

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - September 2017

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

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS

09/01/17 00:00 PST			0	Wildfire
09/15/17 00:00 PST		6	0	

The Railroad Fire started on the afternoon of August 29, 2017, west of Highway 41, 8.75 miles north of Oakhurst, just south of Yosemite National Park near the community of Sugar Pine. The fire spread rapidly in dry brush. Highway 41 between Oakhurst and the south entrance of Yosemite National Park was closed in both directions for about a week with several small communities evacuated, including Tenaya Lodge that serves visitors to Yosemite. The fire burned 12,407 acres before being contained on September 15, 2017. Cost of containment was \$20.8 million. There were 17 structures destroyed, including a historic locomotive that wasn't being used, as well as a passenger car, snowplow, side dump car and refrigerator car that were attached to it that were part of the Yosemite Mountain Sugar Pine Railroad. More than 200 wooden railroad ties also burned. The fire also burned into the Nelder Grove of Giant Sequoia trees.

(CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

09/01/17 00:00 PST			0	Wildfire
09/24/17 13:00 PST		5	0	

The human caused Pier Fire began in the early morning hours of August 29, 2017 when a stolen car was set on fire and pushed off a cliff along Highway 190, 7 miles east of Springville, CA. The fire burned 36,556 acres before being contained on September 24, 2017. There were mandatory evacuations for the small communities of Camp Nelson, Pierpoint Springs, Cedar Slope, Sequoia Crest, Rogers Camp, Doyle Springs, Mountain Aire and Wishon for several weeks. Much of Highway 190 between Springville and Ponderosa was closed to traffic. There were 2 structures lost. Cost of containment was \$38.76 million.

(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

09/01/17 10:00 PST			0	Excessive Heat
09/03/17 20:00 PST			0	

A persistent large upper ridge centered over the Great Basin provided the area with an extended period of much warmer than normal temperatures between August 26 and September 3. High temperatures ranged mainly from 106 to 112 degrees at many locations each day between August 26 and September 3 across the San Joaquin Valley, the southern Sierra foothills and the Kern County Deserts while morning lows ranged from the mid 70's to the lower 80's.

TULARE COUNTY --- 5.3 E LODGEPOLE [36.60, -118.63]

09/03/17 11:30 PST			0	Lightning
09/03/17 12:30 PST		3	0	Source: NWS Employee

A family of three were struck by lightning and injured while wilderness backpacking at Sequoia National Park.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.3 SE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.27, -119.03], 0.4 ESE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.27, -119.02], 0.4 SE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.27, -119.02], 0.4 SE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.27, -119.03]

09/03/17 16:14 PST			0	Debris Flow
09/03/17 16:14 PST			0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported road flooding and debris due to heavy rainfall near Compagnoni St. and Taft Highway in Castle Ranch.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.9 SE WEED PATCH [35.22, -118.91]

09/03/17 16:19 PST			10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
09/03/17 16:19 PST			0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported power lines were downed by thunderstorm winds across the northbound lanes of State Route 184 near Sunset Blvd 3 miles south of Lamont.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.6 E OIL JCT [35.40, -119.04]

09/03/17 16:29 PST			1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 35 kt)
09/03/17 16:29 PST			0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported a tree down on State Route 204 due to strong winds 4NW Bakersfield.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.7 ENE VENOLA [35.32, -119.04], 0.7 E VENOLA [35.32, -119.04], 0.8 E VENOLA [35.32, -119.04], 0.8 E VENOLA [35.32, -119.04]

