

National Weather Service Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



July 2001 Time Local Path Length Path Number of Estimated Persons Width Damage **CALIFORNIA**, South Central CAZ096>097 S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns 1100PST 1800PST 0 0 Red Flag Criteria The Red Flag Fire Weather Warnings were posted due to dry lightning with several fire starts reported in Interior Central California Fire Weather Zones #533 and #534 (the higher terrain of the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tulare County Mountains) CAZ096>097 S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns 1000PST 03 Red Flag Criteria Several dry lightning fire starts were reported thus meeting verification criteria for Red Flag Fire Weather Warnings in CWFA Fire CAZ089>092-095 W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley - Kern Cty Mtns 03 **Excessive Heat** From the last day of June through the first 5 days in July, temperatures soared above 100 degrees F. in the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley as well as the Kern Mountain area around Lake Isabella. The warmest day was the 3rd when Fresno and Bakersfield both climbed to 110F with 108F at Lake Isabella. This peak day occurred with the day before and after around 105F on the S.J. Valley floor. With accompanying high humidity due to an early season monsoon flow, the Bakersfield Heat Index climbed to 112F. While not meeting criteria for Heat Advisories, it was also quite warm in the Kern Deserts during this period with 112F at Inyokern. In the Southern Sierra Nevada, Yosemite Valley reached 100F! CAZ092 Se Sj Valley **Excessive Heat** 1530PST While temperatures were also relatively high elsewhere in Interior Central California on the 4th, the Heat Index at Bakersfield climbed to 106F. Kern County 12.5 W Frazier Park 05 O 0 Flash Flood The Kern County Fire Department at Pine Mountain reported 2.20" rain occurred in 15 minutes ending at 1345 PST in 15 minutes and 1.17" rain fell in less than 1 hr at Pine Mountain Club rain gauge 1.5 miles to the west. Water over 1 foot deep was reported over most town streets. Radar precipitation estimates gave 1.5-2.0" on the One-Hour-Precipitation product **Kern County** 14 N Bakersfield 06 Flash Flood Spotter reports confirmed radar imagery that thunderstorm activity, from the Mexican Monsoon, brought very heavy rain to areas north of Bakersfield in the foothills on the western face of the Southern Sierra Nevada. Drainage ditches all filled on mountain roads with creeks rapidly rising to full. Rainfall rates reached 1.5-2.0"/hour in the area approximately 10 miles north of Bakersfield to 23 miles east of Delano in Kern County. In the 24 hour period ending at 5 PM PDT on the 6th, Valley floor rain amounts included 0.07" at Madera, Visalia 0.01", Porterville 0.08", with an unofficial report of up to 2" of rain between 1530-1700 PDT 10 miles north of Bakersfield to the Tulare County line. **Kern County** 6 E Inyokern Flash Flood

Kern County Fire Department responded to a stranded car at the Buttermilk Acres crossing of Inyokern Road at 1840 PDT. Locally heavy rain had occurred in desert thunderstorm activity with 0.65" reported at Inyokern on the daily report

1800PST



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July 2001 Path Length (Miles) Time Local/ Path Width Number of Estimated Persons Damage **CALIFORNIA, South Central Kern County** 1451PST 1630PST 1 N Cantil 07 0 0 Flash Flood Roadway flooding was reported at State Highway 14 and Redrock-Randsburg Road by 1451 PST; Heavy rain and hail with the thunderstorms by 1452 PST; and residual water on the Redrock-Randsburg Road until 1705 PST. CAZ096>097 S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns 1100PST 1900PST 0 08 Thunderstorms Residual monsoon moisture over the higher terrain of the Southern Sierra Nevada enabled thunderstorms to develop over the higher terrain of the CWFA. This day was not unusual but rather provided what a typical, active thunderstorm day was like over the S.Sierra Nevada Mountains. One notable exception about the day was the depth of the convection where WSR-88D radar showed thunderstorm tops in excess of 45,000 feet. **Mariposa County** 10 S Yosemite Vlg Wild/Forest Fire 13 31 See the Hoover Complex Fire in the August 2001 Stormdata for details. **Mariposa County** 8 NE Mariposa 24 31 1540PST 2359PST 5M Wild/Forest Fire The Briceburg Fire burned 728 acres and cost \$5M to control by August 3rd The cause of the fire is unknown but no structures

Fresno County
5 N Cedar Grove

ve 30 1400PST 0 0 Wild/Forest Fire 31 2359PST

Details on the Burnt Fire can be found in the August 2001 Stormdata.