



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons		Estimated Damage		Character of Storm
					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ021

01	0000PST 1500PST				0	0	262K	540K	Flood
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During the period of 3/28/98 to 4/1/98 flooding was experienced by the Tulare County communities of Lindsay, Strathmore, and Tonyville. Flooding from locally heavy and persistent winter rains provided excessive runoff for Lewis and Frazier Creeks causing damage to these communities at the interface of the Southern San Joaquin Valley and Southern Sierra Nevada foothills. Lewis Creek jumped out of its banks Wednesday morning, 4/1/98, impacting and damaging about 32 homes around the creek in northeast Lindsay. Unofficial reports totalled 5.7" of rain in the week prior to the flooding

Merced County

Dos Palos

05	1730PST 1748PST				0	0			Funnel Cloud
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Reports by Merced County Sheriff indicated perhaps two different funnels between 1730 and 1748 PST at Dos Palos on the Merced/Fresno County Line.

Merced County

Los Banos

05	1745PST				0	0			Funnel Cloud
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Funnel cloud reported by Merced County Sheriff in addition to lightning activity with a thunderstorm. This storm eventually moved southeastward and prompted issuance of a Severe Thunderstorm Warning for Northwest Fresno County just a few miles to the southeast.

Merced County

Atwater to Merced

13	1600PST 1630PST				0	0	713K		Small Hail
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The time of convective activity was estimated in the late afternoon in Merced County. Small hail (less than 3/4") damaged many acres of strawberries between Atwater and Merced. Further damage inflicted on stone fruits due to surface blemishes devaluing crop values.

Kern County

16 SE Bakersfield

26 27	0600PST 2359PST				0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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While rains have stopped and temperatures climbed to near normal for a period in late April, the winter and spring's above normal rainfall/snowfall is resulting in not only rainfall runoff, some snowmelt contributions, but "springing" into the South Valley stream group of Caliente, Tejoh, sycamore, El Paso, and San Emigdio Creeks at the rate of 120CFS. Damage was sustained on roads and property with water collecting in low-lying areas, such as the ancient Kern Lake bed. As of late April 2,000 acres of farmland was under water in the South San Joaquin Valley in the area southeast of Bakersfield. As of April 27th the snowpack water content in the Southern Sierra Nevada was 190% of normal. From the Kern County Ag Commissioner's Office, data indicates that 75,000 to 100,000 acres of cotton may not be planted in Kern County due to the wet and cool field conditions