

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2019

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

(CA-Z199) KERN COUNTY DESERT

05/07/19 21:40 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 52 kt)
05/07/19 21:40 PST	0	

A upper level system dropped southeast over the Great Basin during the afternoon and evening hours of May 7. This system interacted with an upper ridge over the northeast Pacific to produce a strong pressure gradient which resulted in a period of gusty winds around Tehachapi and Lake Isabella as well as across the Kern County Deserts. Several stations reported wind gusts exceeding 45 mph while the Mojave airport had a few gusts nearing 60 mph. Winds diminished during overnight on May 8 as the upper level system moved into the Desert Southwest region.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.7 WSW EDISON [35.35, -118.88], 0.8 WSW EDISON [35.34, -118.88], 0.5 SW EDISON [35.34, -118.88], 0.4 SW EDISON [35.35, -118.87]

05/09/19 22:25 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 00:30 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding along State Route 58 at Edison Rd.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.5 ENE RIBIER [35.25, -118.86], 0.6 ENE RIBIER [35.25, -118.86], 2.3 NNE RIBIER [35.28, -118.86], 2.2 NNE RIBIER [35.28, -118.86]

05/10/19 03:30 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 10:30 PST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Kern County Emergency Manager reported Malaga Rd. closed between Di Giorgio Rd. and Mountain View Rd. were closed due to flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.5 NNE WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.02], 0.5 NNE WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.02], 0.5 NNE WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.02], 0.4 NNE WIBLE ORCHARD [35.34, -119.02]

05/10/19 07:14 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 10:14 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported traffic was not able to get through the intersection of Southgate Dr. and South Chester Ave. in Bakersfield due to roadway flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 0.8 ESE LAKEVIEW [35.10, -119.11], 0.9 SE LAKEVIEW [35.09, -119.11], 4.3 WNW METTLER [35.09, -119.04], 3.9 E LAKEVIEW [35.10, -119.05]

05/10/19 07:30 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 10:30 PST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Kern County Emergency Manager reported Copus Rd. between Old River Rd. and Interstate 5 were closed due to flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.2 NNW RIBIER [35.28, -118.88], 2.1 N RIBIER [35.28, -118.88], 0.4 NW RIBIER [35.25, -118.88], 0.6 WNW RIBIER [35.25, -118.88]

05/10/19 07:30 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 10:30 PST	0	Source: Emergency Manager

Kern County Emergency Manager reported Edison Rd. closed between Di Giorgio Rd. and Mountain View Rd. were closed due to flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 5.1 WSW WASCO [35.56, -119.41], 5.2 SW WASCO [35.56, -119.41], 5.9 WSW WASCO [35.56, -119.42], 5.7 SW WASCO KERN CO ARPT [35.56, -119.42]

05/10/19 09:28 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 19:30 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported Kimberlina Rd. was impassible between Scofield Ave. and Jumper Ave. due to flooding.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.1 NNW CANTIL [35.31, -117.98], 1.9 N CANTIL [35.33, -117.97], 0.9 N SALTDALE [35.38, -117.88], 1.1 WSW GARLOCK [35.40, -117.80], 1.4 NW RANDBURG [35.39, -117.66], 1.0 WSW RANDBURG [35.37, -117.67]

05/10/19 15:12 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/10/19 21:30 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported flooding due to heavy rain along Red Rock-Randsburg Rd. between State Route 14 and US 395. The road was closed due to flooding.

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A cold low pressure system dropped southwestward from the northern Rocky Mountain region through the Great Basin on May 9 and into central California by the morning of May 10 which destabilized the airmass over the area and produced showers and thunderstorms across the area. This low then slowly moved southward through central California during the morning of May 10 which resulted in locally heavy rainfall over Tulare and Kern Counties. Precipitation amounts varied due to the convective nature of the precipitation. A few locations over the higher elevations in Tulare and Kern County picked up over an inch of rainfall. Most locations in the San Joaquin Valley picked up less than a quarter inch of rainfall although several stations in the Bakersfield area picked up between a quarter inch and a half inch of rain. The most noticeable impacts from the thunderstorms were several reports of roadway flooding in the Bakersfield area which led to some brief road closures, and some reports of nuisance flooding and small hail in the mountains and Kern County Deserts. Some light snow fell over the higher elevations of the Southern Sierra Nevada with several stations above 8000 feet picking up between 3 and 6 inches.

