

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2022

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

(CA-Z300) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS NORTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z303) PLANADA-LEGRAND-SNELLING, (CA-Z304) COALINGA - AVENAL, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z308) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z309) BUTTONWILLOW- LOST HILLS - I5, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z313) BUENA VISTA, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD, (CA-Z315) SOUTHEAST SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z316) SOUTH END SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z317) MARIPOSA - MADERA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z319) FRESNO - TULARE FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z320) FRESNO - TULARE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z321) SOUTH END SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z322) SOUTH END OF THE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z324) YOSEMITE VALLEY, (CA-Z325) SAN JOAQUIN RIVER CANYON, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z329) GRANT GROVE AREA, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z332) KERN RIVER VALLEY, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z335) GRAPEVINE, (CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES, (CA-Z337) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S), (CA-Z339) MOJAVE DESERT

03/01/22 00:00 PST	0	Drought
03/31/22 23:59 PST	0	

Rainfall was closer to normal in March. However, due to the extreme dry period in January and February and a long term precipitation deficit from the previous 18 months, nearly all of the central California Interior was classified as being in an extreme drought by the end of March, 2022. As of March, 2022, most of the impacted area has received less than 40% of normal precipitation since July 1, 2020.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.2 SSW MAGUNDEN [35.34, -118.91], 2.2 SSW MAGUNDEN [35.34, -118.91], 2.3 SSW MAGUNDEN [35.34, -118.91], 2.2 SSW MAGUNDEN [35.34, -118.91]

03/04/22 06:44 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
03/04/22 09:44 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported that the intersection of SR 184 and Redbank Rd. in Bakersfield was completely flooded.

A low pressure system dropped southward off the California coast on March 3 then turned inland and moved across southern California during the morning of March 4 spreading moderate to locally heavy precipitation into the south San Joaquin Valley with localized street flooding being observed in the Bakersfield area. Light precipitation impacted the Tehachapi Mountains with the snow level lowering from 5000 feet at the onset of the precipitation to 4000 feet by the evening of March 4. A colder system then dropped southward along the California Nevada border on March 5 which pushed a cold front southward through the area bringing mainly light precipitation to much of our area and lowering the snow level to around 2000 feet. Snowfall was generally 3 to 6 inches of above 5000 feet and 1 to 3 inches between 2500 feet and 5000 feet. The snow did result in traffic being paced along Interstate 5 over the Tejon Pass for a few hours on March 5 and briefly closed a few roads in the Kern County Mountains as some precautionary measures were taken. Parts of the south San Joaquin Valley picked up between 0.75 inches and 1.5 inches of rainfall, but further north the the central valley most locations picked up between a quarter and a half inch of rainfall.

(CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE

03/06/22 03:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
03/06/22 08:00 PST	0	

A cold airmass pushed into Central California during the evening of March 5 behind the departing low pressure system which had impacted the area on March 4 and 5. During the morning of March 6, temperatures dropped below the freezing mark for a few hours across portions of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES

03/07/22 03:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
03/07/22 08:00 PST	0	

The cold airmass that was prevalent over Central California on March 6 remained over the region through the morning of March 7. With clear skies and light winds prevailing, temperatures dropped below the freezing mark for a few hours across portions of the San Joaquin Valley for the second consecutive night although the sub-freezing temperatures impacted a smaller area. Temperatures remained above the freezing mark the following night as mid level clouds moved in over the area.

(CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z332) KERN RIVER VALLEY, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)

03/13/22 10:10 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 76 kt)
03/14/22 00:20 PST	0	

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An upper trough pushed through California on March 13. While the deeper moisture and precipitation remained over the Pacific Northwest and far northern California, a cold front that was associated with this system pushed through central California and brought a period of strong westerly winds across the Kern County Mountains and the Mojave Desert Slopes between the late morning of March 13 and the early morning of March 14. Several stations reported gusts exceeding 55 mph while a few low impact indicator sites measured gusts exceeding 70 mph.

(CA-Z300) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS NORTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)				
	03/27/22 17:10 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 64 kt)
	03/28/22 02:40 PST		0	

(CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z329) GRANT GROVE AREA, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES				
	03/28/22 00:00 PST		0	Winter Weather
	03/29/22 00:00 PST		0	

After a period of unseasonably warm temperatures across the area between March 22 and March 26, an upper low pressure system approached the southern California coast on March 27 and brought increased winds to the West Side Hills and the Tehachapi Mountains during the evening of March 27 through the morning of March 28. Several stations reported gusts exceeding 45 mph with a few stations measuring gusts above 55 mph. As the low moved inland on March 28, a band of precipitation pushed eastward across the area during the morning and afternoon hours. Behind this band, skies cleared out and with cooler air pushing into the area aloft, instability was sufficient for thunderstorms to develop across the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra foothills during the afternoon through the early evening hours although the thunderstorms were rapid movers and did not produce any significant flooding as a result. Most of the San Joaquin valley and Sierra Foothills picked up between a quarter inch and a half inch of rainfall with locations impacted by thunderstorms picking up more. Much of the Sierra Nevada picked up between 0.40 and 0.80 inches of liquid precipitation. Many stations above 5500 feet in the Sierra Nevada picked up between 3 and 8 inches of new snowfall while many stations above 5500 feet in the Tehachapi Mountains picked up between 2 and 6 inches of new snowfall.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS				
	03/29/22 05:30 PST		0	Dense Fog
	03/29/22 07:30 PST		0	

The storm that a quarter to a half inch of rain to much of the San Joaquin Valley during the previous day moved east the area overnight. As a result, winds diminished and skies cleared out in some locations. This allowed for patchy dense fog to form around sunrise in the Merced area and also east of Fresno and in Sanger. The fog briefly impacted travel along portions of SR 99 and SR 180 until dissipating within an hour after sunrise.