



Welcome

Winter Storm Briefing February 12, 2009



"America's Weather Enterprise: Protecting Lives, Livelihoods, and Your Way of Life"



Winter Storm Briefing

- **Today's Briefers**
 - *Daniel Nietfeld, Science and Operations Officer*
 - *Scott Dergan, Senior Forecaster*
- **Media – Feel free to record**
 - *Call back if you need more information*
 - *1-800-452-9074*
- **Specific Questions for your local area**
 - *Try to use the website*



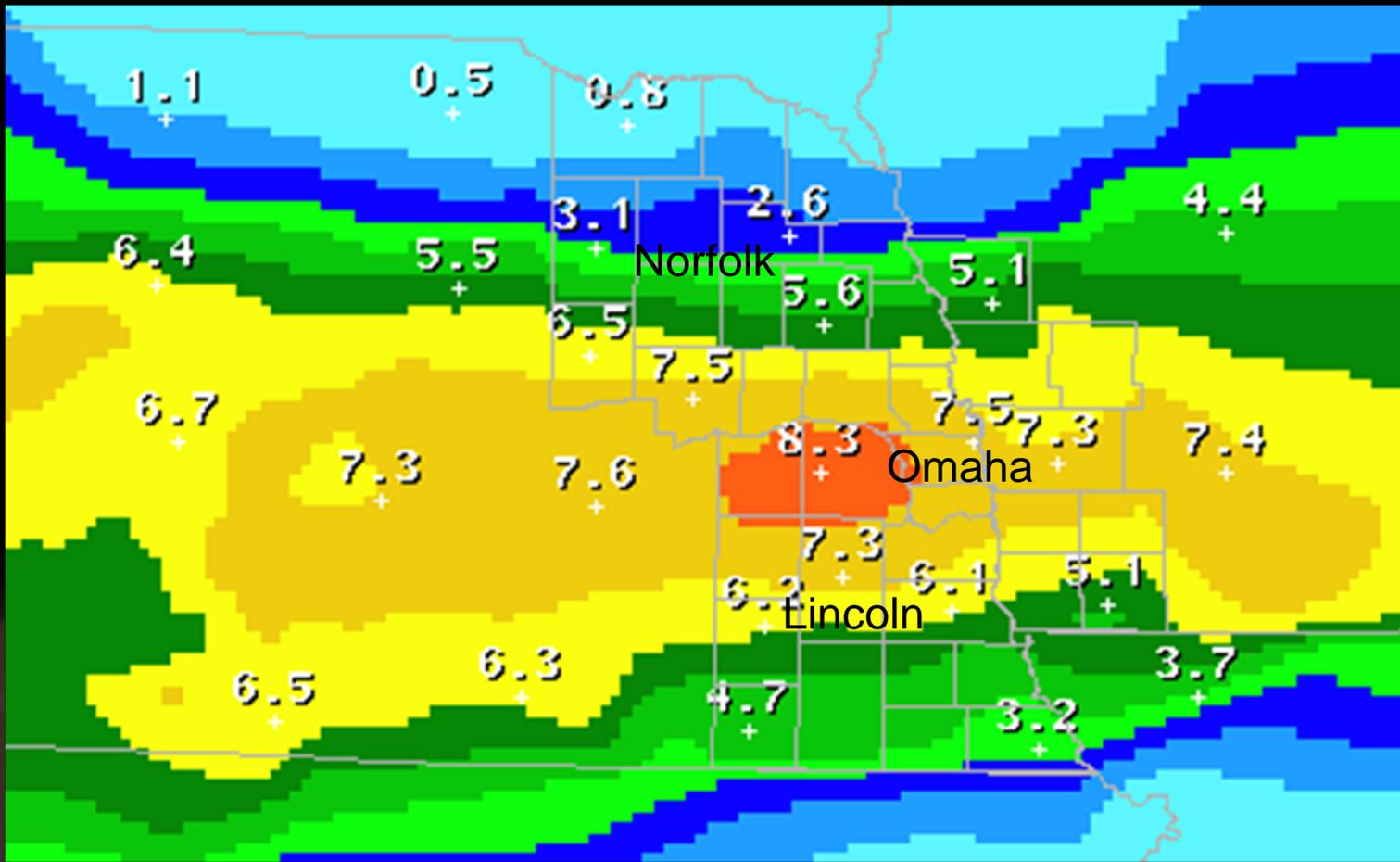
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- **Significant snow event will occur**
 - *Light snow develops after 6 am Columbus and Seward, & after 9 am in Omaha area*
 - *Snow, at times heavy, during the day Friday (heaviest noon to 6 pm – afternoon rush hr)*
 - *Snow wraps ups around 9pm (12-15 hrs)*
- **15 to 25 mph north winds**
 - *Gusts over 30 mph at times*
 - *Blowing/Drifting/Poor vis.*



