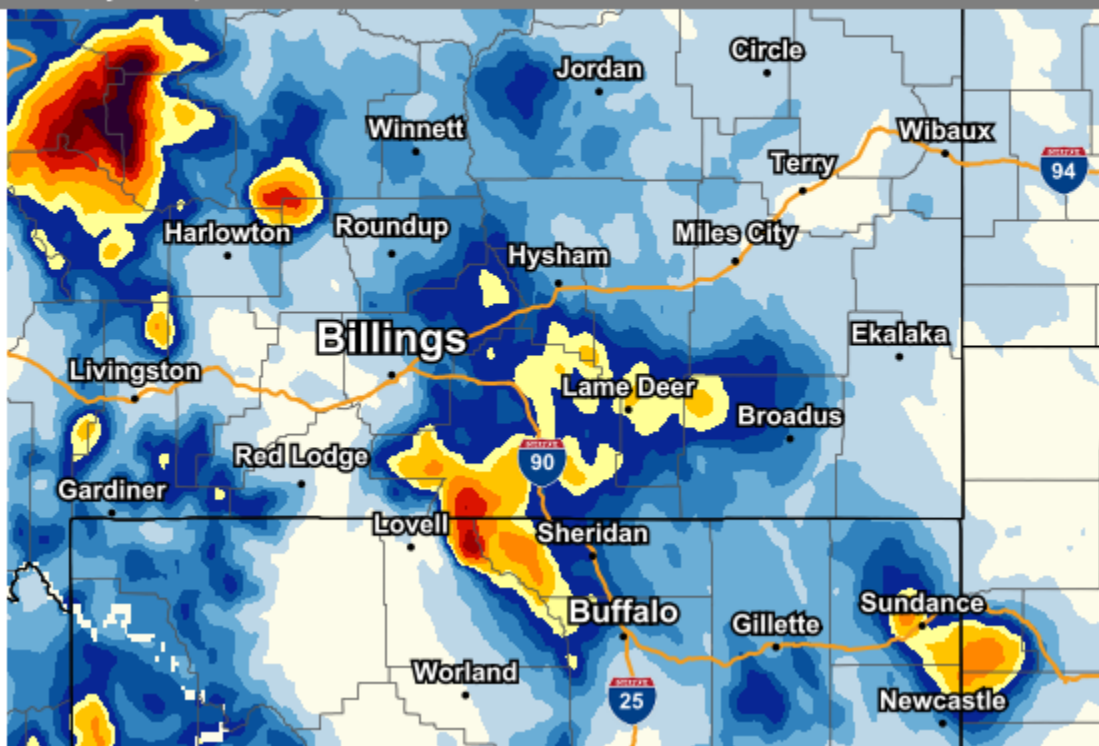
**IMPACTS:** The combination of snowfall and gusty winds produced very difficult travel conditions. In fact, US-212 was closed from Crow Agency to Alzada for approximately 24 hours, from midday on the 11<sup>th</sup> through the morning on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There were several accidents and slide offs leading up to the highway's closure. Also, US-14 was closed between Dayton and Shell due to heavy snow and blowing snow over the Bighorn Mountains. To the left is a photo of the hazardous conditions on US-212, courtesy of Rosebud County.

**SNOWFALL REPORTS:** Below are a map of estimated snowfall and list of snowfall reports received. Mountain snowfall was gathered from high elevation SNOTEL (snow telemetry) sites. Not all snowfall reports are accurately reflected in the map, but it clearly shows the areas where snow was heaviest.



# Observed Snowfall

Valid Ending Monday January 13th, 2025 at 5 AM MST



Graphic Created  
January 13th, 2025  
9:29 AM MST

Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Billings MT  
1104 AM MST Mon Jan 13 2025

### ...SNOWFALL REPORTS...

Location	Amount	Time/Date	Lat/Lon/Elev (ft.)
...Montana...			
...Big Horn County...			
2 NE Rosebud Battlefield Par	12.0 in	0306 PM 01/12	45.25N/106.97W/4135
1 ESE Busby	7.6 in	0200 PM 01/12	45.52N/106.93W/3602
1 SW Wyola	6.0 in	0251 PM 01/12	45.12N/107.41W/3729
7 W Lodge Grass	7.4 in	0200 PM 01/12	45.31N/107.52W/3913
1 SE Crow Agency	3.0 in	0200 PM 01/12	45.59N/107.44W/3112
Hardin	3.0 in	0500 PM 01/12	45.73N/107.61W/2905
1 ESE Busby	2.3 in	0400 PM 01/11	45.52N/106.93W/3602
Fort Smith 0.5 ENE	1.5 in	0700 AM 01/12	45.31N/107.92W/3283
...Carter County...			
Ridge 3.8 NE	5.0 in	0700 AM 01/12	45.09N/104.98W/4100
Ekalaka	4.8 in	0505 PM 01/12	45.89N/104.55W/3425
Boyes 1.7 NNE	2.5 in	0800 AM 01/12	45.29N/105.02W/3447
3.6 E Ridgeway	1.0 in	0600 PM 01/12	45.50N/104.45W/3316
...Golden Valley County...			
9.4 NE Hedgesville	4.0 in	0700 AM 01/13	46.53N/109.34W/4440
...Musselshell County...			

3 ENE Musselshell	3.5 in	0200 PM	01/12	46.54N/108.02W/3112
11 NNE Roundup	2.5 in	0200 PM	01/12	46.58N/108.43W/3439
Roundup 7.4 SSE	3.4 in	0700 AM	01/13	46.35N/108.48W/3518
Roundup 0.6 NW	2.2 in	0700 AM	01/13	46.45N/108.55W
Roundup 6.2 ENE	1.5 in	0700 AM	01/13	46.48N/108.42W/3147
Roundup 8.1 SE	1.2 in	0600 AM	01/12	46.35N/108.44W/3900
Roundup 0.6 NW	1.2 in	0700 AM	01/12	46.45N/108.55W
Roundup 1.8 NNE	1.2 in	0800 AM	01/12	46.47N/108.52W/3318

...Park County...

13 ENE Wilsall	28.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	46.09N/110.43W/8100
21 NW Cooke City	7.5 in	0500 PM	01/12	45.22N/110.24W/8850
3 NNW Cooke City	7.5 in	0500 PM	01/12	45.06N/109.94W/9100
12 NE Wilsall	6.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	46.11N/110.47W/6500
22 SW Limestone	5.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	45.27N/110.25W/6700
Livingston 12 S	1.5 in	0600 PM	01/11	45.48N/110.57W/4857

...Powder River County...

2 NNE Sayle	5.8 in	0200 PM	01/12	45.25N/105.98W/3990
Ashland 9.7 ESE	4.5 in	0600 AM	01/12	45.59N/106.12W/3191
Broadus 18.8 NNW	4.0 in	0700 AM	01/12	45.67N/105.62W/3483
9 ESE Ashland	4.0 in	0200 PM	01/12	45.57N/106.14W/3229
7.8 SW Biddle	2.0 in	0600 PM	01/11	45.04N/105.49W/3597
Broadus 12.3 SSE	1.1 in	0700 AM	01/12	45.27N/105.33W/3139

...Rosebud County...

1 NNW Lame Deer	12.0 in	0335 PM	01/12	45.63N/106.62W/3250
6 ENE Lame Deer	5.7 in	0200 PM	01/12	45.66N/106.49W/3940
13.1 NE Ingomar	1.5 in	0600 AM	01/12	46.74N/107.21W/2795
9 NE Ingomar	1.5 in	0200 PM	01/12	46.66N/107.22W/3107
0.9 E Brandenburg	1.5 in	0600 PM	01/12	45.82N/106.23W/2770

...Stillwater County...

8 WNW Absarokee	1.3 in	0400 PM	01/11	45.56N/109.61W/4595
Fishtail 18 SW	1.0 in	0400 PM	01/12	45.24N/109.73W/6538

...Sweet Grass County...

10 WSW Limestone	7.5 in	0500 PM	01/12	45.42N/110.09W/8830
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...Treasure County...

Hysham 25 SSE	7.0 in	0800 AM	01/13	45.94N/107.14W/3093
Hysham	2.0 in	0800 AM	01/12	46.29N/107.23W/2651

...Yellowstone County...

15.4 N Pompeys Pillar	4.6 in	0700 AM	01/13	46.22N/108.03W/3466
6 ENE Broadview	3.0 in	0400 PM	01/11	46.13N/108.76W/4042
1 ESE Pompeys Pillar	2.8 in	1050 PM	01/12	45.99N/107.93W
4 SW Worden	1.1 in	0200 PM	01/12	45.93N/108.23W/3004

...Wyoming...

...Sheridan County...

1 NNW Burgess Junction	21.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	44.79N/107.53W/7880
7 ESE Burgess Junction	21.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	44.72N/107.40W/8880
Story 2.1 WSW	11.5 in	0800 AM	01/13	44.57N/106.93W/5433
6 ENE Burgess Junction	11.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	44.81N/107.41W/6870
Sheridan 1.7 NW	9.0 in	0800 AM	01/13	44.81N/106.98W/3858
Story 2.1 W	8.5 in	0700 AM	01/13	44.58N/106.93W/5435
Sheridan 1.0 N	7.6 in	0700 AM	01/13	44.81N/106.96W/3729
0.6 W Story	7.1 in	0809 AM	01/13	44.58N/106.90W/5083
15 SW Beckton	6.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	44.57N/107.29W/8880

12 SSW Beckton	6.0 in	0500 PM	01/12	44.58N/107.20W/7990
1 NNE Sheridan	5.5 in	1227 AM	01/12	44.80N/106.95W
Dayton 1.0 SSW	5.0 in	0700 AM	01/13	44.86N/107.27W/4177
Sheridan 13.8 NNE	3.4 in	0700 AM	01/12	44.98N/106.85W/3547
Big Horn 0.3 ESE	3.1 in	0700 AM	01/13	44.68N/106.99W/4062
Big Horn	2.8 in	0800 AM	01/12	44.68N/107.01W/4207
Sheridan 0.6 E	5.7 in	0553 AM	01/13	44.79N/106.94W/3760
Sheridan 2.9 S	2.5 in	0800 AM	01/12	44.75N/106.95W/3842
Sheridan 3.4 SSW	3.0 in	0700 AM	01/13	44.75N/106.99W/4031
Wyarno 9 NNE	1.6 in	0700 AM	01/12	44.93N/106.68W/3691

Observations are collected from a variety of sources with varying equipment and exposures. We thank all volunteer weather observers for their dedication. Not all data listed are considered official.