



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



August 2000

| Location | Date | Time<br>Local/<br>Standard | Path<br>Length<br>(Miles) | Path<br>Width<br>(Yards) | Number of<br>Persons<br>Killed | Number of<br>Persons<br>Injured | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Property | Estimated<br>Damage<br>Crops | Character of Storm |
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|

### CALIFORNIA, South Central

**CAZ089>095**      **W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley - S Sierra Foothills - Tulare Cty Foothills - Kern Cty Mtns**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                       |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>0001PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                       |
| <b>03</b> | <b>1900PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Excessive Heat</b> |

For the period from Sunday July 30th through Thursday August 3rd, very high temperatures (consistently in excess of 100 degs F.) and related heat indices occurred in the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley and immediately adjacent foothill areas. The warmest days of the period were August 1st and 2nd when heat indices ranged from 105-112F throughout the SJ Valley and foothills. After morning low temperatures in the 70s to lower 80s, after highs reached uniformly above 100F. with the highest readings of 109F in the South Valley at Delano and Arvin on the 1st, and Wasco on the 2nd. Power demand was so high that local utility companies threatened rolling black-outs due to energy use for cooling.

**Kern County**

**3 E Lake Isabella**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                  |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|------------------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>0307PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                  |
|           |                |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Lightning</b> |

Overhead thunderstorm had a lightning strike that started a small fire east of Lake Isabella. The Kern County Fire Department responded to 13 lightning caused blazes in the Extreme Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountain area between 1 to 4 AM

**Mariposa County**

**15 NE Yosemite Vlg**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                   |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|-------------------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>1350PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                   |
|           | <b>1400PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Small Hail</b> |

**Mariposa County**

**15 NE Yosemite Vlg**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                             |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>1350PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                             |
|           | <b>1450PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Urban/Sml Stream Fld</b> |

**Kern County**

**6 E Tehachapi**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                    |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--------------------|
| <b>01</b> | <b>1710PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                    |
|           | <b>1720PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Hail (1.75)</b> |

Thunderstorm activity developed to severe levels in the Kern County area in the Kern Mountains east of Tehachapi. CHP reported golf ball size hail..heavy rain..and gusty wind from the storm at Cache Creek and San Canyon Road. In the Yosemite Park Area near Tuolumne Meadows 1.15" of rain occurred between 1300 and 1500 PST and resulting debris closed Tioga Pass Road for 1 hour. Hail approximately 1/2" in size fell at Tuolumne Meadows for 10 minutes and ultimately covered Highway 120

**Kern County**

**2 SE Havilah**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |              |  |                         |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--------------|--|-------------------------|
| <b>02</b> | <b>1300PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |              |  |                         |
| <b>09</b> | <b>1200PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>78.2K</b> |  | <b>Wild/Forest Fire</b> |

The King Wildfire in Kern County burned 3,242 acres at a total cost of \$4.86 Million. The total personnel used to combat the fire was 982. This fire was cause by a lightning strike along with 2 others in the same general area between the Tehachapi Valley and the south shore of Lake Isabella.

**Kern County**

**2 ESE Tehachapi**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |            |  |                  |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|------------|--|------------------|
| <b>02</b> | <b>1500PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |            |  |                  |
|           |                |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>10K</b> |  | <b>Lightning</b> |

Thunderstorm activity again occurred for many of the desert and mountain areas of Interior Central California. With frequent lightning activity occurring, a lightning strike was reported to have caused a car fire in the Tehachapi area of the Kern County Mountains. There were no injuries reported.

**Fresno County**

**Cedar Grove**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                  |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|------------------|
| <b>03</b> | <b>1345PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                  |
|           |                |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Lightning</b> |

Lightning activity in the Kings Canyon National Park led to a power outage in the park.

**Mariposa County**

**15 NE Yosemite Vlg**

|           |                |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                    |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|--------------------|
| <b>03</b> | <b>1620PST</b> |  |  |  |          |          |  |  |                    |
|           | <b>1625PST</b> |  |  |  | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |  |  | <b>Hail (0.75)</b> |

A thunderstorm brought 3/4-inch hail to the Tuolumne Meadows area of Yosemite National Park for a 5-minute period after 1720 PDT. Accompanying the hail was heavy rain with an accumulation of 2.5 inches that subsequently led to Highway 120 being closed



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|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
|          |      |                            |                           |                          | Killed               | Injured | Property            | Crops |                    |

**CALIFORNIA, South Central**

for over 1 hour in order to clear mud and debris.

**Kern County**

**8 E Lake Isabella to  
10 E Tehachapi Kern  
Arpt**

|    |                    |  |  |  |   |   |  |  |                  |
|----|--------------------|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|------------------|
| 28 | 1540PST<br>1740PST |  |  |  | 0 | 0 |  |  | <b>Lightning</b> |
|----|--------------------|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|------------------|

Late afternoon convection became active enough to threaten meeting severe weather threshold concerns. Low pressure centered off the Central California coast advected sub-tropical moisture northward into the Tulare County Mountain and Kern County areas. Although none of the 3 severe weather warnings (two severe thunderstorm warnings and one flash flood warning) verified, radar indicated a band of thunderstorms developed from 8 miles east of Lake Isabella southward to 10 miles east of Tehachapi by 1600 hours PST (largest concentration of lightning strikes east of Lake Isabella and east of Tehachapi). Although numerous lightning strikes occurred no severe weather criteria was reported. Thunderstorm activity diminished by 1800 PST in the eastern portions of Kern County.