



# Potential Major/Extreme Winter Storm

April 2, 2023  
2:35 PM

Tuesday through Thursday Morning

## Key Messages:

- A powerful late season winter storm will impact the area Tuesday through Thursday morning.
- A Winter Storm Watch goes into effect Tuesday morning and continues through Thursday morning.
- This could be the most impactful storm of the season.
- Difficult to impossible travel is expected.

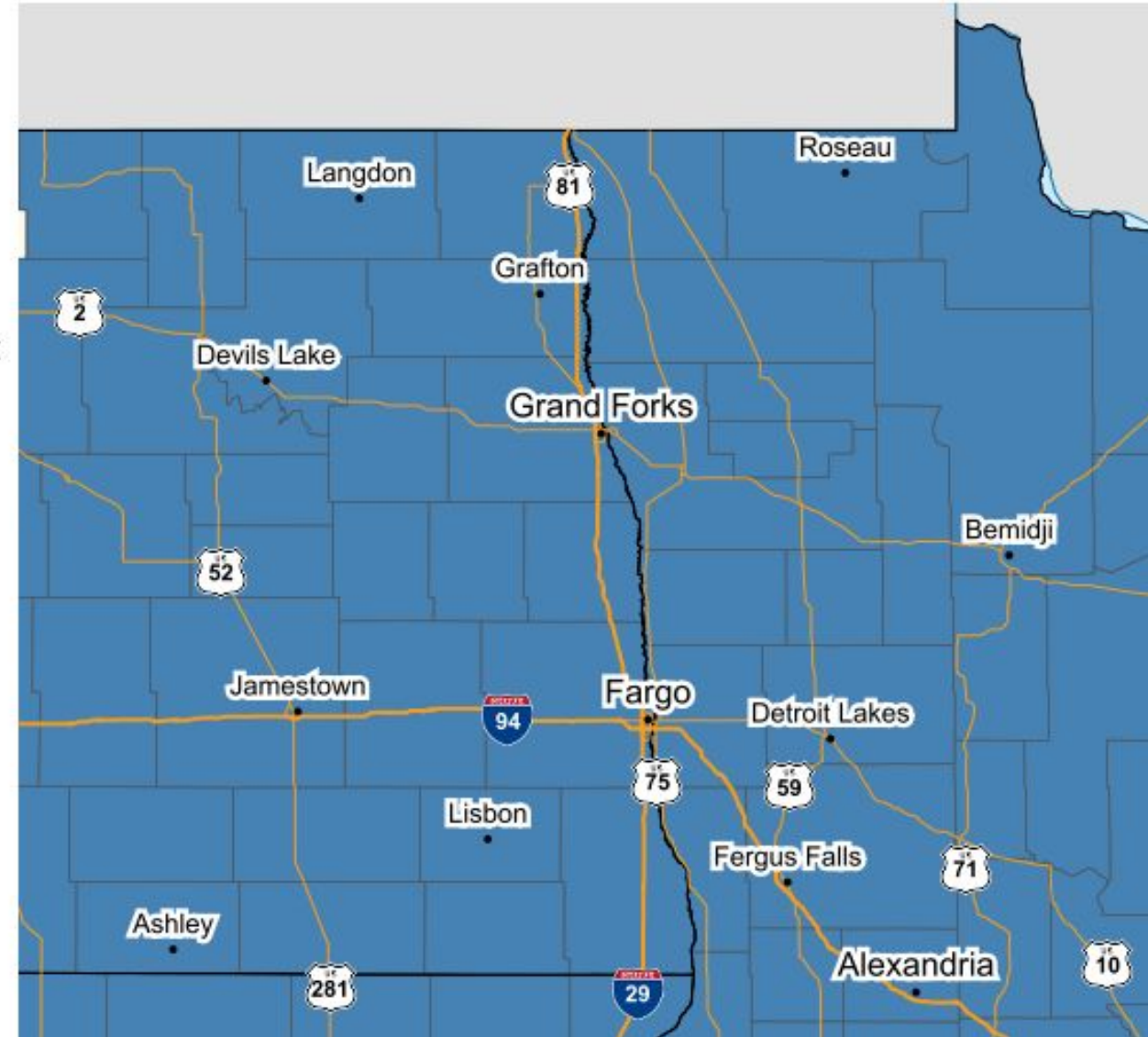
## Updates:

- Webinar scheduled for 2:00 PM Monday April 3rd.



## Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

Special Weather Statement  
Winter Storm Watch



Graphic Created  
April 2nd, 2023  
1:51 PM CDT



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## What is known:

- Long Duration Blizzard Conditions (18 or more hours)
- Significant and Widespread Snow Drifts
- Dangerous to Impossible Driving Conditions
- Widespread and Long Duration Road Closures
- Considerable Disruption to Daily Life
- Snow Load Concerns on Roofs
- Long Recovery Time
- Power Outages

## Many things are still uncertain:



Northern Extent of the Severe Impacts



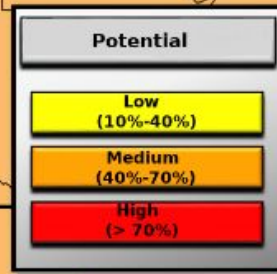
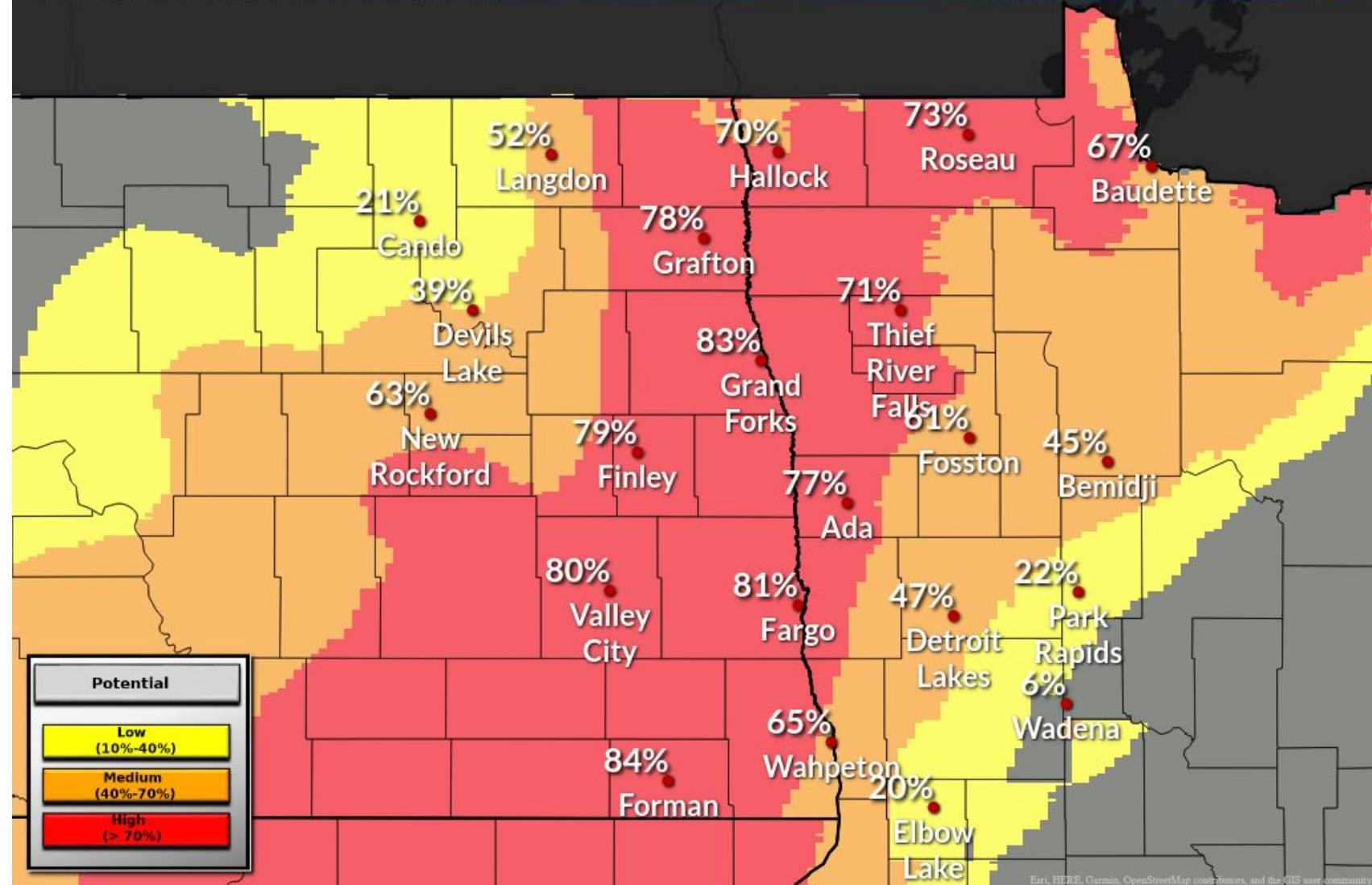
Timing and Duration of Impacts