KERN COUNTY --- 1.4 N ERIC [35.15, -118.30]

05/11/19 14:39 PST	0	Heavy Rain
05/11/19 14:54 PST	0	Source: Mesonet

Pine Canyon Measured 0.72 inches of rainfall in 15 minutes from a slow moving thunderstorm. Station located just north of State Route 58.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.5 S ERIC [35.09, -118.31], 3.5 SE MONOLITH [35.08, -118.33], 3.6 SE MONOLITH [35.08, -118.33], 2.6 S ERIC [35.09, -118.31]

05/11/19 15:36 PST	0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/11/19 18:08 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported a mudslide with 3 feet of mud across Cameron Rd. between State Route 58 and Tehachapi Willow Springs Rd.

The low pressure system which produced the precipitation across much of the area on May 9 and 10 continued to drop southward off the southern California coast on May 11. Wrap around moisture from this system spread westward into Kern County during the afternoon on May 11 producing another round of afternoon thunderstorms. One slow moving cell produced nearly three quarters of an inch of rainfall in 15 minutes at a station between Tehachapi and Mojave. Runoff from this storm resulted in a mudslide south of State Route 58 which closed Cameron Canyon Rd. for the remainder of the weekend.

(CA-Z192) CENTRAL SIERRA, (CA-Z193) NORTH KINGS RIVER, (CA-Z194) SEQUOIA KINGS

05/15/19 23:00 PST	0	Heavy Snow
05/16/19 23:00 PST	0	

KINGS COUNTY --- 1.8 NE KETTLEMAN CITY [36.02, -119.95]

05/16/19 10:34 PST	0	Funnel Cloud
05/16/19 10:39 PST	0	Source: Storm Chaser

Reports on social media from a storm chaser with pictures of a funnel cloud near Kettleman City.

(CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA

05/16/19 13:32 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 70 kt)
05/16/19 19:27 PST	0	

A cold upper low pressure center dropped southeast out of the Gulf of Alaska on May 15 and moved into northern California on May 16. A strong cold front associated with this system crossed central California during the afternoon and evening of May 16 which produced significant precipitation across the area. Several stations in the Sierra Nevada range above 6000 feet from Yosemite Park southward picked up between 6 and 12 inches of new snow. Below 6000 feet, much of the central Sierra and adjacent foothills picked up between 1 and 2 inches of rainfall while Sequoia Park area generally picked up between 0.75 and 1.5 inches of rain. Between a half inch and an inch of rain fell in the Merced and Fresno areas while several other stations in the San Joaquin Valley picked up between a quarter and a half inch of rain. In addition to the precipitation, strong winds impacted the Kern County Mountains near Tehachapi and Lake Isabella between the afternoon of May 16 and the morning of May 17. Several stations measured gusts above 45 mph and a few low impact indicator sites reported gusts above 60 mph.

FRESNO COUNTY --- FRESNO [36.78, -119.77]

05/18/19 11:00 PST	0	Heavy Rain
05/19/19 23:00 PST	15M	Source: Broadcast Media

Broadcast media reported that over 60 percent of the cherry crop in Fresno County was destroyed by the persistent rains that took place during the two storms that impacted the area between May 15 and May 19. There was also substantial damage to strawberries and carrots.

