

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2018

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

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

01/09/18 03:13 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 82 kt)
01/10/18 16:40 PST	0	

KERN COUNTY --- 7.7 WNW FRAZIER PARK [34.84, -119.08], 7.7 W FRAZIER PARK [34.84, -119.08], 8.0 W FRAZIER PARK [34.84, -119.09], 8.0 WNW FRAZIER PARK [34.84, -119.09]

01/09/18 07:04 PST	0	Debris Flow
01/09/18 07:04 PST	0	Source: Public

Public report of mudslide closing the intersection of Cuddy Valley Rd. and Mil Portero Hwy 8W Frazier Park.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.0 NE CANTIL [35.31, -117.96], 2.6 NNE CANTIL [35.34, -117.96], 0.8 ESE CENEDA [35.36, -117.91], 2.0 SSW SALTDALE [35.35, -117.90]

01/09/18 08:19 PST	0	Debris Flow
01/09/18 08:19 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported flooding and debris across Redrock-Randsburg Rd. near Cantil and the road was closed to traffic.

(CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS

01/09/18 10:12 PST	2K	Strong Wind (MAX 43 kt)
01/09/18 10:14 PST	0	

KERN COUNTY --- BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.00], 0.2 NW BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.00], 0.2 NNW BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.00], 0.2 NNE BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.00]

01/09/18 11:00 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/09/18 11:00 PST	0	Source: Social Media

Pictures indicating roadway flooding in downtown Bakersfield near the intersection on Union Ave. and Truxton Ave. were received on Facebook and Twitter.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 WNW BAKERSFIELD [35.38, -119.02], 1.3 WNW BAKERSFIELD [35.38, -119.02], 1.3 WNW BAKERSFIELD [35.38, -119.02], 1.3 WNW BAKERSFIELD [35.38, -119.02]

01/09/18 11:19 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/09/18 11:19 PST	0	Source: Broadcast Media

Pictures indicating roadway flooding on 23rd St. in downtown Bakersfield were received on Facebook and Twitter.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.1 W BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.02], 1.1 W BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.02], 1.1 W BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.02], 1.1 W BAKERSFIELD [35.37, -119.02]

01/09/18 11:22 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
01/09/18 11:22 PST	0	Source: Social Media

Pictures indicating the courthouse parking lot in Bakersfield was flooded were received on Facebook and Twitter.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

01/10/18 01:15 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/10/18 21:00 PST	0	

January 2018 began with strong high pressure dominating over Central California. The high broke down by the 4th as a low pressure system pushed through Northern California bringing generally light precipitation to the area although a few locations picked up between a quarter and half an inch of rainfall. A few inches of snow fell above 8000 feet. Another low pressure pushed through Northern California on the morning of January 6 which brought half an inch to an inch of rain to much of Yosemite Park and Mariposa Counties with lesser amounts further south. Snow was mainly confined to elevations above 8000 feet with this system. A strong low pressure system moved southward off the Central California coast then pushed inland across Southern California between the morning of the 8th and the evening of the 9th. This system produced more substantial rainfall across the area with many locations in the Southern Sierra Nevada picking up between an inch and 2 inches of liquid precipitation. Strong southerly flow ahead of the system resulted in warming across the area ahead of the low and snow levels were above 10000 feet on the 8th when most of the precipitation fell. As the low moved closer to the area on the morning of the 9th, strong downslope winds developed in the south end of the San Joaquin Valley

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and the valley facing slopes of the Kern County Mountains. Winds along interstate 5 frequently gusted above 50 mph and the Grapevine Peak RAWS (which is on an exposed ridge top) gusted up to 94 mph. Areas of street flooding were reported in the Bakersfield area on the morning of the 9th, and some mudslides were produced by heavy rainfall closing roads at the intersection of Cuddy Valley Road and Mil Portero Highway west of Frazier Park and on Redrock Randsburg Road in the Kern County Desert. Colder air pushed into the area on the back side of the low lowering the snow levels to 5000 to 5500 feet where a few inches of snow fell in post-frontal showery precipitation. A few thunderstorms were observed in the south end of the San Joaquin Valley in the unstable airmass. The precipitation had ended by the morning of the 10th as the low moved out of the area. However, upslope low clouds lingered in much of the San Joaquin Valley and the lower foothills of the Southern Sierra Nevada and Kern County Mountains while dense fog slowed down traffic along Interstate 5 in the Grapevine area and along Highway 58 near Tehachapi. Most of the low cloud deck cleared out by the evening of the 10th.

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

01/11/18 07:10 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/11/18 09:00 PST	0	

High pressure strengthened off the coast of Baja and built northward into California on the 11th bringing a drying trend across the area. However, inversion conditions, mainly clear skies and light winds in the San Joaquin Valley resulted in the formation of dense fog which lowered visibility to below a quarter mile in Fresno, Visalia and Hanford and impacted travel along State Routes 99, 198, 43 and 41. Several school districts had either delayed openings or bus delays as a result of the dense fog. The fog dissipated by late morning.