## Potential of 12" Snow or More

Valid Mon 7:00PM through Thu 1:00AM CDT

Weather Forecast Office  
Grand Forks, ND

Issued Apr 02, 2023 1:11 PM CDT



f t v NWSGrandForks

weather.gov/fgf



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service  
Grand Forks, ND



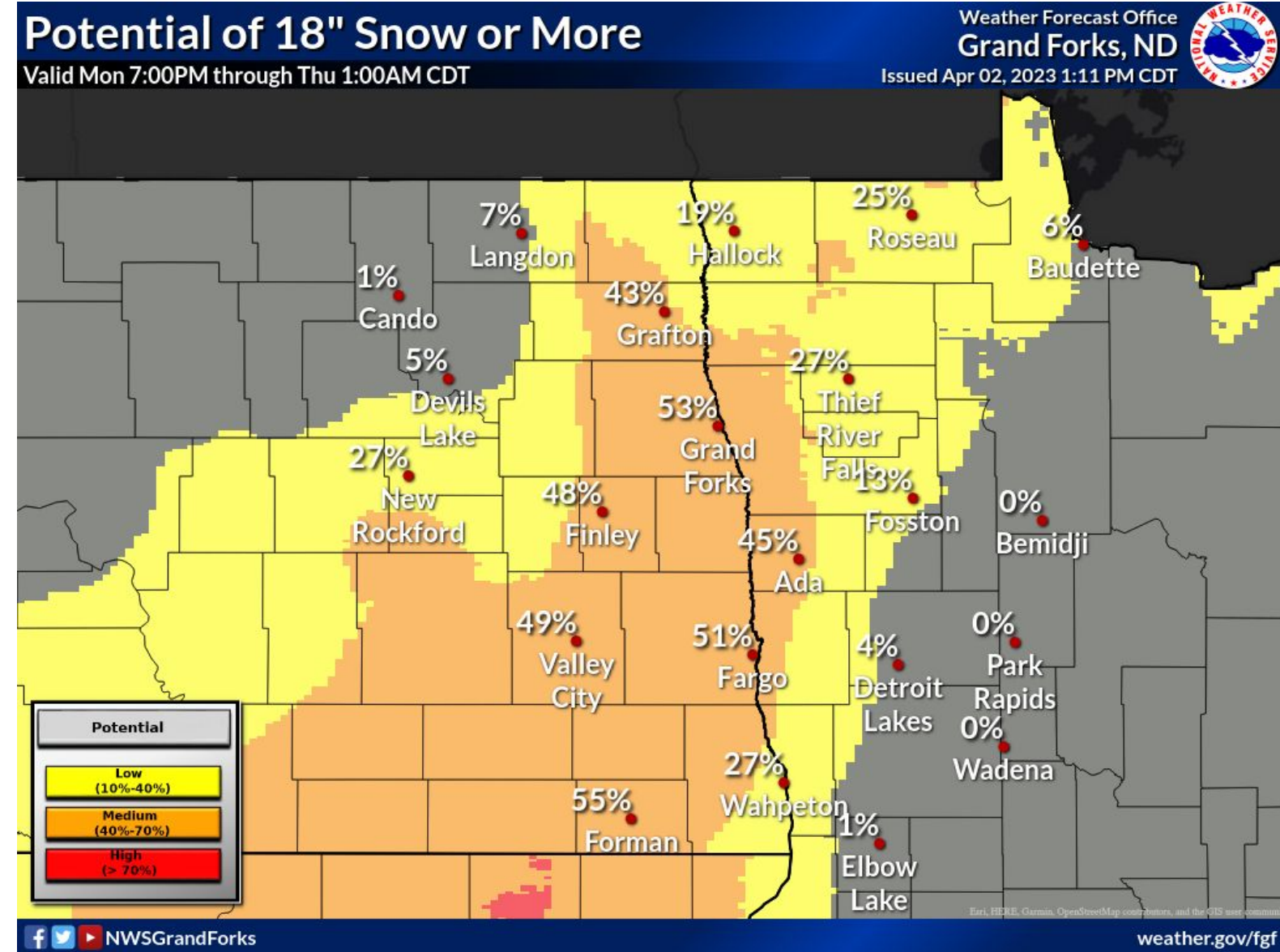
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## Further Scenarios