(CA-Z192) CENTRAL SIERRA, (CA-Z193) NORTH KINGS RIVER, (CA-Z194) SEQUOIA KINGS

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - May 2019

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
	05/18/19 11:00 PST		0	Heavy Snow
	05/19/19 23:00 PST		0	
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FRESNO COUNTY --- 0.6 SSE WESTHAVEN [36.22, -119.99]				
	05/19/19 13:32 PST		0	Hail (0.50 in)
	05/19/19 13:47 PST		1M	Source: Newspaper
Western Farm Press reported hail up to a half inch in diameter accumulated to around an inch on the ground and did considerable damage to cotton, onions, tomatoes and pistachios.				
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FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.3 S HURON [36.18, -120.10]				
	05/19/19 14:40 PST		50K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	05/19/19 14:50 PST		25K	Source: Fire Department/Rescue
Multiple trees and power poles were reported downed near the intersection of Gale Ave. and Lassen Ave. south of Huron.				
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FRESNO COUNTY --- 2.1 SSE WESTHAVEN [36.20, -119.99], 2.1 SSE WESTHAVEN [36.20, -119.98]				
	05/19/19 14:41 PST		0	Tornado (EF0, L: 0.35 mi , W: 100 yd)
	05/19/19 14:42 PST		0	Source: NWS Storm Survey
NWS storm survey team determined that an EF0 tornado touched down 6 miles east of Huron and was on the ground for less than 1 minute. Radar velocity profiles estimated 70 mph winds. Video of the circulation was posted on several social media networks.				
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FRESNO COUNTY --- 3.6 SSW WESTHAVEN [36.18, -120.02]				
	05/19/19 14:55 PST		25K	Thunderstorm Wind (EG 52 kt)
	05/19/19 15:05 PST		0	Source: Fire Department/Rescue
Three power poles were slightly blown over and a trampoline was blown over east of the intersection of Gale Ave. and Howard Ave.				
<p>A strong upper level low pressure system moved into central California during the afternoon of May 18. A cold front associated with this system pushed across the area overnight bringing periods of moderate to locally heavy precipitation to the area with much of the area picking up between 0.75 and 2 inches of liquid precipitation. As a result, many long standing daily rainfall records were shattered on both May 18 and on May 19. The precipitation mainly fell as snow above 6000 feet, and brought an additional 8 to 14 inches of snow to much of the higher Sierra Nevada range from Yosemite Park southward. Thunderstorms broke out across the San Joaquin Valley in the unstable post-frontal airmass during the afternoon of May 19. There were several reports of small hail and locally heavy rainfall from areas impacted by these thunderstorms. One strong cell produced a small EF0 tornado near Huron as well as some wind damage.</p>				
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(CA-Z195) LAKE ISABELLA, (CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA, (CA-Z199) KERN COUNTY DESERT				
	05/21/19 06:27 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 69 kt)
	05/22/19 04:00 PST		0	
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MERCED COUNTY --- 1.6 E LOS BANOS [37.07, -120.82]				
	05/21/19 14:30 PST		0	Funnel Cloud
	05/21/19 14:30 PST		0	Source: Social Media
Reports and photos on Facebook and Twitter of a funnel cloud over the northeastern portion of Los Banos.				
<p>A cold front pushed southward through central California during the morning of May 21. Strong winds accompanied the front and followed the frontal passage over the Kern County Mountains and Deserts. Several stations reported wind gusts between 55 and 65 mph, and a few low impact indicator sites measured gusts above 75 mph. This system also produced scattered showers across the area although precipitation amounts were generally light. Several stations in Yosemite Park above 6000 feet picked up another 2 to 5 inches of new snowfall. Further south there were several reports of 1 to 3 inches of new snow above 6000 feet. A few thunderstorms popped up in the San Joaquin Valley and Sierra foothills during the afternoon of May 21, but most of them were short lived and did not produce much rainfall.</p>				
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KERN COUNTY --- 1.0 W MAGUNDEN [35.37, -118.92]				
	05/22/19 09:00 PST		0	Funnel Cloud
	05/22/19 09:00 PST		0	Source: Social Media
A brief cold air funnel occurred in east Bakersfield. Pictures of the funnel were posted on Facebook and relayed by broadcast media.				
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TULARE COUNTY --- 1.2 SE EAST POTERVILLE [36.06, -118.98]				

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	05/22/19 12:30 PST		0	Funnel Cloud
	05/22/19 12:30 PST		0	Source: Social Media

A cold air funnel cloud was observed just east of Porterville, and pictures of the funnel were posted on Facebook.

