

Snow slams Northwest, and even Hawaii gets some

By TOM JAMES
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Schools closed across Washington state and the Legislature canceled all hearings Monday with winter snowstorms pummeling the Northwest again as a larger weather system wreaked havoc in the region and even brought snow to Hawaii.

Seattle's metro area had already been hit by three snowstorms this month and the National Weather Service reports that Seattle-Tacoma International Airport has received 14.1 inches of snow so far in February, more than twice the annual average and the snowiest month in more than 30 years.

The storm that hit Seattle on Sunday dumped up to 4 inches of snow and forecasters said more snow or rain was expected Monday night and Tuesday as a lingering jet stream drives cold arctic air into the normally temperate region, and part of a larger cycle that has also driven snow as far away as Hawaii.

In the state capital of Olympia, lawmakers canceled meetings and the University of Washington in Seattle and Washington State University in Pullman



Gina Nakamura skis past a nearly life-size snow sculpture of an orca whale as downtown is just visible in a light snow Monday in Seattle.

AP Photo/Elaine Thompson



Snow on the ground in Polipoli Spring State Recreation Area in Kula, Hawaii, on the island of Maui.

Lance Endo via AP

called off classes. And in Northern California, Humboldt County beaches that have not had snow in more than 15 years received a dusting and bliz-

zard conditions caused whiteouts on mountain roads.

In Seattle, the snow's effects were amplified by a prolonged stretch of cold temperatures.

"You've got storm after storm sliding down the sweet spot to produce low-level snow," said Kirby Cook, a meteorologist at Seattle's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration office. He described weather systems pulling cold air from Canada and combining it with moist air pulled east from the Pacific Ocean.

When snow does fall in the area, normally enough warm air is drawn from over the Pacific to melt it soon after it falls, but the steady stream of cold air has kept western Washington colder than normal — and let the snow build up.

"It's really rare for us to maintain this pattern," Cook said.

Joe Zagrodnik, an atmospheric scientist at the University of Washington, said the larger system at work — namely the position of a cold jet stream — was also driving warm temperatures in Alaska and unusual weather

in Hawaii. With a north-south ridge of high pressure situated off the coast of Washington and Canada, Zagrodnik said, cold air being drawn southward inland is being replaced by warm air moving north offshore, driving temperatures up in parts of Alaska even as Seattle freezes.

And a chunk of cold, low-pressure air separated from the main flow is also drifting further west. Known as a Kona Low, the system caused unusual snow on the island of Maui.

Hawaii officials said the blanket of snow at Polipoli Spring State Recreation Area is likely the first for any state park. Polipoli is at 6,200 feet and is possibly the lowest elevation snow ever recorded in the state.

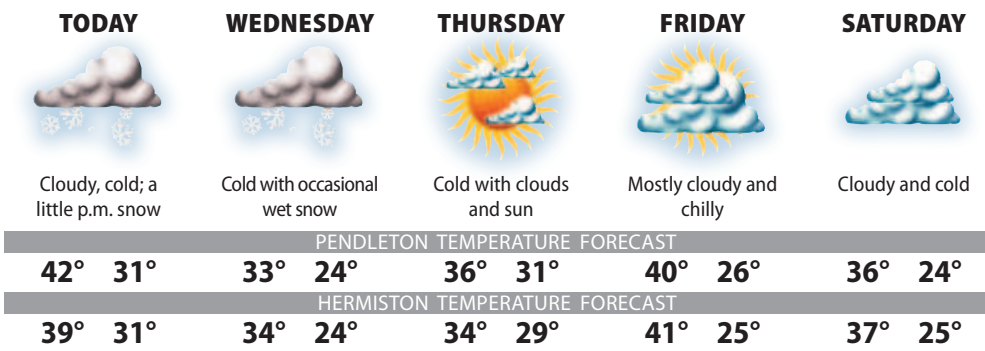
When Lance Endo's friend camping at a state park on Maui texted him early Sunday that there was snow he jumped in his truck and drove more than hour to see it.

"I just wanted to go play in the snow," Endo said.

Endo headed back down from the park on the slopes of Haleakala, where the weather service says there were snow drifts of about 4 feet, to bring his two children up to the park.

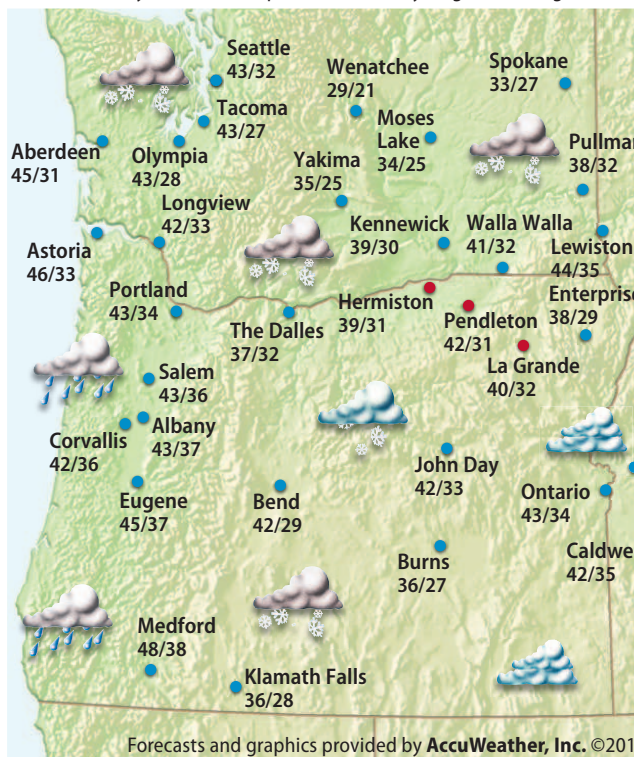
Forecast for Pendleton Area

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OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	34°	21°
Normals	45°	29°
Records	66° (1924)	-8° (1929)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.29"
Month to date 1.24"
Normal month to date 0.49"
Year to date 3.31"
Last year to date 1.85"
Normal year to date 1.87"

HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.

