



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 2005

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

Kern County

Bakersfield to (Bfl) Meadows Field Ap	04	1430PST 1630PST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Kern County

4 S (Bfl) Meadows Field / 8 E Lost Hills	04	1458PST 1645PST			0	0			Hail(1.00)
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Thunderstorms developed over the Kern County Mountains and subsequently moved over the Southeast San Joaquin Valley by mid-afternoon of the 4th. Periodic reports of hail, reported as large as one inch in diameter, occurred as cells cycled and propagated back to the northwest during the late afternoon. The hail swath was not continuous...besides the 1" reports of hail, several instances of less than 1/2" hail occurred across the South San Joaquin Valley during the afternoon. Locally heavy rain (radar estimates of 1" of rain within 2 hours) with the thunderstorms resulted in street flooding within the Bakersfield urban area

Kern County

4 S (Nid) Naf China Lake	04	1600PST			0	0			Lightning
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Kern County

24 SW Ridgecrest to 28 WSW Ridgecrest	04	1602PST 1630PST			0	0			Hail(0.75)
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Kern County

2 S (Nid) Naf China Lake	04	1603PST			0	0			Lightning
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Kern County

4 S (Nid) Naf China Lake	04	1605PST			0	0			Lightning
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CAZ089>092

W Central Sj Valley - E Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley

10	0449PST			0	0			Dense Fog
12	0900PST							

With such a moist San Joaquin Valley floor, dense fog formed in most areas of the Central and South San Joaquin Valley on the mornings of the 10th, 11th, 12th. Driving visibilities very often were limited to less than 500 feet during the early morning hours on Valley roads.

CAZ096>097

S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns

18	1800PST			0	0			Winter Storm
20	0400PST							

In the South Sierra from Yosemite through the Tulare County Mountains, 13" to 18" of new snow was reported to the existing snowpack.

Fresno County

Mendota	19	1430PST 1500PST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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CAZ093

S Sierra Foothills

19	1438PST 1800PST			0	0			Landslide
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Fresno County

(Fat) Air Terminal to 1.5 NE Centerville	19	1545PST 1800PST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Madera County

Bass Lake	19 20	1600PST 1600PST			0	0			Heavy Rain
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Afternoon thunderstorm activity brought lightning and locally heavy rain across portions of Central California, including Central Fresno County and the foothill areas of Mariposa County. A rock slide triggered by locally heavy rain occurred east of Fresno in the foothills and also in Mariposa County about 4 miles east of Hornitos. In West Fresno County at Mendota, 0.25" of rain fell in an 8-minute period during the afternoon. In Madera County, Bass Lake reported a 24-hour rainfall total of 1.68" through the 19th

CAZ098>099

Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert

20	1314PST			0	0	2K		Strong Wind (MG64)
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CALIFORNIA, South Central

21 0600PST

Gusty west wind developed over the deserts of Kern County ahead of an oncoming weather system

Merced County

7 NNW Los Banos to
7 N Los Banos

20 1340PST
1350PST

0 0

Funnel Cloud

CAZ096>097

S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns

21 1800PST
23 2200PST

0 0

Winter Storm

Another episode of heavy snow occurred in the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tulare County Mountains of Central California around the 23rd of the month. New snow reports included 44" at Tenaya Lake, 42" at Upper Burnt Corral, 39" at Paradise Meadow and West Meadows, and 33" at Pascoes and Volcanic Knob. South Sierra ski resorts added 2 feet of new snow on top of a 10-foot base of snow.

CAZ089-098

W Central Sj Valley - Indian Wells Vly

22 1400PST
1545PST

0 0 7.5K

Strong Wind (EG40)

Merced County

Merced Arpt

22 1400PST
1500PST

0 0

Heavy Rain

Locally heavy rain was reported in downtown Merced with 0.69" of rain in one hour the afternoon of the 22nd with 1.1" of rain received over the 24-hour period from the afternoon of the 21st through the afternoon of the 22nd. Numerous reports of flooded buildings and homes were received with an awning in downtown Merced collapsing due to ponded water on its roof. A pump house and carport lost roofs which subsequently damaged nearby power lines. Local fire department assessed the cause of the damage from a strong southwest wind gust. Radar indicated that the wind was associated from an east moving line of convection in the Los Banos area of West Merced County during the mid-afternoon. With the shower activity over Central California, gusty wind also caused some minor damage in Ridgecrest, Kern County, as a large tree was toppled

CAZ090-093

E Central Sj Valley - S Sierra Foothills

22 1610PST
2200PST

0 0 2.5M

Flood

Over 4 inches of rain fell in a 24-hour period ending late on the 22nd in the Mariposa County area of Central California with Mariposa specifically reporting 3.22" of rain. Numerous small creeks flooded in Mariposa, Merced, and Madera Counties. Flooding caused damage to structures within the town of Mariposa and several bridges and roads in and around Hornitos, Merced Falls, and Catheys Valley in Merced and Mariposa Counties. The creeks that flooded in Mariposa County included Mariposa, Burns, Bear, and Owens Creeks. In Madera County, Finegold Creek near North Fork ran full from the event.

CAZ097

Tulare Cty Mtns

23 0700PST
1500PST

0 0

Landslide

Fresno County

17 W Huron to
Huron

23 1230PST
1500PST

0 0

Heavy Rain

Mariposa County

Mariposa

23 1300PST
2000PST

0 0

Heavy Rain

Tulare County

8 S Visalia to
8.2 SSE Visalia

23 1310PST
1318PST

0 0

Funnel Cloud



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

Fresno County

Reedley	23	1520PST 1525PST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
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Several reports of funnel clouds were received on the 23rd of the month in the South Fresno County and Tulare County area. Locally heavy rain and thundershowers continue to add to the monthly precipitation totals. The saturated soils from numerous rain events led to runoff from Arroyo Pasajero limiting access to Huron in West Fresno County. An additional 1.36" of rain in the Mariposa area caused concern for Merced County residents near Bear Creek east of the city of Merced. The continued rain also led to a rockslide across General's Highway about 9 miles northeast of Three Rivers in Tulare County. Storm precipitation totals for the period from the 18th through the 23rd of the month included: Merced Airport 2.27"; Madera Airport 1.28"; Fresno 1.92"; and, Bakersfield 0.73".

CAZ096

S Sierra Mtns					0	0			Winter Storm
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On the night of the 27th, 13 inches of new snow fell at Kaiser Point in the Southern Sierra Nevada. In the Tulare County Mountains new snow ranged only from 6 to 9 inches overnight.

CAZ095-098>099

Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert					0	0	3K		Strong Wind (MG53)
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Gusty post-frontal west-northwest wind buffeted the Kern County Mountains and Desert areas late in the month