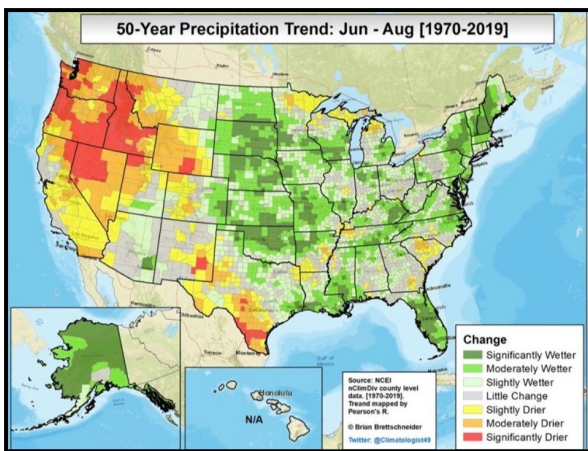


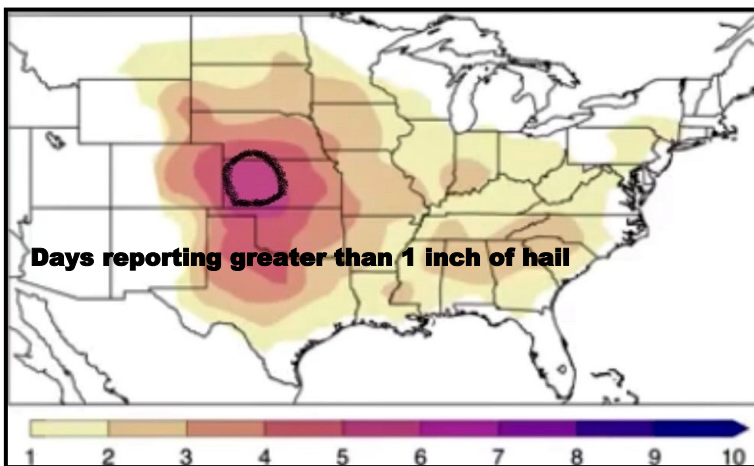
What are the FACTS about Weather Modification?

North Dakota has been attempting weather modification for over 50 years, one of the longest running weather modification programs in the world. Yet, we have no concrete proof that we've accomplished anything positive.

The following map shows June through August changes in precipitation over the last 50 years. The biggest increases in our region are in the counties North, South, and East of us. They are NOT in the Weather Modification Project.



It takes quarter size (1" or larger) hail to be considered severe and able to cause damage to an asphalt roof. As this map shows, all of northern ND, like MT and MN, is in the historically lowest risk area for severe hail.



There are 3,242 counties in the United States. Of those, only five North Dakota counties are continuing Weather Modification practices for hail suppression. ND is currently the ONLY state in the USA who conducts hail suppression even though we have much lower actual hail days than southern states due to our northern location. If it was proven to be so beneficial, wouldn't you expect more counties in other states to be doing it?

Vote NO on Weather Modification June 9th Primary Election Ballot

The June 9th **vote-by-mail** North Dakota primary will include an option for Ward County residents to shut down the Weather Modification Project.

To vote, you must request your ballot through the Ward County auditor. Once you receive your ballot and vote, you must deliver it to the County auditor, postmarked by Monday, June 8th. There will also be some drop boxes in key locations.

www.ndagainstweathermod.com
North Dakotans Against Weather Modification on Facebook

Our neighboring counties of Bottineau, McHenry and Renville have spent zero money on weather modification yet have lower crop hail insurance rates. This contradicts what the program claims is 45% reductions in Hail crop losses in weather modification areas.

Our neighboring states, SD and MT, do not allow Weather Mod planes to cross their borders for cloud seeding. If the practice was as harmless as we are led to believe, those states wouldn't have a problem with it in their airspace.

