

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2017

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

(CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY

12/01/17 02:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/01/17 09:50 PST	0	

Upper level high pressure remained over California as December began and fog formed along the center of the San Joaquin Valley as skies remained clear and winds remained light. Areas of dense fog formed again in the San Joaquin Valley, most noticeably in Hanford where law enforcement was pacing some traffic.

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

12/02/17 01:45 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/02/17 11:10 PST	0	

Widespread dense fog formed in the San Joaquin Valley on the morning of December 2 as high pressure persisted over the area. The fog impacted travel along State Routes 99, 43, 41 and 198 as visibility was reduced to a few hundred feet in places. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck then completely dissipated by late morning.

(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

12/04/17 03:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
12/04/17 08:00 PST	0	

A cold front with very little moisture rapidly pushed southward through the area on the morning of December 3. Much colder air behind the front settled into the San Joaquin Valley and resulted in the first morning of freezing temperatures across much of the San Joaquin Valley on December 4 as skies cleared out and winds diminished in very dry airmass.

(CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS

12/04/17 22:00 PST	0.10M	Strong Wind (MAX 43 kt)
12/05/17 10:00 PST	0	

A large upper ridge built into the Pacific Northwest on December 4 behind a trough which pushed through California the previous day. This resulted in a strong gradient over the southern Sierra Nevada producing Mono type winds over the Southern Sierra Nevada on the evening of December 4 through the late morning of December 5.

(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

12/05/17 02:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
12/05/17 08:00 PST	0	

A cold airmass became settled over the interior of Central California on December 4 and a hard freeze occurred on the morning of December 5 across portions of the San Joaquin Valley as minimum temperatures dropped below 28 degrees.

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY

12/16/17 09:19 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 51 kt)
12/16/17 09:19 PST	0	

An upper trough that had very little moisture with it dropped southeast out of the Gulf of Alaska and pushed into northern California on December 15. This system pushed through central California on the morning of December 16 pushing a cold front through the region. Strong post-frontal winds developed in the San Joaquin Valley behind the front by late morning and continued well into the afternoon hours before the winds diminished by evening. Several stations in the San Joaquin Valley measured peak wind gusts between 35 mph and 55 mph.

(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

12/21/17 03:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
12/22/17 09:00 PST	0	

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

12/21/17 03:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/21/17 09:50 PST	0	

A strong cold front pushed through Central California on December 20. While rainfall amounts in the San Joaquin Valley were generally light (a tenth of an inch or less), a cooler airmass settled into the valley behind this system. Clearing skies and light winds allowed for

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strong radiational cooling to take place overnight and temperatures fell into the 20's for several hours overnight. In addition, an area of dense fog formed along the center of the San Joaquin Valley impacting travel on State Route 99 in the Fresno area. On the following morning, less fog was present although some freezing fog was reported as the airmass dried and temperatures dropped even lower than on the previous morning.

(CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY

12/30/17 06:40 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/30/17 09:35 PST	0	

A stagnant airmass was present over the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of December 30. High clouds streamed over the area overnight, but there was enough clearing toward sunrise and winds remained light. A small area of dense fog developed in the southwestern portion of the San Joaquin Valley. At least 3 minor auto accidents were observed by commuting NWS employees.