

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2016

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

01/01/16 00:00 PST	0	Drought
01/31/16 23:59 PST	0	

The California drought continues in full force during the month of January, 2016. Fresno received 4.42 inch of rainfall while Bakersfield only received 1.95 of precipitation during the month. Even with these rainfall amount there has been little response in water storage across Central California.

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, 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.

(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY

01/01/16 07:39 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/01/16 19:53 PST	0	

Ample soil moisture from a wet December and overnight cooling lead to fog development.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

01/03/16 11:32 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 71 kt)
01/04/16 03:13 PST	0	

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

01/04/16 22:00 PST	0	Winter Storm
01/05/16 20:00 PST	0	

Beginning on the January 3rd a series of upper level systems moved through the area. On the 3rd the resultant pressure gradient lead to some severe wind gust across Kern County. Then by the 4th things transitioned to a winter storm event, with most of the higher elevations receiving snowfall. The series of storms continued to parade into the area until 8th.

(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

01/08/16 01:53 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/08/16 11:15 PST	0	

On days prior to the dense fog development on the 8th of January there were multiple storms that brought ample moisture into the San Joaquin Valley.

(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

01/20/16 03:29 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/22/16 08:30 PST	0	

Ample soil moisture and clear and calm night resulted in fog development across the San Joaquin Valley on the 20th and 21st of January.

(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

01/28/16 04:53 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/29/16 09:30 PST	0	

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

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	01/29/16 12:00 PST		0	Winter Storm
	01/31/16 23:59 PST		0	

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

	01/30/16 05:27 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 79 kt)
	01/31/16 23:59 PST		0	

TULARE COUNTY --- 0.5 W PORTERVILLE [36.07, -119.03]

	01/31/16 21:00 PST		0	Hail (1.25 in)
	01/31/16 21:30 PST		0	Source: Trained Spotter

A good fetch of tropical moisture surged into the area during the last weekend of January. Though, this was not the only impact during the later part of January as fog was also in play. In fact, the Thursday prior to the arrival of the moisture had enough of a break in activity for fog development.

Then on Friday rain and snow showers began to fall, though snow levels were initially fairly high. The snow levels did fall throughout the event to nearly 3,000 feet above sea level. This first upper level system ejected out of the area early on Saturday morning, which resulted in severe wind gusts across Kern County.

Also on Saturday, due to a break in activity again the area experienced dense fog development. The showers resumed again on Sunday prior to the system ejecting out of the area. However, as the system ejected it increased the pressure gradient across Kern County, which resulted in severe wind gust into the evening Sunday.