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	09/03/17 16:31 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/03/17 16:31 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a mud slide and road flooding due to heavy rainfall on southbound State Route 99 just north of White Ln. in Bakersfield.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 1.6 E OIL CENTER [35.40, -118.95]				
	09/03/17 16:31 PST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 35 kt)
	09/03/17 16:31 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported several tree branches down on State Route 178 due to strong thunderstorm winds in East Bakersfield.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 7.1 WSW CLARAVILLE [35.40, -118.47]				
	09/03/17 16:31 PST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 35 kt)
	09/03/17 16:31 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported tree branches downed from thunderstorm wind gusts 13 ENE Keene.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 1.2 W KERN CITY [35.35, -119.04], 1.3 WNW WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.04], 1.1 WNW WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.04], 0.9 W KERN CITY [35.35, -119.04]				
	09/03/17 16:45 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/03/17 16:45 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a mud slide in the right lane of State Route 99 at Ming Ave. to State Route 58 in Bakersfield.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 2.9 SE CALDERS CORNER [35.35, -119.21]				
	09/03/17 16:52 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/03/17 16:52 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported power lines downed across Stockdale Highway west of Rosedale from strong thunderstorm winds.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 3.6 NNE TUPMAN [35.35, -119.33]				
	09/03/17 17:08 PST		50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/03/17 17:08 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported downed power poles and power lines near Interstate 5 just south of Stockdale Highway 1SE of Buttonwillow. The downed power lines caused brush fires.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 N PUMPKIN CENTER [35.29, -119.03]				
	09/03/17 17:21 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/03/17 17:21 PST		0	Source: Social Media
Received a public report through Social Media that showed a building under construction damaged by thunderstorm wind gusts near State Route 99 and Berkshire Rd. in Bakersfield.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 0.6 E (BFL)MEADOWS FIELD AP [35.43, -119.04]				
	09/03/17 17:24 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 35 kt)
	09/03/17 17:24 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a downed tree from thunderstorm winds on Airport Dr. and West China Grade loop in Bakersfield.				
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KERN COUNTY --- 0.6 SSW LAMONT [35.26, -118.92], 1.0 S LAMONT [35.26, -118.92], 1.0 S LAMONT [35.26, -118.92], 0.5 S LAMONT [35.26, -118.92]				
	09/03/17 17:34 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/03/17 17:34 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported flooding and debris on San Emidio St. in Lamont.				
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TULARE COUNTY --- 0.6 E PIXLEY [35.97, -119.29]				
	09/03/17 17:48 PST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 35 kt)
	09/03/17 17:48 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a large tree branch downed by thunderstorm wind gusts in the right lane of State Route 99 near East Court Ave. in Pixley.				

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KERN COUNTY --- 7.7 NNW MC KITTRICK [35.40, -119.69]				
	09/03/17 18:08 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/03/17 18:08 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported downed power lines from thunderstorm wind gusts across the roadway on Lost Hills Rd. near Lokern Rd. 1NW McKittrick.				
KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 SE VENOLA [35.30, -119.03], 1.8 SSE VENOLA [35.30, -119.03], 1.9 SE VENOLA [35.30, -119.03], 1.5 SE VENOLA [35.30, -119.03]				
	09/03/17 18:17 PST		50K	Debris Flow
	09/03/17 19:17 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported State Route 99 was closed in both directions for about an hour due to power poles downed by thunderstorm wind gusts and a mud slide onto the road near Panama Lane in Bakersfield.				
(CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY				
	09/03/17 18:30 PST		45K	Dust Storm
	09/03/17 19:17 PST		0	
KERN COUNTY --- 0.5 NNW DELANO [35.78, -119.25], 0.4 NNW DELANO [35.78, -119.25], 0.4 NNW DELANO [35.78, -119.25], 0.5 NNW DELANO [35.78, -119.25]				
	09/03/17 19:02 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/03/17 19:02 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported road flooding and mud debris near Cecil Ave. and State Route 99 in Delano.				
A northwest surge of tropical moisture during the Labor Day weekend produced strong thunderstorms over the Kern County Mountains during the late afternoon of September 3. These thunderstorms produced heavy rain which caused flash flooding in the Frazier Park and Pine Mountain Club areas. The thunderstorms spread northward through the San Joaquin Valley along an outflow boundary which also produced wind gusts between 40 and 50 mph and blowing dust which reduced visibility to near zero.				
(CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS				
	09/03/17 12:06 PST		0	Wildfire
	09/13/17 18:00 PST		0	
Two fires started within a short time of each other on the afternoon of September 3, 2017, both in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. The Mission fire began 2 miles east of North Fork in Madera county and burned 1035 acres and destroyed three residences and damaged 4 other structures before being contained on September 13, 2017. The Peak fire began 9 miles southeast of Mariposa in Mariposa county and burned 680 acres and destroyed 2 structures before being contained on September 9, 2017. The cause of both fires is unknown.				
KERN COUNTY --- INYOKERN [35.65, -117.82]				
	09/09/17 14:15 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/09/17 14:15 PST		0	Source: Social Media
Nine trees were reported blown down in Inyokern from a thunderstorm downburst.				
KERN COUNTY --- 6.4 SW RIDGECREST [35.55, -117.74], 6.0 SW RIDGECREST [35.56, -117.74], 5.8 SSW RIDGECREST [35.55, -117.72], 6.1 SSW RIDGECREST [35.55, -117.72]				
	09/09/17 15:00 PST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	09/09/17 16:13 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported flash flooding on South Brown Rd between Wiknich Rd. and U.S. Highway 395 south of Inyokern. South Brown Rd. was closed due to the flooding.				
KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 E GARLOCK [35.40, -117.76], 1.8 SE GARLOCK [35.38, -117.76], 2.5 WSW GARLOCK [35.38, -117.82], 1.8 W GARLOCK [35.40, -117.81]				
	09/09/17 16:19 PST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	09/09/17 17:17 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported closure of Redrock-Randsburg Rd. between State Route 14 and U.S. Highway 395 due to flash flooding and debris on the road.				
A cut off upper low drifting slowly southward off the central California coast pulled up a surge of sub-tropical moisture which produced thunderstorms and flash flooding in the Kern County Deserts on the afternoon of September 9.				

