

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - January 2022

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

(CA-Z300) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS NORTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z303) PLANADA-LEGRAND-SNELLING, (CA-Z304) COALINGA - AVENAL, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z308) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z309) BUTTONWILLOW- LOST HILLS - I5, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z313) BUENA VISTA, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD, (CA-Z315) SOUTHEAST SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z316) SOUTH END SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z317) MARIPOSA - MADERA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z319) FRESNO - TULARE FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z320) FRESNO - TULARE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z321) SOUTH END SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z322) SOUTH END OF THE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z324) YOSEMITE VALLEY, (CA-Z325) SAN JOAQUIN RIVER CANYON, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z329) GRANT GROVE AREA, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z332) KERN RIVER VALLEY, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z335) GRAPEVINE, (CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES, (CA-Z337) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)

01/01/22 00:00 PST	0	Drought
01/31/22 23:59 PST	0	

Rainfall was well below normal for January, and nearly all of the central California Interior was classified as being in a severe drought by the end of January, 2022 due to a long term precipitation deficit. As of January 31, 2022, most of the impacted area has received less than 50% of normal precipitation since July 1, 2020.

(CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS

01/01/22 04:35 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/01/22 07:10 PST	0	

The upper level system which brought gusty winds to parts of the area on December 31 moved out of the area on New Year's Day and high pressure settled in over central California behind it. With a dry airmass prevailing over the area, dense fog was confined to the Fresno area during the morning of January 1 although a few patches of dense fog were noted elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck after sunrise which dissipated by early afternoon.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

01/02/22 04:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/02/22 09:30 PST	0	

With high pressure remaining over the area during the morning of January 2, mainly clear skies, light winds and inversion conditions allowed for areas of dense fog to form in the center portion of the San Joaquin Valley during the early morning. This adversely impacted travel along SR 99 and SR 198 as webcams indicated visibility below 1000 feet on these highways. The fog completely dissipated by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA

01/05/22 04:10 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/05/22 08:44 PST	0	

While low clouds banked up in much of the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of January 5 following the passage of a dry low pressure system on January 4, skies cleared out north of Fresno allowing for areas of dense fog to form along the SR 99 corridor during the morning which briefly impacted the morning commute. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

01/06/22 06:00 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/06/22 09:06 PST	0	

High pressure prevailed over California during the morning of January 6. A low cloud deck prevented widespread dense fog from forming in the valley that morning, but there was a break in the cloud deck over the center portion of the valley which allowed for some dense fog to form around sunrise along the SR 198 corridor between Visalia and Hanford as the boundary layer was moist. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck later in the morning.

(CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

01/07/22 01:00 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/07/22 10:55 PST	0	

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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While low clouds persisted over much of the central San Joaquin Valley during the afternoon and evening of January 6, the south valley cleared out and with light winds and inversion conditions, areas of dense fog formed overnight south of Fresno County overnight with travel along SR 99 south of Fresno and SR 198 between Visalia and Lemoore being impacted by low visibility. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI	01/07/22 13:55 PST	0	Dense Fog
	01/08/22 09:05 PST	0	

Moist upslope flow which developed during the afternoon of January 7 resulted in areas of dense fog in the Tehachapi Mountains. This resulted in traffic being paced by law enforcement in the Tehachapi area as visibility was reduced to as low as 50 feet. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck overnight as the upslope weakened as a result of lowering gradients. However, skies cleared out in the central San Joaquin Valley overnight allowing for areas of dense fog to form. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD	01/08/22 23:35 PST	0	Dense Fog
	01/09/22 11:55 PST	0	

A large area of high pressure shifted eastward over California during the evening of January 8 and the morning of January 9. This resulted in light winds across the San Joaquin Valley and in areas free of low clouds, fog formed overnight and reduced visibility to below 1000 feet in the center portion of the valley by daybreak. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning which slowly dissipated during the afternoon.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD	01/09/22 19:55 PST	60K	Dense Fog
	01/10/22 11:45 PST	0	

Although a deformation band of high clouds pushed through California during the evening of January 9 and morning of January 10, areas of dense fog formed in the San Joaquin Valley as a result of light winds and inversion conditions. The fog was at least partially responsible for a 6 vehicle accident in Bakersfield which took place overnight. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning and dissipated during the early afternoon.

(CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD	01/10/22 20:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
	01/11/22 11:55 PST	0	

High pressure rebuilt over central California during the early morning of January 11. As a result of mainly clear skies, light winds and inversion conditions over the San Joaquin Valley, areas of dense fog formed overnight south of Fresno. The fog persisted until late morning in some locations and travel was impacted on several state highways in the impacted area with California Highway Patrol pacing traffic. In addition, several school districts opened late and further delayed or cancelled bus service due to the fog. By late morning the fog had lifted into a low cloud deck which dissipated during the afternoon.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY	01/11/22 21:10 PST	0	Dense Fog
	01/12/22 12:05 PST	0	

High pressure remained over central California during the evening of January 11 and morning of January 12. Mainly clear skies, light winds and inversion conditions prevailed over the San Joaquin Valley and as a result areas of dense fog formed in the evening and became more widespread overnight. Once again the persisted until late morning in some locations and travel was impacted on several state highways in the impacted area with California Highway Patrol pacing traffic. In addition, several school districts opened late and further delayed or cancelled bus service due to the fog. By late morning the fog had lifted into a low cloud deck which dissipated during the afternoon.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY			
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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	01/14/22 00:20 PST		0.60M	Dense Fog
	01/14/22 12:45 PST		0	

