# Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2012

| Location | Date/Time | Deaths & Injuries | Property & Crop Dmg | Event Type and Details |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CALIFORNIA, South Central** | | | | |
| **(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT** | | | | |
| | 05/22/12 14:55 PST | | 0 | High Wind (MAX 62 kt) |
| | 05/24/12 05:00 PST | | 0 | |
| **MADERA COUNTY --- 0.6 E CHOWCHILLA [37.12, -120.26]** | | | | |
| | 05/25/12 15:00 PST | | 0 | Funnel Cloud |
| | 05/25/12 15:00 PST | | 0 | Source: Broadcast Media |

The public reported a funnel cloud near Chowchilla.

**An upper-level disturbance moved through the Pacific Northwest on May 22nd. The initial effect of this disturbance was to flatten the high-pressure ridge over California; this set the stage for a stronger upper- level trough to move through the central California interior on the 23rd. The trough cooled temperatures to near normal, and also brought strong winds to the mountains and deserts. Mojave recorded a gust to 85 mph, and there were several gusts in the 65-75 mph range. In fact, sustained winds at Mojave were as high as 72 mph on the 23rd. Temperatures continued to cool on the 24th behind this disturbance; however, a stronger storm system began to arrive by the following day.**

**A cold Pacific storm reached California on May 25th. Temperatures were well below normal throughout the region. In fact, Fresno had a high of only 69 degrees, and Bakersfield was only two degrees warmer. Rainfall on the San Joaquin Valley floor was confined mainly to the west side; the Naval Air Station in Lemoore had the highest amount (0.12 inch). In the Southern Sierra Nevada, up to 0.40 inch of rain was reported. As much as four inches of snow fell near Tioga Pass in Yosemite National Park. Sites in the Tehachapi Mountains had up to 0.20 inch of rain, with the highest amounts recorded in the Tehachapi Pass area.**

**Gusty winds also developed on the 25th with gusts up to 70 mph at Bird Springs Pass in the Kern County Mountains early in the morning of the 26th.**

**Temperatures warmed on the last days of May as high pressure moved back over California. High temperatures in the central and southern San Joaquin Valley reached near-normal values on the 29th, and climbed well into the 90s by the end of the month. Fresno had a high of 99 on May 31st, the warmest day so far this year. The average temperature for May of 72.3 degrees gave Fresno its 10th warmest May on record. Bakersfield was slightly cooler with an average temperature of 71.7 degrees.**



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