

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2016

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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CALIFORNIA, South Central

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z094) TULARE CTY FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

12/01/16 00:00 PST	0	Drought
12/31/16 23:59 PST	0	

The California drought continues during the month of December, 2016. Fresno received 2.51" of precipitation and Bakersfield received 2.41" precipitation during the month. Fresno had slightly above normal precipitation with 0.74" above normal. Bakersfield had significantly above normal precipitation with 1.39" above the normal precipitation amounts. Above normal precipitation amounts did allow for slight improvement on drought conditions with an increase in soil moisture and some reservoir recharge.

The U.S. Drought Monitor continued to report exceptional drought conditions across the entire Central California region. This extent of exceptional drought is extremely unusual for California. The general trend of below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures has continued this year.

There continues to be significant media coverage on the on-going drought conditions. These reports include discussion of significant re-allocation of water resources from the east to west side of the San Joaquin Valley, farmers forgoing planting of some crops, loss or reduction of ground water, wells drying up in several communities leaving them with no water, and an unprecedented increase in fire danger across the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains. Also, communities in Central California interior face state mandated reductions in municipal water use.

(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

12/01/16 21:35 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/02/16 10:35 PST	0	

Clear skies and cooling temperatures in the wake of a low pressure system which was located over the Four Corners region allowed for radiational nighttime/morning dense fog to develop in parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

12/05/16 19:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/07/16 10:20 PST	0	

Clear skies, increased moisture from recent storm systems, and diurnal cooling associated with the presence of a retrograding upper level high pressure area over the central California region allowed for radiational nighttime/morning dense fog to develop in parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

12/15/16 10:00 PST	0	Heavy Snow
12/16/16 16:00 PST	0	

A easterly moving low pressure system moved through central California bringing heavy snowfall to parts of the southern Sierra Nevada which was also enhanced at times by orographic lift.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

12/15/16 16:13 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 51 kt)
12/16/16 01:13 PST	0	

A eastward moving low pressure system made passage through central California bringing gusty southerly winds to the Kern County Mountain areas.

MADERA COUNTY --- PONDEROSA ACRES [37.37, -119.62], 1.3 NNW YOSEMITE FORKS [37.39, -119.64], 2.0 N YOSEMITE FORKS [37.40, -119.63], 1.3 N PONDEROSA ACRES [37.39, -119.62]

12/15/16 17:43 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
12/15/16 17:43 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported large boulders in roadway on Highway 41 near Cedar Valley Road.

MADERA COUNTY --- 7.4 SW INDIAN SPGS [36.97, -119.82], 6.4 SSW INDIAN SPGS [36.97, -119.79], 7.0 SSW INDIAN SPGS [36.96, -119.80], 7.3 SW INDIAN SPGS [36.97, -119.81]

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	12/15/16 19:04 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 19:04 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

Roadway flooding reported at Avenue 15 on Highway 41.

MADERA COUNTY --- 1.3 NE WISHON [37.31, -119.54], 1.3 NE WISHON [37.31, -119.53], 1.2 NE WISHON [37.31, -119.54], 1.2 NE WISHON [37.31, -119.54]

	12/15/16 20:28 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 20:28 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported boulder on road at Road 274 near Lake Point Drive.

MARIPOSA COUNTY --- 1.0 W BAGBY [37.62, -120.15], 0.1 NNE BAGBY [37.62, -120.13], 0.9 S BAGBY [37.61, -120.13], 1.3 SW BAGBY [37.61, -120.15]

	12/15/16 20:45 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 20:45 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding near Bagby Bridge on Highway 49.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 0.9 SE PINE RIDGE [37.06, -119.36], 0.7 SE PINE RIDGE [37.06, -119.36], 0.9 ESE PINE RIDGE [37.06, -119.36], 1.0 SE PINE RIDGE [37.06, -119.36]

	12/15/16 21:16 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 21:16 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported large boulders on Highway 168 near Cressman Road.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.5 SSW CLOVIS [36.80, -119.71], 1.4 SSW CLOVIS [36.80, -119.71], 1.4 SSW CLOVIS [36.80, -119.71], 1.5 SSW CLOVIS [36.80, -119.71]

	12/15/16 21:40 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 21:40 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported tree fell due to wet soil and is blocking roadway on Norwich Avenue near Minnewawa Avenue in Clovis.

