

January 10, 2022

Winter Storm of Jan 3, 2022: Impacts on the Railroads in Virginia



Winter Storm – Greater than Expected

- Accumulation and rate of accumulation exceeded forecasted weather predictions
 - Up to 3" of snow per hour
- Trees fell by the hundreds
 - CSX: over 700 trees removed from tracks
 - NS: over 500 trees removed from tracks
- Amtrak worked with CSX and NS to get trains to the nearest station
 - The safest place for passengers was onboard a stopped train until crews opened a safe path to reach the nearest station



Virginia State-supported Amtrak Services Affected

- Train 176 Roanoke to DC
 - Blocked between Lynchburg and Charlottesville for 12+ hours until returned to Lynchburg about 12am
- Train 84 Norfolk to DC
 - Blocked north of Quantico for hours before moving back to Quantico Station. Delayed 20+ hours
- Train 174 Newport News to DC
 - Arrived with slight delay in DC before the storm
- Trains 66, 86, and 94 cancelled





Additional Trains Affected

- Freight trains were among trains blocked in place
- CSX & NS shut down their tracks in Virginia
- VRE Service
 - NB morning trains made it to DC
 - SB afternoon trains on CSX cancelled
- Amtrak Long Distance Trains blocked or terminated in VA
 - Auto train blocked for hours near Lorton with trees under locomotive
 - Palmetto blocked for hours near Alexandria
 - Crescent blocked for 20+ hours between Lynchburg and Charlottesville
 - Other trains terminated at Richmond, DC, Petersburg, etc.

Conditions deteriorated for hours while relief efforts were underway...

Trees fell throughout the storm



Crews struggled to reach trains.

Hundreds of trees blocked trains



After Action Review

Discussion of Next Steps