A weak upper level low pressure system brought some mid level clouds to the area during the morning of January 13 inhibiting fog formation in the valley that morning. However, skies cleared out during the early morning of January 14 which allowed for widespread dense fog to form in the San Joaquin Valley as light winds and inversion conditions prevailed. The fog resulted in several multi-vehicle accidents during the morning of January 14 and California Highway Patrol paced traffic on several highways as visibility was as low as 50 feet on some highways. In addition, several school districts in the San Joaquin Valley opened late and cancelled bus service for the day. The fog slowly dissipated during the early afternoon.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD

01/14/22 15:05 PST	30K	Dense Fog
01/16/22 11:02 PST	0	

(CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS

01/16/22 07:00 PST	0	Avalanche
01/16/22 11:00 PST	0	

Despite the presence of a low pressure center being situated of the Southern California coast providing for some high clouds during much of the period, persistent dense fog impacted portions of the central San Joaquin Valley between Merced and Madera with the dense fog being more intermittent elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley between the evening of January 14 and the morning of January 16. The fog finally dissipated by midday on January 16 as the offshore low provided for enough mixing to help dissipate the fog. The dense fog was at least partially responsible for a fatal accident involving three cars near Biola in Fresno County during the evening of January 14.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA

01/17/22 07:20 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/17/22 08:50 PST	0	

A low pressure system centered off the Southern California coast provided for enough mid level clouds to push into central California to inhibit the formation of widespread dense fog during the morning of January 17. However, there was enough clearing in Merced County for patches of dense fog to form toward daybreak which briefly impacted travel through the Merced area. The fog completely mixed out by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA

01/18/22 06:55 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/18/22 08:50 PST	0	

A low pressure system moved eastward across southern California during the morning of January 18 which provided for enough mid level clouds over much of the San Joaquin Valley to prevent fog from forming overnight. However, skies cleared out in Merced and Madera Counties which allowed for some dense fog to form by sunrise which impacted travel through Merced and Madera on SR 99. The fog dissipated in 2-3 hours.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

01/19/22 04:45 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/19/22 09:32 PST	0	

High pressure strengthened over the region during the morning of January 19. The combination of clear skies, light winds and inversion conditions were favorable for fog formation in the San Joaquin Valley and an area of dense fog formed in the center portion of the valley overnight mainly impacting the SR 198 corridor between Visalia and Lemoore. The fog dissipated by late morning.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

01/20/22 03:25 PST	0	Dense Fog
01/20/22 11:10 PST	0	

High pressure remained over the region during the evening of January 19 the morning of January 20. Conditions remained favorable for fog formation over the San Joaquin Valley and the fog was a bit more extensive over the center portion of the valley than it was on the previous day. The fog resulted in several school systems either opening late or delaying or cancelling bus service. The fog dissipated by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z311) HANFORD -

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Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY				
	01/21/22 00:05 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/21/22 11:10 PST		0	
<p>With high pressure remaining dominant over the area, dense fog formed over much of the San Joaquin Valley north of Kern County during the early morning of January 21 where skies remained mainly clear and winds remained light. The fog resulted in a fatal accident south of Easton on SR 41 in Fresno County and resulted in several school districts opening late that morning. The fog dissipated by midday.</p>				
(CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z337) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)				
	01/21/22 14:14 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 81 kt)
	01/22/22 03:10 PST		0	
<p>An upper level low pressure system dropping southward through the Great Basin interacted with the dominant high pressure center over the region to produce a strong offshore gradient over the Sierra Nevada and the Kern County Mountains and Deserts between the late morning of January 21 and the afternoon of January 22 producing strong northeast wind gusts over these areas. Several stations measured gusts between 40 and 55 mph while a few low impact indicator sites reported gusts exceeding 60 mph.</p>				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY				
	01/21/22 23:20 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/22/22 11:05 PST		0	
<p>Even with the presence of an upper low which had dropped southward through the Great Basin on January 21 and into southeast California on the morning of January 22. The dominant ridge centered just off the California coast kept skies mainly clear and wind light over the San Joaquin Valley which allowed for areas of dense fog to form during the evening of January 21 and the early morning of January 22. The fog became more extensive and widespread just of after sunrise, but dissipated by late morning.</p>				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE				
	01/25/22 05:25 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/25/22 10:30 PST		0	
<p>With high pressure centered off of the western US coast, clear skies and light winds prevailed over the San Joaquin Valley and areas of dense fog formed toward daybreak in eastern Kings County as well as in the Merced area. The fog dissipated later in the morning.</p>				
(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE				
	01/26/22 06:50 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/26/22 09:03 PST		0	
<p>A large area of high pressure centered just off the Pacific Northwest coast kept skies clear and winds light over the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of January 26. With inversion conditions present over the valley, patches of dense fog formed by daybreak and reduced visibility to below a quarter mile on a section of SR 43 between Hanford and Corcoran. The fog dissipated by late morning.</p>				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA				
	01/27/22 05:10 PST		0	Dense Fog
	01/27/22 08:51 PST		0	
<p>The large area of high pressure which had been situated off the Pacific Northwest coast during the morning of January 26 build inland during the day and evening and was centered over the Pacific Northwest during the morning of January 27. This resulted in a continuation of clear skies and light winds over the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of January 27 and patchy fog formed once again. Some dense fog was reported in the Merced area for a few hours, but the fog dissipated by late morning.</p>				
(CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z335) GRAPEVINE				
	01/28/22 08:50 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 55 kt)
	01/28/22 09:40 PST		0	
<p>A strengthening surface high pressure center over the Great Basin interacted with an incoming low pressure system off the southern California coast to produce a strong offshore pressure gradient during the morning and early afternoon hours of January 28. This resulted in a brief period of strong offshore winds over the Kern County Mountains with several stations measuring gusts exceeding 40 mph with a few stations briefly measuring gusts above 60 mph. The winds diminished by late afternoon as the gradients relaxed.</p>				