MARIPOSA COUNTY --- BRICEBURG [37.60, -119.97], 0.6 NNE BRICEBURG [37.61, -119.97], 0.8 NE BRICEBURG [37.61, -119.96], 0.4 E BRICEBURG [37.60, -119.96]

	12/15/16 22:33 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/15/16 22:33 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported tree in roadway likely due to heavy rain on Highway 140 near Bull Creek Road.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 0.9 SW PRATHER [37.02, -119.53], 0.8 S PRATHER [37.02, -119.52], 1.1 SSW PRATHER [37.01, -119.52], 1.2 SSW PRATHER [37.01, -119.53]

	12/16/16 00:25 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/16/16 00:25 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported large rocks in roadway south of Prather on Highway 168 near Gooseberry Lane.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.7 S DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.52, -118.67], 0.6 SSW DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.52, -118.67], 0.4 SSE DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.53, -118.67], 0.5 SSE DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.52, -118.67]

	12/16/16 00:28 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/16/16 00:28 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported boulders blocking roadway on Highway 178 in Kern River Canyon near call box number 3.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 SSE OILDALE [35.40, -119.02]

	12/16/16 00:28 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/16/16 04:44 PST		0	Source: Broadcast Media

Report of heavy rain causing Kern River near Bakersfield to flow very fast and contained ash from runoff in burn areas which caused problems for a water reclamation water treatment plant to be temporarily shut down until ash was no longer present.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 SW RIVER KERN [35.77, -118.47], 1.5 NNW WOFFORD HGTS [35.72, -118.46], 1.1 NE KERNVILLE ARPT [35.73, -118.41], 2.1 ENE RIVER KERN [35.79, -118.41]

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	12/16/16 00:28 PST		1K	Debris Flow
	12/16/16 04:55 PST		0	Source: NWS Employee

Heavy rain on the Cedar Fire Burn area caused debris flows over roads and buried a picnic bench on December 16th..

KERN COUNTY --- 0.9 NE MIRACLE HOT SPGS [35.59, -118.52], 0.9 NNE MIRACLE HOT SPGS [35.59, -118.52], 1.0 NNE MIRACLE HOT SPGS [35.59, -118.52], 1.0 NE MIRACLE HOT SPGS [35.59, -118.52]

	12/16/16 04:44 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/16/16 04:44 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported rocks on roadway at State Route 178 and Kern River Canyon access road.

TULARE COUNTY --- 2.6 WSW SPRINGVILLE [36.11, -118.86], 3.2 SW SPRINGVILLE [36.10, -118.87], 3.1 SW SPRINGVILLE [36.10, -118.86], 2.5 SW SPRINGVILLE [36.10, -118.85]

	12/16/16 04:55 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/16/16 04:55 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported boulders blocking the roadway at Avenue 176 and Road 320 just east of State Route 190 from road flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.5 ENE TEHACHAPI MTN VLY AP [35.11, -118.40]

	12/16/16 18:56 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/16/16 19:30 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

Heavy rain turned to light snow causing a road closure on Tehachapi Willow Springs Road near Highline Road in Tehachapi between 1856 PST and 1930 PST.

A easterly moving low pressure system moved through central California bringing heavy rainfall to parts of the southern Sierra Nevada which was also enhanced at times by orographic lift.

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

	12/17/16 22:00 PST		0	Frost/Freeze
	12/20/16 08:55 PST		0	

Northerly synoptic flow behind a strong trough that moved southeast through central California allowed freezing air to move southward into the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

	12/22/16 04:30 PST		0	Dense Fog
	12/22/16 11:05 PST		0	

A very slow moving cold front over the western California coast allowed stagnant moist tropical air from the south to remain over the San Joaquin Valley and create dense fog to develop for parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

	12/23/16 10:00 PST		0	Heavy Snow
	12/24/16 04:00 PST		0	

FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.4 SE (FCH) CHANDLER AF [36.71, -119.81]

	12/23/16 16:00 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/23/16 22:00 PST		0	Source: Mesonet

Mesowest indicated several reports of 1-1.5 in rain between 1600 PST and 2200 PST.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.5 ESE KERN JCT [35.34, -118.94]

	12/23/16 16:00 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/23/16 22:00 PST		0	Source: Mesonet

Mesowest indicated several reports of 1-1.5 in rain between 1600 PST and 2200 PST.

MADERA COUNTY --- 2.3 N MADERA [37.00, -120.07]

	12/23/16 16:00 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/23/16 22:00 PST		0	Source: Mesonet

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Mesowest indicated several reports of 1-1.5 in rain between 1600 PST and 2200 PST.

TULARE COUNTY --- 1.6 ENE TONYVILLE [36.26, -119.05]

	12/23/16 16:00 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 03:00 PST	0		Source: Mesonet

Mesowest indicated several reports of 1-1.5 in rain between 1600 PST and 0300 PST.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

	12/23/16 17:13 PST	0		High Wind (MAX 60 kt)
	12/24/16 17:00 PST	0		

KERN COUNTY --- 4.2 WNW INYOKERN AIRPORT [35.68, -117.90]

	12/23/16 20:09 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/23/16 23:15 PST	0		Source: RAWS

Indian Wells Canyon RAWS reported 1.79 inches of rainfall.

