

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2008

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

<b>(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS</b>				
	10/04/08 14:30 PST		0.50K	Strong Wind (MAX 48 kt)
	10/04/08 16:30 PST		0	

<b>KINGS COUNTY --- 6.5 ESE GUERNSEY [36.19, -119.52]</b>				
	10/04/08 15:10 PST		0	Funnel Cloud
	10/04/08 15:10 PST		0	Source: Public

Several reports were received of funnel clouds on October 4th with the passage of a relatively cold low pressure system. However no tornadoes or property damages occurred.

An area of low pressure reached California on the 3rd, with temperatures throughout the San Joaquin Valley plunging into the mid-upper 70s (a drop of 8-11 degrees from the previous day), and further cooling into the mid 70s for the next two days. Light precipitation fell in the valley with amounts up to a tenth of an inch, while heavier amounts from 0.70 inch to just above 1.00 inch fell in the Sierra Nevada and nearby foothills.

Strong winds occurred in portions of the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent areas with the passage of the low pressure area. Winds were strongest in the Kern County Mountains. The California Highway Patrol reported wind gusts of up to 55 mph along Highway 58 east of Bakersfield. Local mesonet observations were nearly as high with gusty winds.

<b>(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT</b>				
	10/09/08 10:27 PST		6.30K	Strong Wind (MAX 49 kt)
	10/10/08 22:00 PST		0	

<b>(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY</b>				
	10/12/08 05:00 PST		0	Frost/Freeze
	10/12/08 07:00 PST		0	

After the trough that remained over the region on the 4th and 5th of the month was replaced by high pressure, temperatures warmed back to near to slightly above normal from the 6th until the 8th before another low pressure system approached central California by the 9th. This time there was no precipitation associated with this low pressure; the effects were mainly below normal temperatures for the next four days with the warmest highs only in the mid 60s to near 70 that occurred in the valley.

From the 9th until the 11th there were several weather stations in the mountain passes, canyons, and deserts that recorded gusty winds up to 55 mph due to the passage of the low pressure system.

These strong winds produced areas of blowing dust at times across much of the San Joaquin valley. This condition prompted local environmental health experts to issue warnings of the effects of blowing dust and reduced air quality. Strong winds caused minor property damage in Hanford, where a tree branch was blown down and blocked a roadway intersection. Winds in the San Joaquin Valley gusted to 40-45 mph at times.

On the morning of the 11th temperatures reached to around freezing in several locations throughout the San Joaquin Valley; this was the first day for a frost advisory during the fall 2008 growing season.

<b>(CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY</b>				
	10/30/08 10:05 PST		0.10K	Strong Wind (MAX 34 kt)
	10/30/08 19:00 PST		0	

<b>MARIPOSA COUNTY --- 2.1 SE ELLIOTT CORNER [37.45, -119.74]</b>				
	10/30/08 14:59 PST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 54 kt)
	10/30/08 15:06 PST		0	Source: Mesonet

A severe thunderstorm occurred near Mariposa. The mesonet station located at Miami reported wind gusts with this storm of 62 mph.

The next series of low pressure systems approached Central California by the early morning hours of the 30th. Even on the 30th temperatures remained mostly in the 80s in the valley and desert along with increased cloud cover since warm air remained ahead of the trough.

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The southern end of the San Joaquin Valley experienced gusty winds and blowing dust during much of the daylight hours of the 30th (winds in Bakersfield gusted to 40 mph) before the next and last low pressure system for the month, that brought measurable rainfall in the valley on the 31st, arrived. Blowing dust created reduced visibilities, especially in the south end of the San Joaquin Valley, near Bakersfield, where blowing dust was reported to reduce visibilities to below one mile at times, as well as prompt local air quality officials to issue health warnings due to the blowing dust.

The large Pacific storm also brought enough instability in the atmosphere to generate a few thunderstorms in Central California. One storm in particular reached severe criteria with wind gusts of over 60 mph, near Mariposa. No damage was reported due to this storm.

On the last day of the month there were rainfall amounts as high as 0.15 inch in the valley, and amounts ranged from around a half inch to just above an inch for much of the foothills and higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada. Prior to the rainfall that occurred on the last day of the month, there were new minimum temperature records set in Fresno and Bakersfield. Fresno had a low of 61 (prior record was 59 set in 1983), and Bakersfield had a low of 65 (beating the old record of 58 set in 1987).