

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - October 2015

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

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z094) TULARE CTY FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

10/01/15 00:00 PST	0	Drought
10/31/15 23:59 PST	0	

The California drought continues in full force during the month of September, 2015. Temperatures continued to average above normal. Fresno received 0.49 inch of rainfall while Bakersfield only received 0.14 of precipitation during the month of October.

The U.S. Drought Monitor continued to report exceptional drought conditions across the entire Central California region. This extent of exceptional drought is extremely unusual for California. The general trend of below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures has continued this year.

There continues to be significant media coverage on the on-going drought conditions. These reports include discussion of significant re-allocation of water resources from the east to west side of the San Joaquin Valley, farmers forgoing planting of some crops, a decrease in the snow-related tourism activity in the Southern Sierra Nevada, reduction in air quality due to persistent stagnant air, loss or reduction of ground water, wells drying up in several communities leaving them with no water, and an unprecedented increase in fire danger across the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains. Also, communities in Central California interior face state mandated reductions in municipal water use.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.3 WNW CANTIL [35.30, -117.99], 2.4 WSW RAND [35.38, -117.74]

10/04/15 12:29 PST	0	Heavy Rain
10/04/15 20:29 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported water ponding on Highway 14. This resulted in the closure of both Randsburg and Garlock roads.

KERN COUNTY --- 5.0 NE ONYX [35.73, -118.17]

10/04/15 12:29 PST	0	Heavy Rain
10/04/15 20:29 PST	0	Source: Public

Reports were received about some mud and rock on Highway 178, 2 miles east of Canebreak Fire Station. The mud and rock was due to heavy rainfall occurring.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.8 NNE ONYX [35.69, -118.22], 2.7 WSW WELDON [35.66, -118.33]

10/05/15 17:16 PST	0	Heavy Rain
10/05/15 20:15 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

At 1612 PST, law enforcement notified the office that a large boulder was blocking the roadway and that there was localized flooding of water in Onyx . This was due to heavy rainfall earlier, though no evidence of what caused the boulder to fall into the roadway. The area is a canyon so the heavy rainfall may have caused it to fall.

An upper low pressure system moved onshore and into Central California during the morning hours. This lead to light rain to fall across most of the district. However, there were a few convective showers that lead to some localized heavy rainfall.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.7 SSW MARICOPA [35.05, -119.42], 1.7 SSW MARICOPA [35.05, -119.41], 1.6 SSW MARICOPA [35.05, -119.41], 1.6 SSW MARICOPA [35.05, -119.41]

10/15/15 13:00 PST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/15/15 16:15 PST	0	Source: Public

Public reported flash flooding on state road 33 near Maricopa. This lead to the roadway closing.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.3 SSE GRAPE VINE [34.89, -118.91], 2.4 SSE GRAPE VINE [34.89, -118.91], 2.6 SSE GRAPE VINE [34.89, -118.90], 2.6 SSE GRAPE VINE [34.89, -118.90]

10/15/15 14:55 PST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
10/15/15 17:00 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported mud and debris flowing across Interstate 5 around the Tejon Pass on the Grapevine. This report was also followed by numerous reports on social media and TV media.

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KERN COUNTY --- 1.7 E TEHACHAPI KERN ARPT [35.13, -118.40], 1.4 ENE TEHACHAPI MTN VLY AP [35.11, -118.40], 2.2 SSW ERIC [35.10, -118.32], 1.3 SW ERIC [35.12, -118.32]				
	10/15/15 16:00 PST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/15/15 18:15 PST		0	Source: Social Media

Numerous social media and later TV media reported mudslide along Highway 58. The area had experienced some heavy rainfall through out the afternoon. Then a heavy convective shower developed near a burnt area from years prior. This allowed a large debris flow to develop and move into the Tehachapi area. This area is a known alluvial basin that can develop quick flowing flash floods, but the amount of mud and debris with this event was on the order of four to six feet deep. This trapped multiple vehicles and closed the roadway for multiple days. One individual was reported later to have been swept away during the event, with no recovery made to date.

TULARE COUNTY --- 1.2 S GOSHEN [36.33, -119.42], 1.1 N (VIS)VISALIA ARPT [36.34, -119.40], 0.2 ENE (VIS)VISALIA ARPT [36.32, -119.40], 0.6 WNW (VIS)VISALIA ARPT [36.32, -119.41]				
	10/16/15 05:22 PST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	10/16/15 06:00 PST		0	Source: Public

Public reported flooding at the State Road 99 and State Road 198 interchange. This area was closed due to the flooding that occurred. This area was under construction during time of this event with bare soils on the side of the roadway. Crews were able to get the road open quickly once storm drains were opened.

A slow moving upper level low pressure system moved onshore during the previous day. This system was enhanced by subtropical moisture, which helped increase the threat of heavy rainfall during the day. Afternoon thunderstorm activity was anticipated due to heating and orographic lift.