Odds get better for a white Christmas

Weather service tells travelers to watch forecast

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The Upstate could have its first white Christmas in nearly half a century if a low pressure area dips deep enough into the South, according to the National Weather Service in Greer.

The Christmas forecast calls for a 50 percent chance of snow at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport. On Christmas Eve, the chances stand at 30 percent.

The weather service has put out a hazardous weather outlook advising people with travel plans in the Upstate to monitor the weather.

It is looking increasingly likely the Upstate will be looking at a winter storm of some type on Christmas, but forecast models differ, so the timing and type of precipitation remains unsure, according to weather service.

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The last time the airport had anything more than a trace amount of snow on Christmas was in 1963, when 1.4 inches fell on Dec. 23 and remained on the ground through the

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afternoon of Dec. 25, according to the weather service.

Trace amounts came down on Christmas Eve in 1966 and on Christmas Day in 1969 and 1975.

Scattered showers were reported in the Upstate on Christmas Day in 1993, but no measurable amounts at the airport.