While a large upper level trough centered over southern Nevada remained nearly stagnant, a cold northerly flow behind the trough kept a cool and unstable airmass over central California. Showers and isolated thunderstorms continued throughout the day over the area on May 22. This was followed by another round of scattered showers and thunderstorms on May 23. Precipitation amounts were generally light, but a few cold air funnels were observed over the southern San Joaquin Valley.

KERN COUNTY --- 2.9 SSE LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.11]

05/25/19 15:09 PST	0	Hail (1.00 in)
05/25/19 15:09 PST	0	Source: Public

Public reports of estimated 1 inch diameter hail west of Mettler along State Route 166.

KERN COUNTY --- 3.8 SW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.17], 4.2 SW LAKEVIEW [35.05, -119.17], 3.3 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14], 3.0 SSW LAKEVIEW [35.06, -119.14]

05/25/19 15:46 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/25/19 17:46 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway Patrol reported roadway flooding on State Route 166 west of the Old River Rd. intersection.

KERN COUNTY --- 3.2 ESE METTLER [35.05, -118.92], 3.3 ESE METTLER [35.05, -118.92], 3.4 ESE METTLER [35.05, -118.92], 3.3 ESE METTLER [35.05, -118.92]

05/25/19 16:27 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/25/19 18:27 PST	0	Source: Law Enforcement

California Highway report reported roadway flooding on Wheeler Ridge Rd. east of Mettler.

(CA-Z192) CENTRAL SIERRA, (CA-Z194) SEQUOIA KINGS

05/26/19 01:00 PST	0	Heavy Snow
05/26/19 19:00 PST	0	

KERN COUNTY --- 1.1 W MYRICKS CORNER [35.52, -119.32]

05/26/19 12:25 PST	0	Funnel Cloud
05/26/19 12:25 PST	0	Source: Social Media

Posts on Facebook and Twitter with pictures of a funnel cloud between Shafter and Wasco.

MERCED COUNTY --- ATWATER [37.35, -120.60]

05/26/19 12:46 PST	0	Hail (0.75 in)
05/26/19 12:46 PST	0	Source: Social Media

Pictures posted on Twitter indicated dome sized hail in Atwater.

TULARE COUNTY --- 7.0 WSW TIPTON [36.03, -119.44]

05/26/19 13:20 PST	0	Funnel Cloud
05/26/19 13:20 PST	0	Source: Social Media

Posts on Facebook and Twitter of a funnel cloud near Tipton.

KINGS COUNTY --- 0.2 N HANFORD [36.33, -119.65], 0.4 S HANFORD [36.32, -119.65], 0.6 ESE HANFORD [36.33, -119.64], 0.5 ENE HANFORD [36.33, -119.64]

05/26/19 13:30 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/26/19 16:30 PST	0	Source: Public

Several public reports and social media posts of flooding in downtown Hanford.

FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.7 S SELMA [36.55, -119.62], 1.7 S SELMA [36.55, -119.62], 2.5 S SELMA [36.53, -119.62], 2.5 S SELMA [36.53, -119.62]

05/26/19 13:37 PST	0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
05/26/19 15:37 PST	0	Source: Trained Spotter

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A trained spotter reported minor street flooding south of Selma.				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 1.9 NW KINGSBURG [36.54, -119.58], 2.5 SE SELMA [36.55, -119.59], 2.4 NW KINGSBURG [36.55, -119.58], 2.2 NW KINGSBURG [36.54, -119.58]				
	05/26/19 14:48 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/19 17:48 PST		0	Source: Law Enforcement
California Highway Patrol reported water 2 feet deep between Kingsburg and Selma.				
TULARE COUNTY --- 1.6 NNE GOSHEN JCT [36.35, -119.37], 1.6 NNE GOSHEN JCT [36.35, -119.37], 1.5 NNE GOSHEN JCT [36.35, -119.37], 1.5 NNE GOSHEN JCT [36.35, -119.37]				
	05/26/19 15:00 PST		0	Flash Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/19 18:00 PST		0	Source: Broadcast Media
Broadcast media reported significant flooding on Road 92 south of Ferguson Ave. in west Visalia which led to the road being impassible.				
KINGS COUNTY --- 1.3 ESE ARMONA [36.31, -119.68], 1.4 ESE ARMONA [36.31, -119.68], 1.5 ESE ARMONA [36.31, -119.68], 1.4 ESE ARMONA [36.31, -119.68]				
	05/26/19 15:41 PST		0	Flood (due to Heavy Rain)
	05/26/19 17:41 PST		0	Source: Social Media
Posts on Twitter indicated flooding in a neighborhood in southwest Hanford.				
(CA-Z195) LAKE ISABELLA, (CA-Z196) TEHACHAPI AREA				
	05/26/19 20:14 PST		0	High Wind (MAX 54 kt)
	05/26/19 20:32 PST		0	
<p>A strong upper low pressure system pushed southward through the Pacific Northwest on May 25. Warm air advection ahead of this system produced instability over the San Joaquin Valley during the afternoon and evening of May 25 which resulted in the development of scattered thunderstorms. One thunderstorm produced nickel sized hail between Mettler and Maricopa along State Route 166 and also produced roadway flooding in the area. The low moved southward through California on May 26 bringing increased clouds, significant rainfall and mountain snowfall, locally strong winds as well as thunderstorms with heavy rain. Much of the area received between a quarter and three quarters of an inch of liquid precipitation while several stations in the Sierra Nevada picked up between 2 to 5 inches of new snowfall with a few stations picking up 6 to 7 inches. Thunderstorms developed during the afternoon of May 26 across the San Joaquin Valley producing heavy rainfall, roadway flooding and a few funnel clouds. In addition, gusty winds prevailed for much of the day in the Tehachapi and Lake Isabella areas where there were several reports of wind gusts exceeding 35 mph while a few low impact indicator sites measured gusts above 55 mph. Several all time daily record precipitation records were shattered on May 26.</p>				
FRESNO COUNTY --- 3.0 NNW SANGER WNDR VLY ARPT [36.84, -119.33], 3.0 E KINGSBURG [36.52, -119.50], 1.7 ESE KINGSBURG [36.51, -119.52], 1.4 NNW LACJAC [36.64, -119.48], 3.0 SE SANGER [36.67, -119.54], 2.1 NE PIEDRA [36.84, -119.35]				
	05/29/19 01:00 PST		0	Flood (due to Planned Dam Release)
	05/31/19 23:59 PST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
Fresno and Tulare County Emergency Managers reported flooding along the Kings River downstream from Pine Flat Dam as a result of increased releases prompted by increased runoff from snow melt and recent rainfall.				
TULARE COUNTY --- 3.0 W DELFT COLONY [36.52, -119.50], 3.1 WSW DELFT COLONY [36.51, -119.50], 2.9 WSW DELFT COLONY [36.51, -119.50], 2.8 W DELFT COLONY [36.52, -119.50]				
	05/29/19 01:00 PST		0	Flood (due to Planned Dam Release)
	05/31/19 23:59 PST		0	Source: Emergency Manager
Fresno and Tulare County Emergency Managers reported flooding along the Kings River downstream from Pine Flat Dam as a result of increased releases prompted by increased runoff from snow melt and recent rainfall.				
<p>Temperatures began to recover our the area on May 28 following unseasonably cool days on May 26 and 27. The last three days of the month had fairly seasonable temperatures, but with abundant low level moisture from the recent rainfall, afternoon showers and thunderstorms were prevalent each day. The afternoon of May 31 was very active as several storms produced heavy rainfall in the mountains. The increased snow melt from rising temperatures along with the runoff from the afternoon showers and thunderstorms resulted in rapidly rising river levels throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Most noticeably along the Kings River as a result of increased releases at Pine Flat Dam. The increased runoff produced flooding at Lindy's Landing campground near Reedley, and the Kings River Golf and Country Club near Kingsburg beginning on May 29 and continued past the end of May.</p>				