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TULARE COUNTY --- 1.6 SSW CAMP NELSON [36.13, -118.63]				
	09/11/17 15:30 PST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	09/11/17 15:30 PST		0	Source: NWS Employee
A Weather Service forecaster providing onsite support at the Pier Fire reported penny sized hail at Pierpoint Springs.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.2 NE CORCORAN [36.11, -119.55]				
	09/11/17 16:28 PST		0	Hail (0.88 in)
	09/11/17 16:28 PST		0	Source: Public
Public report of nickel sized hail in Corcoran.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.2 NE CORCORAN [36.11, -119.55]				
	09/11/17 16:28 PST		50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	09/11/17 16:28 PST		0	Source: Public
Public report in Corcoran of Thunderstorm winds producing damage to a house and snapping several trees . Beams from a wood fence were snapped from from concrete support and shingles were blown off of a roof .				
KINGS COUNTY --- 2.4 SSW HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.25, -119.65]				
	09/11/17 16:42 PST		0.10M	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/11/17 16:42 PST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
Media report of a dairy farm south of Hanford having several barns with extensive roof damage from thunderstorm winds.				
TULARE COUNTY --- 1.5 SSE TIPTON [36.05, -119.31]				
	09/11/17 16:47 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 16:47 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported several trees down on northbound State Route 99 just south of the State Route 190 interchange.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 0.6 SE ARMONA [36.31, -119.69]				
	09/11/17 16:52 PST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 16:52 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported tree debris on State Route 198 near Hanford-Armona Rd.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 0.6 S HANFORD [36.32, -119.65]				
	09/11/17 16:53 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 16:53 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a fence blew onto State Route 198 near 11th Ave in Hanford.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.6 SSE ARMONA [36.30, -119.69]				
	09/11/17 16:55 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 16:55 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a tree fell onto a vehicle near the intersection of 13th Ave. and Houston Ave. near Hanford.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.8 S HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.25, -119.63]				
	09/11/17 16:58 PST		8K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	09/11/17 16:58 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported 8 telephone poles were downed on Jackson Ave. near 9th Ave. south of Hanford.				
KINGS COUNTY --- SHORT ACRES [36.35, -119.65]				
	09/11/17 17:00 PST		1K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 17:00 PST		0	Source: Public
Report received on social media of damage to outdoor furniture in Hanford near the intersection of Peralta Way and Monroe Dr.				

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FRESNO COUNTY --- 8.0 W CARUTHERS [36.53, -119.97]				
	09/11/17 17:23 PST		50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	09/11/17 17:23 PST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
Broadcast Media report of a chicken barn blown down by thunderstorm downburst outflow winds.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 3.2 NE KERMAN BLAND ARPT [36.60, -119.99]				
	09/11/17 17:33 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 17:33 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported power lines downed by thunderstorm winds on West Manning Ave. to the west of Raisin City.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.2 ESE CAMDEN [36.42, -119.78]				
	09/11/17 17:47 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 17:47 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported a downed power line and a downed tree on East St. at the intersection of Wood Ave.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 0.7 N MENDOTA [36.76, -120.38]				
	09/11/17 18:00 PST		30K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 61 kt)
	09/11/17 18:00 PST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
Media posted video showing 30 power lines downed in Mendota from a microburst.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 5.2 WSW FIREBAUGH [36.81, -120.53]				
	09/11/17 18:15 PST		0	Thunderstorm Wind (MG 51 kt)
	09/11/17 18:15 PST		0	Source: Mesonet
The APRS station 5WSW Firebaugh reported a 59 mph wind gust from a thunderstorm.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 4.1 SW RAISIN CITY [36.56, -119.95]				
	09/11/17 18:20 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 18:20 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported power lines in the road on Westlawn Ave. near the intersection of Nebraska Ave.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 4.8 SW FIREBAUGH ARPT [36.82, -120.53]				
	09/11/17 18:44 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 18:44 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported power lines downed in the roadway on West Jerrold Ave. near West Bullard Ave near Firebaugh.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 0.6 E SHORT ACRES [36.35, -119.64]				
	09/11/17 19:00 PST		10K	Lightning
	09/11/17 19:00 PST		0	Source: Social Media
A report of lightning striking a house near Hanford High School was reported on social media.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.7 W HARDWICK [36.40, -119.75]				
	09/11/17 19:28 PST		10K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 43 kt)
	09/11/17 19:28 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported large tree limbs on the road on Maple Ave. between Excelsior Blvd. and Lewiston Ave near Hardwick.				
<p>The persistent cut off upper low remained situated off the central California coast and continued to pull tropical moisture northward into central California. Some deep tropical moisture associated with a fairly strong upper level shortwave pushed into central California on September 11 and produced a severe thunderstorm outbreak during the afternoon and evening. Numerous reports of downburst winds exceeding 60 mph were reported and the impacts from these thunderstorms included downed power lines, damage to roofs; and large objects being knocked over and damaged. Rainfall amounts were generally a quarter of an inch or less with a few locations in the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains receiving between a quarter inch and a half inch of rain.</p>				