TEMP.	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	39°	23°
Normals	47°	29°
Records	68° (1977)	-16° (1929)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.05"
Month to date 0.93"
Normal month to date 0.38"
Year to date 2.46"
Last year to date 1.24"
Normal year to date 1.66"

WINDS (in mph)

	Today	Wed.
Boardman	SSW 6-12	NNE 4-8
Pendleton	S 8-16	S 6-12

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	7:02 a.m.
Sunset tonight	5:17 p.m.
Moonrise today	10:51 a.m.
Moonsset today	12:18 a.m.

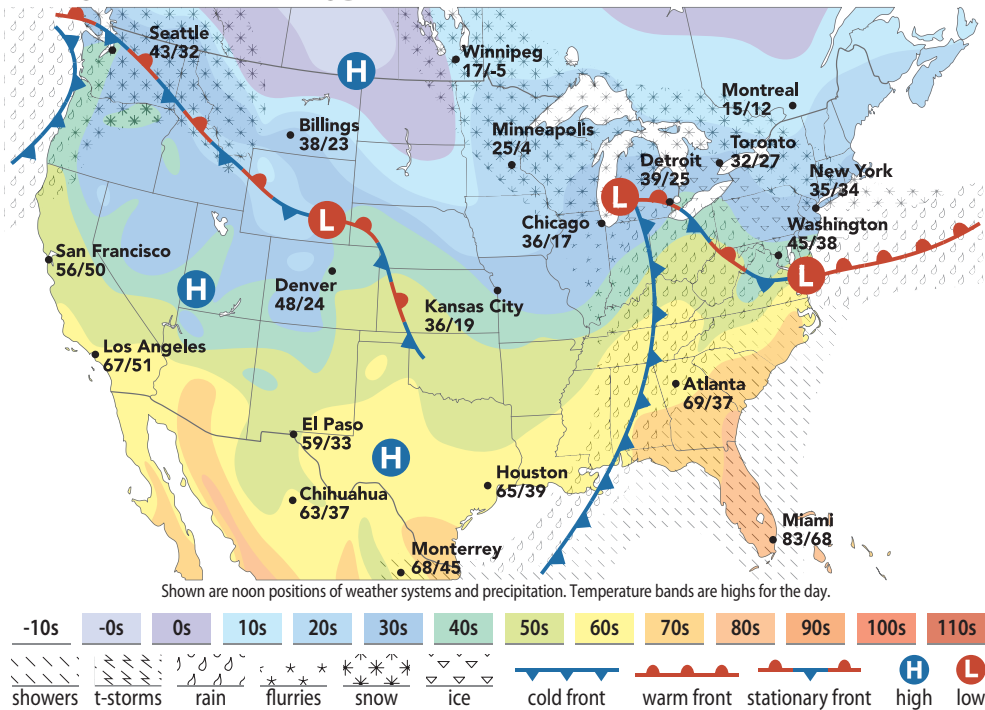
First Full Last New
Feb 12 Feb 19 Feb 26 Mar 6

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)

High 86° in Immokalee, Fla. Low -25° in Havre, Mont.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



Housing: Legislature seeks answers

Continued from Page A1

of reach for younger folks." Oregon legislative leaders have made increasing the housing supply and stopping extreme rent increases a priority.

The turnout at a recent hearing on the rent increase limit provides a sense of the impact the price of rents has on Oregonians.

More than 100 people testified on the rent limitation in Senate Bill 608 during a four-hour hearing before the Senate Housing Committee.

"Our neighbors who experience extreme unexpected rent increases or no-cause evictions have their whole lives suddenly disrupted," said House Speaker Tina Kotek, D-Portland. "Their kids may have to switch schools mid-year,

and with increasingly limited affordable housing options, their search for an available, affordable place to move to will likely be extremely difficult or even impossible."

Legislators want to allow multiple units on land traditionally reserved for a single home. They also want to budget millions of dollars to subsidize new homes for low- to middle-income families.

Some legislators who took office this year campaigned on housing reforms. State Sen. Shemia Fagan, D-Portland, for instance, unseated a 12-year veteran, Rod Monroe, in 2018 after he opposed rent control in the 2017 session. Fagan now chairs the Senate Housing Committee. The committee on Monday, Feb. 4, passed

legislation to the Senate that would limit annual rent increases to 7 percent and restrict no-fault evictions. A vote is expected in the next week.

The lack of supply is the largest driver of housing prices, said Lehner, who studies the issue.

About half of Oregon renters spend more than 30 percent of their income on rent, according to the American Community Survey. Spending more than 30 percent of income on rent means not having enough money for other expenses, said Katrina Holland, executive director of Community Alliance of Tenants.

Supporters shared accounts of 40 to 50 percent rent increases and evictions for no cause after a new landlord bought their home.

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