



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



October 1996

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ010	Southern Sierra Nevada-West Slopes								
	26 27	2300PST 0340PST			0	0	50K	0	High Wind (G85)
	Strong northeast wind known as Mono Winds ripped through the middle Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains late Saturday October 26 and early Sunday October 27. Known damage limited to large trees down within Yosemite National Park. Observed winds from USFS RAWS stations ... Oak Opening 020 degs at 57Kts Sunday Oct 27 at 0600 PST; peak wind of 85Kts overnight at Oak Opening at 3200 feet in Tulare County.								
Fresno County									
Fresno	29	0700PST 1900PST			0	0			Heavy Rain
	The first storm of the 1996-97 water year brought record amounts of rain to the San Joaquin Valley and adjacent Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Rain on the 29th in Fresno was 1.5 inches topping the old mark of 0.87 inches for the date. Over the 29th and 30th almost 2 inches of rain fell. 27 inches of snow fell at Edison Lake with 15 inches at Shaver Lake, both in the Fresno County Southern Sierra Nevada.								
CAZ010	Southern Sierra Nevada-West Slopes								
	29 30	1730PST 1200PST			0	0			Winter Storm
	Along with heavy rain on the San Joaquin Valley floor substantial snow accumulations were recorded in the adjacent Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. These amounts were particularly large considering the time of year. In Fresno County 27 Inches of snow was noted at Edison Lake from the event...15 inches at Shaver Lake. Similar amounts at Wishon Dam...Kaiser Pass...and Huntington Lake.								
Fresno County									
1 SW Fresno to .7 SW Fresno	30	1250PST 1255PST	0.2	10	0	0	0	1K	Tornado (F0)
	Following a significant rain over Central California the post-frontal airmass became unstable. Convective activity resulted in funnel clouds and at least one small tornado.								
Fresno County									
Fresno	30	1325PST 1530PST			0	0			Hail (0.50)
	Hail not quite reaching severe limits occurred most likely with the tornadic thunderstorm that occurred in near southwest Fresno								
Madera County									
2 NE Chowchilla	30	1410PST 1415PST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
	Large, wide funnel cloud observed by several skywarn spotters but no apparent touchdown.								
Fresno County									
7 S Fresno	30	1456PST 1501PST			0	0			Hail (0.50)
	Skywarn spotter indicated that 1/2 inch hail occurred in the vicinity of Easton just before 3 PM PST.								
Kern County									
7 NNW Bakersfield to 7 N Bakersfield	30	1500PST 1510PST			0	0			Hail (0.50)
	Thunderstorms provided for gusty wind and small hail in Central California including this event through northern Kern County where hail was reported at 1/2 inch in diameter and covering a major roadway at a point between Bakersfield and Porterville								
Fresno County									
10 SW Kerman	30	1610PST 1615PST			0	0	5K	0	Thunderstorm Wind
	Thunderstorm downburst wind resulted in small structure roof damage in west Fresno County. Some confusion whether it was a small tornado but interviews lack any indication of observed rotation.								



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