

# Wheatland tornado kills two in 1942

Contrary to television and radio reports that the Cheyenne twister, which caused the death of a 14-month-old boy, is only the second killer tornado in Wyoming history, there have been at least three.

The Wheatland Times of July 2, 1942 reports of a twister the week before on the Wheatland Flats that injured several, killed two and caused approximately \$200,000 in damages.

The twister hit about 6 p.m. June 26, 1942, on the Glen Cochran farm west of Wheatland, killing the residents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Salazar. Both were taken to Wheatland hospital, where Salazar died that evening.

Also injured during the storm, which blasted an area two miles wide and five to six miles long were Helen Salazar, Abel Salazar, Della Salazar, Mrs. Demacio Vigil and Marie Vigil.

Also damaged during what seemed to be three converging storms were farms known as the Wagner Place and the Ross Davis Place. Property and crop damage were reported heavy, though stock losses were slight.

Hail eight inches in diameter was reported to have fallen for two and a half hours at at least one ranch. Trains and trucks were stranded in Wheatland due to

the rains, which washed out the tracks south of Wendover and flooded to roads near Cottonwood.

Farms affected by the tornado included Bob Straw, U.V. Condit, Russ Brown, Ben Brown, Stella Logan, Homer Cochran, Davis, W.C. Shoemaker, Glen Cochran, Ed Kestie, Claude Morris, Dutton Hinds, Jim McGuire, Bernard McGuire, Ward Goodrich, Dick Wilson, W.C. and E.A. Anderson, Vincent Utter, Eugene Utter, Harold Crosby, Andy Johnston, L. E. Cook, G.O. Cochran, Ernest Brothers, Boyd Woolsey, Bill Trenholm and Phillip Wagner.