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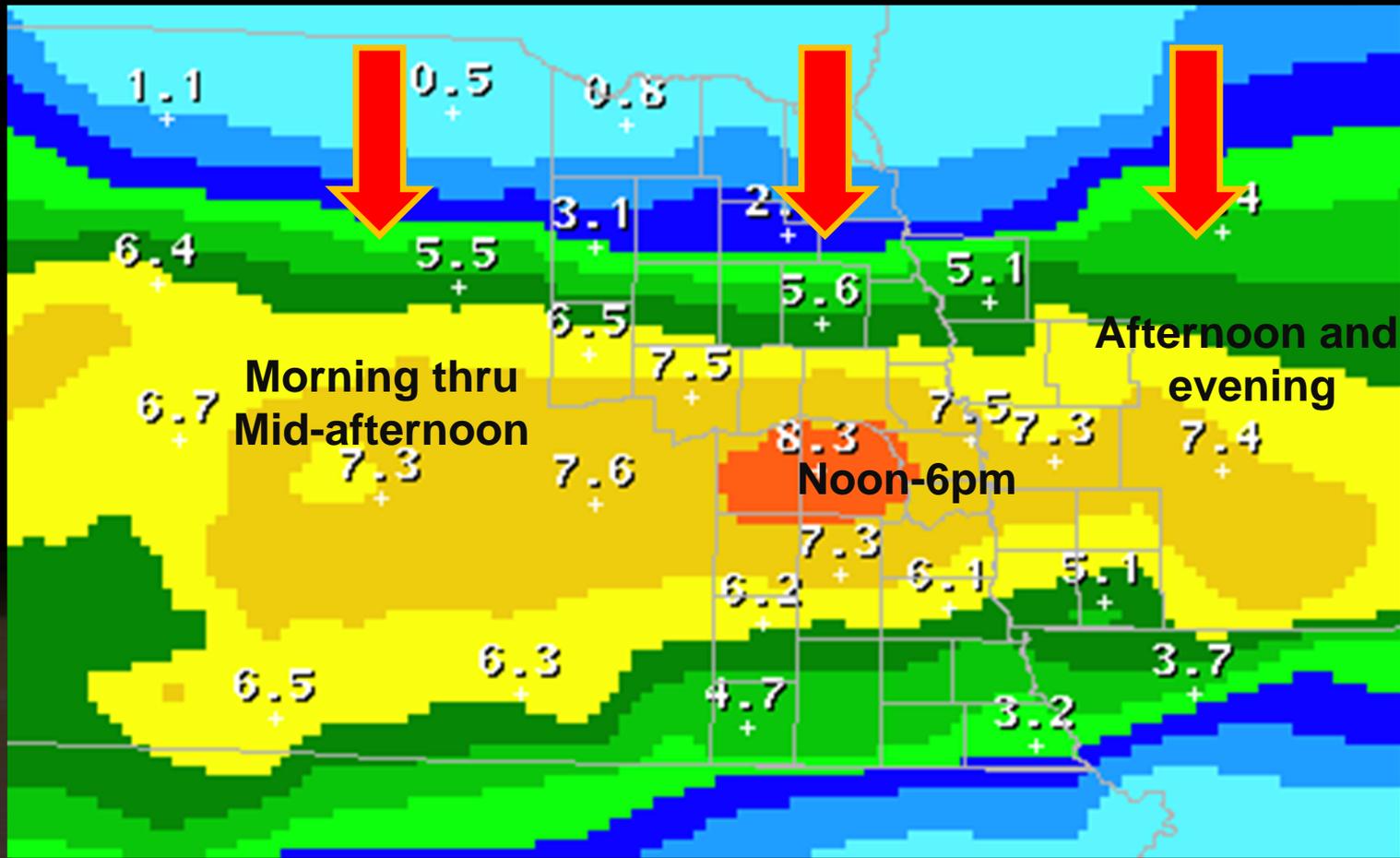
Storm total snowfall forecast (as of noon today)



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Event Timing: When the heaviest snow falls



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- **Heavy Snow Swath**
 - ***Widespread 5” to 7” snowfall***
 - ***Bands of 8+” inches***
 - Centered along/either side of I-80 and Platte river
 - ***Short event, but snowfall rates up to 1”/hr appear likely***
- **Blowing and drifting will be an issue**
 - ***Not a blizzard but still impactful***
 - Winds will drop off quickly late Friday night



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- **Road conditions**
 - ***Not a bad start, but worsen quickly***
 - Morning commute “okay”
 - Afternoon commute will be quite difficult/hazardous
 - 3pm – 5pm rush hour worst conditions
 - ***Poor vis. + blowing/driftng issues***
- **Will impact school and school events on Friday**
 - ***Other community events as well***



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- **NWS products/response**
- **Confidence is strong**
 - *Model consistency has been good*
 - *Storm is compact and quick*
 - *Snowfall rate should offset quick movement*
 - *Sharp southern cutoff*
- **Keep in mind the timing...**



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- **Upgrading to a Winter Storm Warning**
 - *NWS Omaha will collaborate the need for a warning/advisory*
 - *NWS Omaha will upgrade/adjust Winter Weather Headlines as soon as we are satisfied with both meteorological and collaborative process*
- **Stay in touch with the situation**



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- **Need specific Information?**
 - *See the website*
 - *Need more help, call us*
- **Questions or comments welcome!**