- Higher amounts above 18 inches are possible across the area, adding to further snow load issues, significant drifting, travel conditions, recovery time, and disruptions to daily life.
- Probabilities of 2 feet or more are possible, but percentages drop off to 10-30% for areas in eastern ND along the Red River Valley.
  - Isolated areas could still see 2 feet of snow





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## Risk Levels

	Tue April 4 3 AM - 6 AM	Tue April 4 6 AM - 12 PM	Tue April 4 12 PM - 6 PM	Tue April 4 6 PM - 12 AM	Wed April 5 12 AM - 6 AM	Wed April 5 6 AM - 12 PM	Wed April 5 12 PM - 6 PM	Wed April 5 6 AM - 12 AM	Thu April 6 12 AM - 3 AM	Thu April 6 3 AM - 6 AM
Devils Lake Basin Including Devils Lake, Bando, Langdon	Little to None	Minor	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
Sheyenne River Valley Including Valley City, Cooperstown, Finley	Little to None	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
Central Red River Valley Including Fargo/Moorhead, Halstad, Buxton	Little to None	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
Grand Forks Area Including Grand Forks, Larimore, Crookston	Little to None	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
Southern Red River Valley Including Lisbon, Wahpeton, Forman	Little to None	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
Northern Red River Valley Including Cavalier, Hallock, Grafton, Argyle	Little to None	Moderate	Major	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Minor	Little to None
North-Central MN Including Bemidji, Thief River Falls, Baudette	Little to None	Moderate	Major	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Major	Minor
Lakes Country MN Including Detroit Lakes, Otter Tail, Wadena	Little to None	Major	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Major	Major	Minor

