

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - February 2022

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

(CA-Z300) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS NORTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z301) LOS BANOS-DOS PALOS, (CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z303) PLANADA-LEGRAND-SNELLING, (CA-Z304) COALINGA - AVENAL, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z308) WEST SIDE MOUNTAINS SOUTH OF HIGHWAY 198, (CA-Z309) BUTTONWILLOW- LOST HILLS - I5, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z313) BUENA VISTA, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD, (CA-Z315) SOUTHEAST SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z316) SOUTH END SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z317) MARIPOSA - MADERA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z319) FRESNO - TULARE FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z320) FRESNO - TULARE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z321) SOUTH END SIERRA FOOTHILLS, (CA-Z322) SOUTH END OF THE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z324) YOSEMITE VALLEY, (CA-Z325) SAN JOAQUIN RIVER CANYON, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z329) GRANT GROVE AREA, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z332) KERN RIVER VALLEY, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z335) GRAPEVINE, (CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES, (CA-Z337) INDIAN WELLS VALLEY, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S), (CA-Z339) MOJAVE DESERT

02/01/22 00:00 PST	0	Drought
02/28/22 23:59 PST	0	

Rainfall was well below normal for February, and nearly all of the central California Interior was classified as being in a severe drought by the end of February, 2022 due to a long term precipitation deficit as this was the driest period between January 1 and February 28 on record for much of the area. As of February 2022, most of the impacted area has received less than 40% of normal precipitation since July 1, 2020.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE

02/01/22 04:15 PST	0	Dense Fog
02/01/22 08:00 PST	0	

High pressure brought clear skies and light winds across the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of February 1. As a result, areas of dense fog formed overnight reducing visibility to an eighth of a mile in Hanford and Madera and briefly impacting travel on State Routes 99, 43 and 198. The fog dissipated by an hour after sunrise.

(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-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE

02/02/22 02:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
02/02/22 08:00 PST	0	

A strong northerly flow ahead of a large upper high pressure ridge off the California coast brought a cold and dry airmass into the area on February 1. With clear skies and winds remaining light in the San Joaquin Valley, temperatures lowered below the freezing mark in much of the valley during the early morning of February 2.

(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-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z315) SOUTHEAST SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

02/03/22 02:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
02/03/22 08:00 PST	0	

The cold and dry airmass which had settled in over the area on February 1 and 2 remained in place, and another night of mainly clear skies and light winds resulted in temperatures dropping below the freezing mark once again across much of the San Joaquin Valley during the early morning of February 3.

(CA-Z302) MERCED-MADERA-MENDOTA, (CA-Z305) WEST SIDE OF FRESNO AND KINGS COUNTIES, (CA-Z306) CARUTHERS - SAN JOAQUIN - SELMA, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY

02/04/22 02:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
02/04/22 08:00 PST	0	

Although the cold and dry airmass which brought sub-freezing morning temperatures to much of the San Joaquin Valley the previous two mornings began to modify, much of the center portion of the valley still had temperatures drop below the freezing mark for a few hours during the morning of February 4.

(CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)

02/15/22 06:27 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 66 kt)
02/15/22 20:49 PST	0	

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A cold low pressure system dropped southeast through California on February 15 which ended a period of several days with much above normal temperatures across the area in which several new daily records were set. Temperatures lowered to near seasonal normals by February 15 as colder air pushed into the area behind a cold front which was associated with this system. Since this system was moisture deficient, precipitation was minimal and much of the Sierra Nevada picked up a tenth of an inch or less of liquid precipitation while the lower elevations picked up trace amounts at most. This main impact from this system; however, was a period of strong wind gusts over the Kern County Mountains and Deserts as several stations measured gusts exceeding 45 mph and a few low impact indicator sites had gusts exceeding 60 mph. A brief period of gusty Mono-type northeast winds occurred over the Sierra Nevada between the evening of February 15 and the early morning of February 16 as an offshore gradient developed. Impacts from the winds were minimal, however.

(CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z338) MOJAVE DESERT SLOPE(S)

02/21/22 07:32 PST	0	High Wind (MAX 70 kt)
02/22/22 08:27 PST	0	

A strong cold front ahead of a very cold upper trough dropped southward through central California on February 21. This system brought much cooler temperatures to the area along with a period of increased winds between the morning of February 21 through the morning of February 22. Strong wind gusts were prevalent across the Mojave Desert Slopes as well as along the ridge tops of the southern Sierra Nevada. Several stations measured wind gusts exceeding 55 mph with a few low impact indicator sites measuring gusts exceeding 65 mph.

(CA-Z318) MARIPOSA - MADERA LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z320) FRESNO - TULARE LOWER SIERRA, (CA-Z323) YOSEMITE NP OUTSIDE OF THE VALLEY, (CA-Z324) YOSEMITE VALLEY, (CA-Z325) SAN JOAQUIN RIVER CANYON, (CA-Z326) UPPER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER, (CA-Z327) KAISER TO RODGERS RIDGE, (CA-Z328) KINGS CANYON NP, (CA-Z329) GRANT GROVE AREA, (CA-Z330) SEQUOIA NP, (CA-Z331) SOUTH END OF THE UPPER SIERRA, (CA-Z332) KERN RIVER VALLEY, (CA-Z333) PIUTE - WALKER PASS (BASIN?), (CA-Z334) TEHACHAPI, (CA-Z335) GRAPEVINE, (CA-Z336) FRAZIER MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES

02/22/22 00:00 PST	0	Winter Weather
02/23/22 16:00 PST	0	

A cold upper trough moved across the area on February 22 and 23. This system spread precipitation across the area during the morning of February 22 with the precipitation falling as snow above 2500 feet. The snow level lowered to around 1000 feet by afternoon in post-frontal showers. A few thunderstorms were also observed in the San Joaquin Valley during the afternoon and early evening hours where most stations picked up between a few hundredths of an inch of rainfall to a quarter inch. A few stations impacted by heavier thunderstorms picked up around half an inch of rain and several reports of ice pellet showers were posted on social media. Another round of showers impacted the area overnight in the morning of February 23 as an upper shortwave system dropped southward through the area. This system brought snow to the Kern County passes which resulted in several road closures including the closure of Interstate 5 south of Grapevine and State Route 58 through Tehachapi. Most of the Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi mountain ranges above 3000 feet picked up between 3 and 9 inches of new snowfall while elevations between 1000 and 3000 feet generally picked up between 1 and 3 inches of new snow between the early morning of February 22 and the afternoon of February 23. The precipitation ended by late afternoon on February 23 and skies cleared out during the evening.

(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-Z307) FRESNO - CLOVIS, (CA-Z309) BUTTONTWILLOW- LOST HILLS - I5, (CA-Z310) DELANO - WASCO - SHAFTER, (CA-Z311) HANFORD - CORCORAN - LEMOORE, (CA-Z312) VISALIA - PORTERVILLE - REEDLEY, (CA-Z313) BUENA VISTA, (CA-Z314) BAKERSFIELD, (CA-Z315) SOUTHEAST SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, (CA-Z316) SOUTH END SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

02/24/22 02:00 PST	0	Frost/Freeze
02/26/22 08:00 PST	0	

A cold airmass moved in over the interior of central California in the wake of the winter storm which had impacted the region on February 22 and 23. With skies having cleared out across the area and winds becoming light during the morning of February 24, widespread sub-freezing temperatures were observed across the San Joaquin Valley each morning between February 24 and February 26. Increased mid level clouds which moved in over the area on February 26 inhibited radiational cooling enough to keep temperatures above the freezing mark across the San Joaquin Valley during the morning of February 27.