

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - March 2016

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

(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, (CA-Z093) S SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z094) TULARE CTY FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS, (CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS, (CA-Z098) INDIAN WELLS VLY, (CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

03/01/16 00:00 PST	0	Drought
03/31/16 23:59 PST	0	

The California drought continues during the month of March, 2016. Fresno received 2.93 inch of rainfall while Bakersfield only received 0.45 inch of precipitation during the month. Increased precipitation and slightly above normal temperatures we received this month did allow for some snow melt to occur. This did improve the water storage situation slightly, however soil moisture did increase across the San Joaquin Valley north of Kern County due to the increase in rainfall.

The U.S. Drought Monitor continued to report exceptional drought conditions across the entire Central California region. This extent of exceptional drought is extremely unusual for California. The general trend of below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures has continued this year.

There continues to be significant media coverage on the on-going drought conditions. These reports include discussion of significant re-allocation of water resources from the east to west side of the San Joaquin Valley, farmers forgoing planting of some crops, loss or reduction of ground water, wells drying up in several communities leaving them with no water, and an unprecedented increase in fire danger across the Southern Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi Mountains. Also, communities in Central California interior face state mandated reductions in municipal water use.

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS, (CA-Z097) TULARE CTY MTNS

03/05/16 16:00 PST	0	Heavy Snow
03/06/16 09:30 PST	0	

(CA-Z089) W CENTRAL S.J. VALLEY

03/05/16 20:45 PST	0.10K	Strong Wind (MAX 35 kt)
03/05/16 20:50 PST	0	

(CA-Z096) S SIERRA MTNS

03/06/16 08:59 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 61 kt)
03/06/16 09:15 PST	0	

A series of low pressure systems moving around a large longwave low centered over the Gulf of Alaska moved on shore from the west into central and northern California. These systems had tapped into moisture from the sub tropical jet and were characterized as atmospheric river type storms. High elevation heavy snows and low elevation rains along with winds accompanied these systems.

(CA-Z099) SE KERN CTY DESERT

03/12/16 01:23 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 50 kt)
03/12/16 01:45 PST	0	

Pacific storm cold frontal passage brought gusty winds to the Kern County Desert area.

(CA-Z095) KERN CTY MTNS

03/22/16 03:32 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 74 kt)
03/22/16 23:00 PST	0	

Eastward moving cold frontal passage associated with a low pressure system over northern California and southeastward moving upper level jet created high winds for the Kern County Mountains and Desert areas.