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TUOLUMNE COUNTY --- 3.6 SE TUOLUMNE MEADOWS [37.84, -119.72], 6.3 SE TUOLUMNE MEADOWS [37.80, -119.69], 7.6 ESE TUOLUMNE MEADOWS [37.84, -119.64], 5.6 E TUOLUMNE MEADOWS [37.86, -119.67]				
	09/13/17 16:00 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/13/17 17:00 PST		0	Source: Park/Forest Service

A Yosemite National Park employee reported a rock slide over Park Road near Hetch Hetchy.

KERN COUNTY --- (BFL)MEADOWS FIELD AP [35.43, -119.05]				
	09/13/17 20:43 PST		0	Heavy Rain
	09/13/17 21:54 PST		0	Source: ASOS

The ASOS at Meadows Field in Bakersfield measured half an inch of rainfall between 2143 PST and 2254 PST on September 13. The rain produced localized street flooding and set a new daily record for September 13.

The upper level low which had remained off the California coast for several days finally moved inland across Southern California on September 13 and produced enough instability over central California during the late afternoon for strong thunderstorms to develop over Yosemite National Park. One cell produced pea sized hail which accumulated to an inch in depth while flash flooding was reported in Hetch Hetchy. Meanwhile, an isolated thunderstorm in Bakersfield produced half an inch of rainfall in about one hour which set a new daily record.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT				
	09/18/17 23:27 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 68 kt)
	09/19/17 20:44 PST		0	

A dry upper trough and associated cold front pushed southward through Central California on September 19. This system produced strong wind gusts along indicator ridge tops and below the passes in the Kern County Mountains and Deserts.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY				
	09/20/17 21:27 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 74 kt)
	09/21/17 20:26 PST		0	

MARIPOSA COUNTY --- 1.4 S FORESTA [37.68, -119.75], 1.5 S FORESTA [37.68, -119.75], 1.7 SSE FORESTA [37.68, -119.74], 1.8 SSE FORESTA [37.68, -119.74], 1.7 SSE FORESTA [37.68, -119.74]				
	09/21/17 03:00 PST		0	Debris Flow
	09/21/17 05:17 PST		0	Source: Park/Forest Service

National Park Service employees at Yosemite National Park reported a rock slide at Dog Rock that closed State Route 140 2 miles east of El Portal due to large boulders on the road.

A cold and moist upper low which originated in the Gulf of Alaska pushed into California on September 21 bringing widespread precipitation, increased winds and much cooler than normal temperatures to the area. Winds picked up across the area again on the evening of September 20 and continued through the afternoon of September 21 with the strongest observed gusts being observed at the indicator ridge top sites in the Kern County Mountains. In addition, widespread precipitation impacted to area on the 21st with several locations in the San Joaquin Valley measuring a few tenths of an inch of rainfall while several locations in the Southern Sierra Nevada from Yosemite Park southward to Fresno County picked up between an inch and an inch and a half of liquid precipitation. The precipitation fell as snow above 11000 feet during the early morning hours of the 21st. the snow level lowered to around 7000 feet in Yosemite Park by late morning. Tuolumne Meadows measures three inches of new snowfall while State Route 120 through Tioga Pass was shut down due to accumulating snow.