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National Weather Service Stresses Preparedness Before Winter Weather Descends

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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As colder weather begins creeping through the heartland, the National Weather Service (NWS) encourages Hoosiers to begin preparing now for what could be a long, cold winter.

Governor Mitch Daniels has proclaimed November 13-19, 2011 as Winter Weather Preparedness Week in Indiana.

For the second winter in a row, a La Niña weather pattern will impact Indiana. La Niña is a climate term referring to cooler than normal equatorial Pacific Ocean temperatures that impact global weather patterns. “For Indiana, La Niña’s impact in winter tends to result in quite variable temperatures, including some very cold spells and above normal levels of precipitation,” said Dave Tucek, Warning Coordination Meteorologist of the Indianapolis National Weather Service (NWS) Office. “Winter is nearly here. It’s everyone’s job to take safe action when the National Weather Service issues winter weather warnings.”

“Tornadoes and floods also are concerns for Hoosiers during winter,” said Meteorologist in Charge Dan McCarthy of the NWS Indianapolis office. “Being prepared and taking action for any hazard are keys to safety,” added McCarthy.

For more information about winter weather, see www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter