Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2023

Location Date/Time Deaths & Property & Event Type and Details Injuries Crop Dmg

CALIFORNIA, South Central

MARIPOSA COUNTY --- 1.0 ESE YOSEMITE NATL PARK [37.75, -119.53]

09/21/23 12:30 PST 0 Lightning

09/21/23 12:30 PST 2 0 Source: Newspaper

A newspaper article mentioned that two hikers were injured by a lightning strike while taking shelter in a cave near Half Dome.

A cold front associated with an upper trough moved through central California on September 21. This system brought cooler temperatures to the area along with a period of increased winds to the area during the afternoon and evening hours. A few thunderstorms popped up ahead of the cold front during the afternoon over the Sierra Nevada. One thunderstorm over Yosemite Park produced a lightning strike which injured two hikers near Half Dome.

(CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP

09/30/23 04:00 PST 0 Winter Weather

09/30/23 22:00 PST 0

A strong upper low pressure center moved through northern California on September 30. This system brought widespread precipitation to the area although amounts were generally light. Much of the Sierra Nevada picked up between a quarter to a half inch of liquid precipitation with a tenth a a quarter of an inch of rain falling in the adjacent foothills and generally a tenth of an inch or less in the San Joaquin Valley, West Side Hills and in the Tehachapi Mountains. The snow level was around 9500 feet at the onset of the precipitation during the morning of September 30 and lowered to around 8000 feet by the afternoon. Several higher elevation SNOTEL stations picked up between 2 and 5 inches of snowfall in what was the first significant winter storm of the season. An NWS incident meteorologist on dispatch to the Big Stump Redwood prescribed burn in Sequoia National Park sent a video of frequent lightning near the burn site during the morning of September 30.

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