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY

01/12/18 01:45 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/12/18 10:45 PST	0	

The high strengthened over Central California on morning of the 12th and with mainly clear skies, light winds and a low level inversion over the San Joaquin Valley a strip of dense fog formed along the center portion of the valley extending from the Merced area to north of Delano causing travel delays and delayed openings for several school districts. The fog persisted between Merced and Madera until midday, but most of the valley cleared out by afternoon.

(CA-Z092) SE S.J. VALLEY

01/13/18 00:47 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/13/18 07:10 PST	0	

Fog again formed overnight in the San Joaquin Valley on the morning of the 13th, but lifted into a stratus deck as a moderate offshore flow provided for a lifting mechanism. Dense fog persisted in portions of Kern and Tulare Counties in the south end of the valley including the Bakersfield area to 200 to 500 feet through the late morning hours until the fog lifted into a low cloud deck.

(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

01/15/18 02:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/15/18 11:15 PST	0	

The low cloud deck that prevailed over much of the San Joaquin Valley on the 13th persisted through the afternoon of the 14th. This inhibited fog from forming on the morning of the 14th. However, a weak system moving north of the area helped break up much of the stratus deck which allowed for dense fog to form on the morning of the 15th as winds became light and skies cleared out. California Highway Patrol paced traffic along Interstate 5 for several hours until the fog lifted into a stratus deck by midday.

(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

01/15/18 22:35 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/16/18 10:46 PST	0	

Widespread dense fog formed once again across the San Joaquin Valley on the evening of the 15th and the morning of the 16th as the anticipated storm that supposed to impact the area remained to the north of the area and skies cleared out. Visibility was below a quarter mile across most of the valley on the morning of the 16th. This resulted in several school districts having delayed openings and bus delays or cancellations. The fog lifted into a stratus deck by late morning then stratus broke up by late afternoon.

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

01/16/18 20:56 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/17/18 09:06 PST	0	

High pressure rebuilt over Central California during the morning of the 17th. With low clouds having dissipated the day before, dense fog reformed across portions of the San Joaquin Valley from Fresno southward during the evening hours on the 16th and continued through the morning of the 17th before lifting into a low cloud deck.

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	01/17/18 23:15 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/18/18 11:50 PST		0	
<p>Fog reformed in the San Joaquin Valley during the late evening hours of the 17th and continued through the morning of the 18th. However, the coverage of dense fog was not extensive as it was during the previous three mornings. Travel was impacted for periods of time along State Highway 99. A frontal system moved through the area from the evening of the 18th through the morning of the 19th which mixed out the atmosphere and ended the cycle of fog and low clouds over the San Joaquin Valley for a few days.</p>				
(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS				
	01/22/18 20:00 PST		20K	Winter Weather
	01/23/18 03:00 PST		0	
<p>This low pressure system which moved through the area on the 19th brought light precipitation to much of the area and a few inches of snow to the higher elevations of the Southern Sierra Nevada while 1 to 2 inches snow fell over the passes in the Kern County Mountains. Another low pressure system moved through the Pacific Northwest on the 22nd pushing a cold front through Central California. Upslope clouds behind the front banked up in the Kern County mountains producing freezing drizzle near Frazier Park.</p>				
(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY, (CA-Z091) SW S.J. VALLEY				
	01/24/18 00:00 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/24/18 10:50 PST		0	
<p>High pressure built back into California on the 23rd. With clear skies, light winds, residual low level moisture and inversion conditions over the San Joaquin Valley, areas of dense fog formed during the early morning hours of January 24th. The fog dissipated at most locations by late morning.</p>				
(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS				
	01/27/18 01:35 PST		0	Freezing Fog
	01/27/18 02:55 PST		0	
(CA-Z090) E CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY				
	01/27/18 07:00 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/27/18 09:50 PST		0	
<p>A cold frontal system pushed through Central California on the 25th producing widespread light precipitation across the area as 5 to 10 inches of new snowfall above 7000 feet. High pressure strengthened off the California coast behind this system on the 26th and build inland by the morning of the 27th. Freezing fog impacted travel along State Route 58 during the early morning hours of the 27th. An area of dense fog later formed along the State Route 99 corridor late in the morning from Merced to Madera. The fog dissipated by midday.</p>				
(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				
	01/30/18 02:35 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/30/18 09:56 PST		0	
<p>High pressure continued to strengthen it's grip on California during the last few days of January. Warming aloft resulted in a strengthening near surface inversion in the San Joaquin Valley and with mainly clear skies and light winds, an area of dense fog formed over the center of the San Joaquin Valley which impacted travel along State Routes 99 and 198 as well as resulting in several school districts opening late and delaying bus service. The fog burned off by late morning.</p>				
(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				
	01/31/18 01:40 PST		0.10M	Dense Fog
	01/31/18 11:45 PST		0	
<p>Areas of dense fog formed once again overnight in the San Joaquin Valley as persistent high pressure brought clear skies, light winds and continued inversion conditions over the valley. The fog became dense in several locations during the early morning hours and resulted in several auto accidents along State Route 198 near Hanford. Several school districts had delayed openings and cancelled morning bus service as a result of the widespread dense fog on the morning of the 31st.</p>				