Risk Levels

Little to None

Minor

Moderate

Major

Extreme



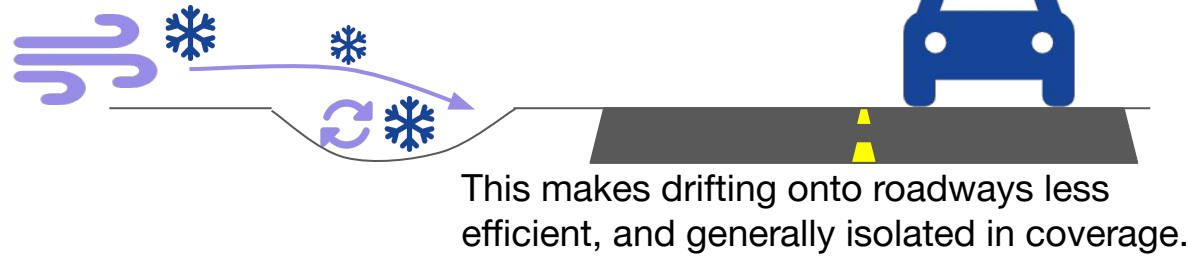


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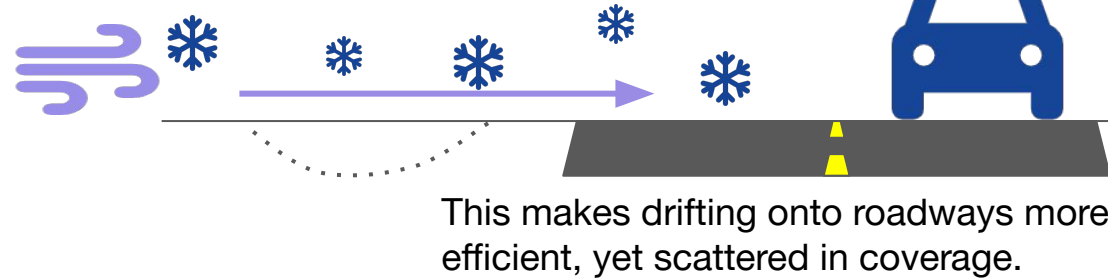
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## Why Is Snow Drifting Such a Concern With This Storm?

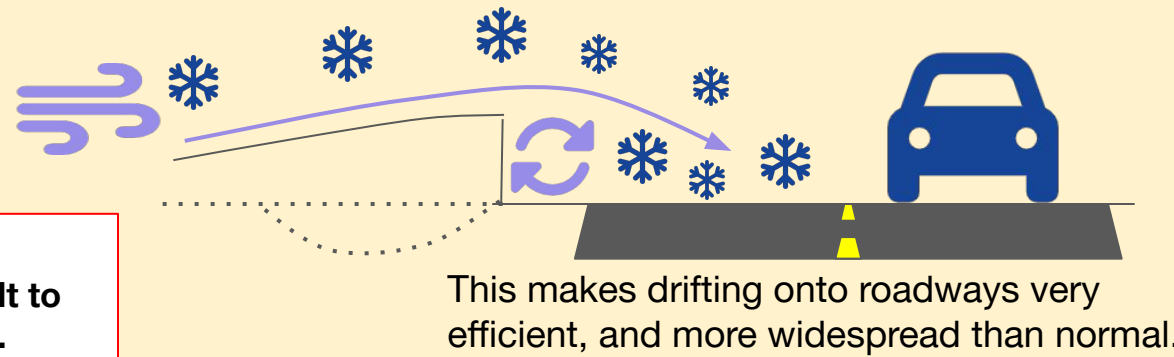
When the snowpack is low and ditches are empty, drifting snow tends to collect in the ditches.



When snowpack is even with the roadway and ditches are full of snow, drifting snow tends to move across the ditches and onto the roadways.



When the snowpack is higher than the roadway, drifting snow tends to collect onto the roadways.



**This is what we expect with this storm!  
Because of this, travel may be very difficult to impossible for an extended period of time.**



A drift cut along a major thoroughfare near Grandin, ND, taken on March 31, 2023. This type of scene is common across the area, especially within southeast North Dakota.



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Tuesday & Wednesday

**Where to find NWS Winter Infographics:**

[https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter\\_hazard\\_infographics](https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter_hazard_infographics)

<https://www.weather.gov/wrn/winter-driving-sm>

**Where to find NWS Graphical Messages:**

**NWS Grand Forks:**

<https://www.weather.gov/fgf/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/fgf/DssPacket.pdf>

**NWS Bismarck:**

<https://www.weather.gov/bis/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/bis/DssPacket.pdf>

**NWS Duluth:**

<https://www.weather.gov/dlh/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/dlh/DssPacket.pdf>

**NWS Twin Cities:**

<https://www.weather.gov/mpx/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/mpx/DssPacket.pdf>

**NWS Aberdeen:**

<https://www.weather.gov/abr/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/abr/DssPacket.pdf>

**NWS Sioux Falls:**

<https://www.weather.gov/fsd/weatherstory>

<https://www.weather.gov/media/fsd/DssPacket.pdf>