KERN COUNTY --- 4.2 WNW INYOKERN AIRPORT [35.68, -117.90]

	12/23/16 20:09 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/23/16 23:15 PST	0		Source: RAWS

Laural Mountain RAWS reported 1.29 inches of rainfall.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.6 E LAKEVIEW [35.10, -119.11], 1.0 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.09, -119.13], 1.6 SSE LAKEVIEW [35.08, -119.11], 1.1 E LAKEVIEW [35.10, -119.10]

	12/23/16 21:27 PST	0		Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/23/16 23:27 PST	0		Source: Law Enforcement

Roadway flooding reported by California Highway Patrol on Copus Road near Old River Roadway. Vehicles unable to pass.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

	12/23/16 21:37 PST	0		Winter Weather
	12/24/16 16:00 PST	0		

KERN COUNTY --- 0.7 S BODFISH [35.59, -118.50]

	12/23/16 22:00 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 00:45 PST	0		Source: Trained Spotter

Trained spotter reports rainfall report of 2.10 inches near Bodfish.

KERN COUNTY --- 3.6 NE LAKE ISABELLA [35.64, -118.41]

	12/23/16 22:00 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 00:45 PST	0		Source: Trained Spotter

Trained spotter reports rainfall report of 2.50 inches near Mountain Mesa.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.6 E DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.53, -118.66], 0.3 SE DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.53, -118.67], 0.6 SE DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.52, -118.66], 0.8 ESE DEMOCRAT SPGS [35.53, -118.66]

	12/24/16 00:07 PST	0		Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/24/16 00:07 PST	0		Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported boulders and rocks on Highway 178 near Democrat Road due to runoff from heavy rain.

MARIPOSA COUNTY --- 1.6 E ELLIOTT CORNER [37.47, -119.74]

	12/24/16 08:44 PST	0		Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 08:44 PST	0		Source: Trained Spotter

Spotter report of 24 hour rainfall total of 1.41 inches.

KERN COUNTY --- 3.6 NE LAKE ISABELLA [35.64, -118.41]

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	12/24/16 09:14 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 09:14 PST		0	Source: Trained Spotter

Spotter 24 hour rainfall report of 2.50 inches.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.9 SE BODFISH [35.59, -118.49]

	12/24/16 09:21 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 09:21 PST		0	Source: Trained Spotter

Spotter 24 hour rainfall report of 2.10 inches.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.3 ESE MELVIN [36.81, -119.65]

	12/24/16 11:57 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 11:57 PST		0	Source: Trained Spotter

Spotter report of 24 hour rainfall total of 0.49 inches.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 2.1 NNE CARUTHERS [36.56, -119.82]

	12/24/16 12:24 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	12/24/16 12:24 PST		0	Source: Trained Spotter

Spotter report of 24 hour rainfall total of 0.27 inches.

Slow southeasterly moving low pressure system coupled with northward moving tropical moisture brought heavy valley and foothill rains, heavy mountain snows, and gusty winds to parts of the central California interior. Precipitation was at times enhanced due to orographical lifting ahead of the slow southerly moving cold front associated with the low pressure system.

(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

	12/30/16 21:15 PST		0.10M	Dense Fog
	12/31/16 08:45 PST		0	

Synoptic high pressure moved over the central California region allowing for clear skies and dense radiational fog to develop over parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

	12/31/16 08:00 PST		0	Winter Weather
	12/31/16 23:59 PST		0	

KERN COUNTY --- 0.9 NE PENTLAND [35.06, -119.31], 1.0 NW PENTLAND [35.06, -119.33], 1.1 WNW PENTLAND [35.05, -119.34], 1.2 ENE PENTLAND [35.06, -119.30]

	12/31/16 15:44 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/31/16 15:44 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway reported road was flooded out in several areas on Highway 166 east of Maricopa.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.6 WSW EDISON [35.33, -118.91], 2.7 SSW MAGUNDEN [35.34, -118.92], 3.3 N LAMONT [35.32, -118.92], 3.1 SW EDISON [35.31, -118.90]

	12/31/16 16:40 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/31/16 16:40 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding on Highway 184 near Muller Road north of Lamont.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.5 N DI GIORGIO [35.26, -118.83], 0.8 NE DI GIORGIO [35.26, -118.82], 0.6 ESE DI GIORGIO [35.25, -118.82], 0.3 S DI GIORGIO [35.25, -118.83]

	12/31/16 17:14 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/31/16 17:14 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding on Tejon Highway near Digiorgio Road just east of Lamont.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.3 N RIBIER [35.28, -118.87], 2.4 NNE RIBIER [35.28, -118.85], 3.4 NNE RIBIER [35.30, -118.86], 3.4 S EDISON [35.30, -118.87]

	12/31/16 19:25 PST		10K	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/31/16 19:25 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement

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Multiple vehicles were reported stuck in a flooded roadway on Malaga Road near Lamont by law enforcement.

A slow moving southerly moving low pressure system brought mountain winter weather and lower elevation heavy rains to Kern County. Precipitation was enhanced by orographic lifting.