Reasons to ditch Weather Modification in Ward County

- Weather Modification is wasting taxpayer dollars. It would cost about \$2 million in the next 5 years.
- Ward County is one of only five North Dakota counties that participate in Weather Modification hail suppression. We are the only ones of 3,242 counties in the United States that participate.
- A National Resource Council study concluded "There is no scientific proof that hail can be suppressed."
- Every drop of precipitation that falls when Weather Modification is in practice contains silver iodide.
- Weather Modification in ND only benefits special interest groups providing the service, not the taxpayers who pay for the service.
- Many farmers oppose this project that is supposed to help them.
- There is no oversight on this project. Implementation is completely out of control.
- Ward County has had an average hail loss rate of 3.79% going back to 1916. That number fluctuates yearly but the long-term average has not changed in the years we've had Weather Modification for hail suppression.

Wasting Tax Dollars...

Weather modification is paid for by each of the five North Dakota counties involved. Ward county pays more than the other four. North Dakota kicks in an additional 50%. Since 2006 this has totaled \$4.275 million spent on Weather Modification in Ward County. If this measure succeeds in continuing the program for another five years, it will cost Ward County \$1,326,000. The state of North Dakota will add another \$663,000. That is a total of \$1,989,000 of your tax dollars that should be spent on park improvements, library books, potholes, traffic signs or other road improvements, law enforcement, the county extension service or property tax relief.

NRC Weather Modification Research Study

A National Resource Council Study was published in 2004. They examined all available studies and data created to that point, including those used by Ward County Weather Modification advocates. Nothing has changed since. Conclusions included the following:

“There is no scientifically credible evidence that hail can be suppressed...The science underlying weather modification is replete with uncertainties and knowledge gaps.”

Silver Iodide falling from the sky

North Dakota clouds are seeded with two different types of materials: silver iodide-artificial ice nuclei and frozen carbon dioxide (dry ice). The ND Atmospheric Resource Board claims there are no harmful effects of these chemicals falling from the sky. There are no studies available to back their claims.

Further, not one Environmental Impact Study has been filed with a State or Federal agency regarding this project.

Weather modification only benefits special interest groups providing the service not the taxpayers who pay for the service.

All of the chemicals, airplanes and equipment come from two jointly owned private companies out of Fargo.

Ward County Weather Modification is a classroom for UND aeronautics students. We already pay for UND through state taxes. Why should our Ward County taxes supplement that?

If you already carry hail insurance on your home, you are paying for it again with Weather Modification.

Farmers – pro or con

Most farmers do not see benefits of weather modification while they do see it as wasteful spending of tax dollars. Weather modification began in Ward County to increase rainfall. When that didn't work, they tried hail suppression. For many years now, while farmers have been trying to stop the program because it has failed in its purpose, it has proven almost impossible to get rid of. Powerful special interest groups have taken over its implementation and reap benefits having nothing to do with agriculture.

Government-funded studies claim over 30 to 1 economic returns from weather modification. This has not, and cannot be proven. If the returns were this high, wouldn't every county pursue these programs? The real world numbers equate to less than 1% reduction in hail. Areas undergoing weather modification do not have noticeable increased rainfall or decreased hail, according to meteorological maps and data. However, these areas do have some of the lowest rates of precipitation increases over the last 25 years.

Apples to Oranges

To compare seeding orographic clouds for enhanced snow in mountain ski areas with the convective clouds we see in North Dakota is apples to oranges. Convective clouds have a more highly complex structure and precipitation process making them less likely to respond to seeding in a positive manner.

NO Oversight, NO Transparency

Ward County farmers who are against Weather Modification have tried for years to stop this project. The Governor's office says it is under the control of the county so won't touch it. The ND Atmospheric Resource Board is so tied into the project for their own advancement, they want it to continue. The County Commissioners are divided on the issue and won't exercise oversight of the local board who's chairman blatantly ignores ND Century Code regulating activities of all public boards and commissions. The Ward County State's Attorney witnessed his disregard for ND law and did nothing about it.

The Local Weather Modification Board refuses to release details to the line items on its budget. They also don't release detailed flight information or costs. They refuse to respect the need for transparency while using public funds.

Vote NO on Weather Modification on the June 9th Primary ballot!