

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2023

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

(CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

12/08/23 07:10 PST		0		Dense Fog
12/08/23 07:50 PST		0		

A northwest flow behind an exiting trough allowed for low level moisture to bank up against the foothills in the southeastern San Joaquin Valley which resulted in a period of dense fog along the SR 65 corridor in Tulare County near daybreak. The fog was most noticeable in the Porterville area.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

12/08/23 22:50 PST		0		Dense Fog
12/09/23 10:05 PST		0		

Clear skies along with light winds and a strong near surface inversion resulted in an areas of dense fog to develop in the central portion of the San Joaquin Valley during the early morning of December 9. The fog impacted travel along SR 99, SR 198 and SR 43 until the late morning when the fog dissipated.

(CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z303) PLANADA-LEGRAND-SNELLING, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z309) BUTTONWILLOW- LOST HILLS - I5, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

12/09/23 02:00 PST		0		Frost/Freeze
12/13/23 08:00 PST		0		

A cold northwest flow aloft allowed for a modified Arctic airmass to settle over the San Joaquin Valley between December 9 and 13. As a result, minimum temperatures ranged between 28 and 31 degrees F in rural locations in the San Joaquin Valley each morning.

(CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE

12/10/23 05:05 PST		0		Dense Fog
12/10/23 06:25 PST		0		

High pressure aloft moved over California on December 10 while a cold airmass remained over the San Joaquin Valley. The resulting inversion along with clear skies and light winds allowed for some locally dense fog to form overnight in eastern Kings County. The fog dissipated shortly after daybreak.

KINGS COUNTY --- 0.2 SW HANFORD [36.33, -119.65], 0.2 SW HANFORD [36.33, -119.65], 0.2 SSW HANFORD [36.33, -119.65], 0.2 SW HANFORD [36.33, -119.65]

12/19/23 17:03 PST		0		Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
12/19/23 20:03 PST		0		Source: NWS Employee

An NWS employee reported roadway flooding at the intersection of Lacey Blvd. and Santa Fe Ave. in Hanford.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 4.4 SW COALINGA [36.10, -120.42], 4.4 SW COALINGA [36.10, -120.42], 4.5 SW COALINGA [36.10, -120.42], 4.5 SW COALINGA [36.10, -120.42]

12/19/23 17:45 PST		0		Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
12/19/23 20:45 PST		0		Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported several rocks blocking one lane of SR 198 5SW Coalinga.

(CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA

12/19/23 22:00 PST		0		Winter Weather
12/21/23 10:00 PST		0		

KINGS COUNTY --- 1.7 E HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.28, -119.60], 1.8 ENE HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.29, -119.60], 1.6 ENE HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.29, -119.60], 1.5 E HANFORD BLAIR ARPT [36.28, -119.60]

12/20/23 18:28 PST		0		Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
12/20/23 21:28 PST		0		Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding on SR 43 near the intersection of Iona Ave.

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KERN COUNTY --- 8.9 SSW LOST HILLS [35.50, -119.74], 9.0 SSW LOST HILLS [35.50, -119.74], 9.1 SSW LOST HILLS [35.50, -119.74], 9.0 SSW LOST HILLS [35.50, -119.74]				
	12/21/23 13:18 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/21/23 16:18 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding at the intersection of SR 33 and Lerdo Hwy.				
KERN COUNTY --- 2.2 SSW GREENFIELD [35.24, -119.01], 2.2 SSE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.24, -119.02], 2.5 SSE PUMPKIN CENTER [35.23, -119.02], 2.5 SSW GREENFIELD [35.24, -119.01]				
	12/21/23 14:06 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/21/23 17:06 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported the middle lanes of SR 99 were flooded at the Houghton Rd. offramp.				
KERN COUNTY --- 3.0 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14], 3.0 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14], 3.1 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14], 3.1 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14]				
	12/21/23 14:26 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	12/21/23 17:26 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding at the intersection of SR 166 and Old River Rd.				
<p>An upper level low dropped slowly southward off the California coast on between December 19 and December 21. Moisture associated with this feature produced widespread precipitation across our area between the evening of December 19 and the morning of December 21 with most of the precipitation occurring during the afternoon and evening of December 20. Much of the San Joaquin Valley and the Kern County Mountains and Deserts picked up between a half inch and an inch of rainfall while the West Side Hills picked up between an inch and an inch and a half. While amounts in the Sierra Nevada and adjacent foothills varied, many locations picked up between a half inch and an inch of liquid precipitation. Several SNOTEL stations above 8000 feet picked up an estimated 3 to 8 inches of new snowfall while 1 to 3 inches of new snow accumulated between 7000 and 8000 feet. Elevations below 7000 feet generally picked up all rain.</p>				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD				
	12/21/23 19:25 PST		0	Dense Fog
	12/22/23 04:30 PST		0	
Rainfall from the previous two days provided for enough low level moisture for areas of dense fog to form in the San Joaquin valley during the evening of December 21 when skies cleared out and winds diminished. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck overnight as a low pressure system approached the southern California coast and provided for some mixing.				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z337) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY				
	12/22/23 19:45 PST		0	Dense Fog
	12/23/23 09:20 PST		0	
Abundant low level moisture in the area as a result of widespread precipitation over the previous few days combined with clear skies and light winds for areas of dense fog to form during the evening of December 22 along the SR 198 corridor between Lemoore and Visalia. Additional areas of fog formed overnight and toward morning in the central San Joaquin valley and in the Kern County Mountains and Deserts. with holiday travel being impacted during the morning of December 23. The fog dissipated in some areas and lifted into a low cloud deck in other areas by the late morning of December 23 with visibility generally improving to 3 to 6 miles by the early afternoon of December 23.				
(CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI				
	12/23/23 19:15 PST		0	Dense Fog
	12/24/23 09:35 PST		0	
An upper ridge built in to California on December 23 which provided for mainly clear skies and light wind across the area. With residual low level moisture handing around, areas of dense fog formed in along SR 58 in the Tehachapi area during the evening of December 23 and in portions of the southern San Joaquin Valley during the morning of December 24. The fog lifted into a low cloud deck by late morning which eroded by early afternoon.				
(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI				
	12/24/23 18:35 PST		0	Dense Fog
	12/25/23 11:05 PST		0	

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A dry upper ridge remained over the region on Christmas eve and Christmas day. Once again with mainly clear skies and and light wind prevailing, areas of dense fog formed in the Tehachapi area by Christmas eve and in the San Joaquin Valley north of Fresno by early Christmas morning which impacted travel along SR 99. The fog dissipated by late morning.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE

12/26/23 05:30 PST	0	Dense Fog
12/26/23 08:25 PST	0	

Although some middle and high level clouds inhibited fog formation over the San Joaquin Valley for much of the night, some patchy fog formed by daybreak on December 26 impacting travel through Merced and Hanford. The fog dissipated by late morning as daytime heating mixed out the low level inversion in the valley.

(CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES

12/30/23 02:00 PST	0	Winter Weather
12/30/23 07:30 PST	0	

An upper level low pressure system approached the area on December 29 and crossed central California on December 30. Winds picked up ahead of the system along the West Side Hills and in the Grapevine area of the Tehachapi Mountains on December 29 with several stations reporting gusts between 40 and 50 mph. The system also brought widespread precipitation to the area during the morning and afternoon of December 30 with much of Merced County and the Sierra Nevada north of Kings Canyon picking up between a half and three quarters of an inch of rainfall while a quarter to a half of an inch fell further south in areas north of Kern County with many stations in the south end of the valley and Tehachapi Mountains picking up between a tenth and a quarter of an inch with a tenth of an inch or less in the desert areas.