

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2020

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

(CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY

	02/01/20 01:25 PST	0		Dense Fog
	02/01/20 09:35 PST	0		

High pressure persisted over the region for another day as February began. Just as during the previous two mornings, dense fog formed toward the center of the San Joaquin Valley and persisted until late morning in portions of Kings and western Fresno Counties.

(CA-Z181) MERCED AND MADERA, (CA-Z182) WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM, (CA-Z184) FRESNO, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY, (CA-Z188) EASTERN KERN COUNTY

	02/02/20 00:25 PST	0		Dense Fog
	02/02/20 11:10 PST	0		

Although an upper trough with a fairly strong cold front approached the area overnight, skies remained mainly clear and winds remained fairly light across the San Joaquin Valley until daybreak on February 2 which allowed for dense fog to form across much of the San Joaquin Valley. The fog persisted until the cold front arrived later in the morning which completely mixed out the fog by midday.

(CA-Z179) WEST SIDE HILLS, (CA-Z180) SAN JOAQUIN CONFLUENCE, (CA-Z181) MERCED AND MADERA, (CA-Z182) WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM, (CA-Z184) FRESNO, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY, (CA-Z186) SOUTHERN KINGS COUNTY, (CA-Z187) WESTERN KERN COUNTY, (CA-Z188) EASTERN KERN COUNTY, (CA-Z189) BAKERSFIELD

	02/02/20 01:00 PST	0		Frost/Freeze
	02/04/20 09:00 PST	0		

With a cold and dry airmass in place over the San Joaquin Valley, clear skies and diminished winds allowed for strong radiational cooling to take place during the morning of February 4; and as a result temperatures dropped below the freezing mark for 6-8 hours across much of the San Joaquin Valley. This turned out to be the first killing freeze of the season for most of the San Joaquin Valley.

(CA-Z182) WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY, (CA-Z195) LAKE ISABELLA, (CA-Z199) KERN COUNTY DESERT

	02/02/20 17:00 PST	27K		Strong Wind (MAX 48 kt)
	02/02/20 22:20 PST	0		

(CA-Z195) LAKE ISABELLA, (CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA, (CA-Z198) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z199) KERN COUNTY DESERT

	02/02/20 17:10 PST	51K		High Wind (MAX 78 kt)
	02/03/20 04:26 PST	0		

The cold front which moved into the area during the morning of February 2 brought strong winds to the area by late afternoon as pressure gradients increased. Winds gusts exceeding 40 mph were reported in the San Joaquin Valley and several gusts exceeding 60 mph were reported across the Kern County Mountains and Deserts with a few low impact indicator sites measuring gusts above 80 mph. The winds downed several trees and power poles and also flipped over two big rigs near Mojave during the evening. The winds decreased during the morning of February 3 as pressure gradients diminished.

(CA-Z179) WEST SIDE HILLS, (CA-Z180) SAN JOAQUIN CONFLUENCE, (CA-Z181) MERCED AND MADERA, (CA-Z182) WESTERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM, (CA-Z184) FRESNO, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY, (CA-Z186) SOUTHERN KINGS COUNTY, (CA-Z187) WESTERN KERN COUNTY, (CA-Z188) EASTERN KERN COUNTY, (CA-Z189) BAKERSFIELD

	02/05/20 01:00 PST	0		Frost/Freeze
	02/05/20 09:00 PST	0		

The cold and dry airmass that pushed into the area on February 3 and brought a widespread freeze to the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of February 4 persisted for another day, and another night of mainly clear skies and light winds allowed for another widespread freeze to take place as temperatures dropped below the freezing mark across the San Joaquin Valley for another 6-8 hours.

(CA-Z190) CENTRAL SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z195) LAKE ISABELLA, (CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA, (CA-Z198) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z199) KERN COUNTY DESERT

	02/08/20 17:27 PST	22K		High Wind (MAX 81 kt)
	02/10/20 09:26 PST	0		

(CA-Z190) CENTRAL SIERRA FOOTHILLS

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2020

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	02/08/20 23:00 PST		22K	Strong Wind (MAX 43 kt)
	02/09/20 19:35 PST		0	

A upper level low pressure system dropped southward along the crest of the Sierra Nevada on the evening of February 8 and morning of February 9 then strengthened over southern California during the afternoon of February 9 through the morning of February 10. This system produced a very strong offshore gradient which resulted in damaging northeast winds over the Sierra Nevada mainly over Yosemite Park and Sierra National Forest as well as over the adjacent foothills. The winds knocked down many drought killed trees over the Sierra, and produced widespread property damage over the Sierra foothills in Madera County. There were also several reports of wind gusts between 60 and 70 mph over the Kern County Mountains and Deserts between the evening of February 8 and morning of February 10.

(CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM, (CA-Z184) FRESNO, (CA-Z185) TULARE COUNTY, (CA-Z186) SOUTHERN KINGS COUNTY

02/10/20 04:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
02/10/20 08:00 PST	0	

As the upper low pressure system which dropped southward through central California during the previous night and brought a cold airmass into the area continued to move southward through southern California, skies cleared out and winds diminished across the San Joaquin Valley. This resulted in a period of sub-freezing temperatures across portions of the central valley for 1-4 hours during the morning of February 10.

(CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM

02/14/20 07:20 PST	0	Dense Fog
02/14/20 08:10 PST	0	

High pressure prevailed over Central California during the morning of February 14. With clear skies and light winds over the San Joaquin Valley some patches of dense fog formed toward daybreak over portions of Kings and Fresno Counties. The fog completely dissipated by 930 am.

(CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA

02/16/20 15:27 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 51 kt)
02/16/20 15:27 PST	0	

An upper trough moved across the Pacific Northwest on February 16 which pushed a dry cold front through central California during the afternoon and evening. This produced a period of gusty winds over the Kern County Deserts and in the Tehachapi and Lake Isabella areas in the Kern County Mountains. Several stations reported gusts exceeding 40 mph and a few locations briefly had gusts above 50 mph.

(CA-Z183) FOGGY BOTTOM

02/23/20 08:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
02/23/20 09:20 PST	0	

A low pressure system moved east across southern California on February 22 bringing light precipitation to the area. Although much of the San Joaquin Valley picked up only a trace to a few hundredths of an inch of rainfall while most of the Southern Sierra Nevada and adjacent foothills picked up between a tenth and a half inch of liquid precipitation, this was the first significant precipitation in the area in nearly a month. Skies cleared out during the morning of February 23 as the system moved to the east of the area. Patches of dense fog formed in the San Joaquin Valley around sunrise as clear skies and light winds prevailed. The fog completely dissipated by 1000 am.