



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



July 1999

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 Tehachapi	11	1330PST 1338PST			0	0			Lightning
Kern County Rosamond	11	1415PST 1430PST			0	0	20K		Gusty Wind/Hail
Kern County 2.5 W Tehachapi	11	1434PST 1830PST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
Kern County Rosamond	11	1445PST 1830PST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
Kern County 5 N Inyokern	11	1535PST 1540PST			0	0	2K		Dry Microburst
Kern County 1 N Cantil	11	1650PST 2240PST			0	0	10K		Flash Flood

Widespread thunderstorm activity in the Kern County Deserts brought numerous instances of heavy rain, water run-off, and gusty wind. Heavy rainfall began around midday in the Tehachapi Mountains around the town of Tehachapi and in the Mojave Desert near Rosamond. One spotter in Tehachapi reported 5" of rain in the time period from 1100 until 1434 PST. Several lightning strikes occurred around Tehachapi at approximately 1330 PST. Urban and Small Stream Flooding subsequently occurred from the thunderstorms in Tehachapi and Rosamond. In addition, 1/2" hail was reported in Rosamond at 1405 PST along with estimates of 45 Knot wind and a rainfall rate of 1/2" in 15 minutes prior to 1415 PST. Trees and powerlines were reported downed from the thunderstorm. Heavy rainfall in the Kern County Mojave Desert also led to Flash Flooding over the Redrock-Randsburg Road just north of Cantil in the early evening hours...crossing the road at approximately 1650 PST. Late in the afternoon, high wind from the thunderstorm lasted for about 5 minutes and downed powerpoles and lines north of Inyokern

CAZ020>021

12	1100PST			0	0				Excessive Heat
13	1800PST								

Despite July being the 4th coldest July on record for Bakersfield, CA, in the Southern San Joaquin Valley, the 12th and 13th of the month were exceptionally warm. On the 12th, the mercury dropped to only 80 degrees F. overnight eclipsing the old mark of 79 set in 1990...and on the 13th the minimum dropped only to 85 degrees F. shattering the old record of 81 in 1990. In the Central Valley, Fresno set a new high minimum temperature of 81 degrees F. on the 12th. Along with the high minimum temperatures, dew points well into the 60s with daytime highs over 105 degrees F. pushed heat indices over 115 deg.F. for the afternoon hours. Fresno's high temperature was 106 deg.F. on the 12th...and 107 deg.F. on the 13th. Bakersfield peaked at 105 deg.F. on the 13th.

Kern County 5 S Edison	12	1248PST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
Kern County Mettler	12	1306PST			0	0	110K		Lightning
Kern County 4 W Arvin to 2 S Mettler	12	1320PST 1340PST			0	0	40K		Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
Kern County 5 S Mettler	12	1405PST			0	0			Funnel Cloud

A severe thunderstorm moved southwestward across the far Southern San Joaquin Valley during the early to mid-afternoon hours of



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					Killed	Injured	Property	Crops	

CALIFORNIA, South Central

July 12th. Numerous reports of downed powerlines due to gusty wind were received in the vicinity of Arvin and Lamont shortly after 1300 PST along with an unofficial report of a funnel cloud. At the latter stages of the storm passage lightning caused a structural fire and the accompanying gusty wind overturned a tractor-trailer rig on Interstate Highway #5 around 1320 PST. Visibility reportedly dropped to only 1/2 mile in heavy rain along with 1/4" hail by 1405 PST. The thunderstorm activity also led to a lightning strike that touched off a fire in a packing shed destroying a crop of peppers and equipment.

Tulare County

**6 N Giant Forest to
6.2 N Giant Forest**

13	1415PST				0	0			Flash Flood
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Thunderstorm activity over the higher terrain of Tulare County resulted in a mudslide over "The General's Highway" within Sequoia National Park. The slide resulted in road closure for about an hour with minimal damage but cleanup necessary for a couple of weeks.

Kern County

**2 E Inyokern to
Ridgecrest**

13	1430PST 1510PST				0	0	5K		Lightning
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Numerous lightning strikes in the vicinity of Inyokern and Ridgecrest. A pole fire resulted as early as 1430 PST from a lightning strike with another report as late as 1510 PST in Ridgecrest.

Fresno County

Sanger

13	1716PST 1730PST				0	0	10K		Gusty Wind
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Nearby thunderstorm activity along the Southern Sierra Nevada foothills spawned a gust front over the Fresno County East portion of the San Joaquin Valley floor in the vicinity of Sanger during the afternoon hours of the 13th. While no specific ag damage was listed by the Ag Commissioner, there were reports of downed tree limbs and downed fruit from gusty wind. The reported wind from the east at 26 MPH was measured at the Fresno Air Terminal which was 8 miles northwest of the Sanger area.