



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 2002

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

CAZ089>092

W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley

01	0000PST								
06	0830PST			0	0				Extreme Cold

Continuing into the month of February from late January, Interior Central California had a period of very low temperatures that threatened late season citrus. No major damage was reported by local agricultural commissioners in regard to the low temperatures. The lowest readings were reported on the mornings of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Temperatures dipped to 25 deg F. at the coldest locations with durations of 3 hours at less than 28F at Riverbend and Navelencia, SE of Fresno. Overnight low temperatures began to moderate with widespread temperatures still less than 32F through the morning of the 6th but not nearly as cold as the first 3 mornings of the month.

CAZ089>092

W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley

05	0253PST								
06	1000PST			3	40	450K			Fog



Dense Fog formation throughout the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley occurred on both the mornings of the 5th and 6th. Fog was the most dense on the 5th when widespread visibilities as low as 50 feet were reported by the California Highway Patrol and a resulting multiple-vehicle accident involving 87 cars and trucks 20 miles southeast of Fresno left 3 dead and approximately 40 injured. (Photo courtesy of the Fresno Bee). F32VE, M76VE, F34VE

CAZ091>092

Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley

09	2030PST								
10	1500PST			0	0	250K			Wind

Downslope, strong southeast wind swept the southern portions of the San Joaquin Valley concurrently with Santa Ana winds buffeting the Los Angeles Basin. In the South Valley, numerous power lines, trees, and fences were downed due to the winds that reached 37 MPH as reported at Meadows Field, Bakersfield, late in the morning of the 10th. Minor damage from the wind was reported as far north as Corcoran in Kings County. At one point there were 6900 customers without power in the South Valley. Blowing dust was also a problem in and around the Arvin/Bakersfield area. With the warming, temperatures climbed to 80 degs F at Arvin and 75F at Bakersfield on the 10th despite this being a winter month.



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ095 **Kern Cty Mtns**
10 **0023PST** **0** **0** **Wind**
1600PST
 Gusty northwest wind brought some blowing dust/sand along Highway 202 in the Tehachapi area. The Government Peak RAWs Mesoscale site reported a peak gust to 62 MPH at 0712 PST.

CAZ089>092 **W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley**
14 **0445PST** **0** **0** **Fog**
1000PST
 Visibilities lowered to well less than 1/4SM visibility through much of the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley area on the morning of the 14th. A 3-car collision in 7 miles WSW of Porterville in Tulare County in the South San Joaquin Valley injured 7

CAZ096>097 **S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns**
16 **2330PST** **0** **0** **Snow**
17 **1600PST**
 In a period of a little less than 24 hours, snowfall amounts in the Southern Sierra Nevada between Yosemite and Quaking Aspen varied from 8 to 15 inches of snow. Only a couple of locations had higher amounts, 17" at Gin Flat at 7500 feet M.S.L. in the S.Sierra, and 20" at Big Meadows in the Tulare County Mountains at 7800' M.S.L.

CAZ089>090 **W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley**
21 **2245PST** **1** **0** **Fog**
22 **0900PST**
 Although fog formation also occurred in the west-central San Joaquin Valley, extensive fog with visibilities less than 1/4SM visibility developed in th east-central Valley on the morning of the 22nd. Some local areas of dense fog were also present in the northern portions the South San Joaquin Valley but not widespread through those zones. M29VE

CAZ095-098>099 **Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert**
23 **0753PST** **0** **0** **Wind**
24 **0025PST**
 Post-frontal gusty northwest wind swept across the mountains and deserts of Kern County the afternoon and evening of the 23rd. Wind gust speeds of 30 to 47 knots were commonly reported by various mesonet sites, including a peak wind of 37 knots at Edwards AFB and a gust to 56 knots at Mojave.

CAZ095-098>099 **Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert**
28 **1147PST** **0** **0** **Wind**
2359PST
 This event continued in the Kern County mountains until the late morning on the 1st of March; and mid-afternoon in the Kern deserts. Winds reached their peak gusts from the northwest late in the evening of the 28th with sustained wind near 40 knots.