



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 1999

| Location | Date | Time Local/ Standard | Path Length (Miles) | Path Width (Yards) | Number of Persons | | Estimated Damage | | Character of Storm |
|----------|------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
| | | | | | Killed | Injured | Property | Crops | |

CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ020>021

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|------------|--|------------|
| 01 | 2230PST | | | | 1 | 0 | 50K | | Fog |
| 02 | 1000PST | | | | | | | | |

Dense fog developed late in the night of the 1st and persisted until well into the morning of the 2nd. A chain reaction vehicular crash occurred in Merced County involving an ambulance and County Fire Truck along with two other vehicles at 0844 PST on the 2nd. The fatality occurred at 2055 PST on the 1st near Livingston. M35VE

CAZ020>021

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|-------------|--|------------|
| 12 | 2200PST | | | | 1 | 7 | 130K | | Fog |
| 13 | 0930PST | | | | | | | | |

The period of December 31 1998 through January 14 1999 saw consistently dense fog with black ice at times on the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley Floor during the late night through mid-morning hours. Accidents, the direct result of dense fog, occurred on the morning of the 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th, in CA Zones 20 and 21. M24VE

CAZ022>023

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|-------------------|
| 20 | 0500PST | | | | 0 | 0 | | | Heavy Snow |
| 21 | 0100PST | | | | | | | | |

Over the course of a little less than a 24 hour period 14 inches of snow fell at Lodgepole in the Tulare County Mountains and Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park. At lower elevations relatively large amounts of rainfall soaked lower mountains to the extent rockslides were noted in the Mariposa area.

CAZ022

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|------------|--|-------------------|
| 23 | 1300PST | | | | 0 | 5 | 10K | | Heavy Snow |
| 24 | 0100PST | | | | | | | | |

8 inches of snow fell at Fish Camp along with 15 inches at Tuolumne Meadows at the higher elevations.

CAZ021>024

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|-------------------|
| 24 | 2030PST | | | | 0 | 0 | | | Heavy Snow |
| 25 | 1830PST | | | | | | | | |

Associated with very cold air aloft and the trapping of lower level cold air, snow occurred over many of the Central California zones late in the evening of Sunday of 24th, Monday the 25th; even on the Southern San Joaquin Valley floor! Meadows Field Airport at Bakersfield, CA, (having received measureable snow only one time since 1932) received 3 inches of snow at the airport climatological station but northeast portions of the city received up to 6 inches of snow around dawn. Snow plows were needed to clear 2-4 inches of snow from Highway 99 near Tulare and Visalia in Tulare County. Snow fall ranged from a dusting in the city of Fresno to 2 inches at Sanger and Parlier, on through Tulare County southward through Bakersfield along the eastside of the Valley to Taft and Lost Hills (2 inches) in Western Kern County. Hanford appeared to be the western edge of the snow with 1/2 inch reported. Up to 18,000 customers lost power in Tulare County...and 57,000 customers in Kern County due to weighted tree limbs breaking into power lines. Pine Mountain Club in the Tehachapi Mountains received 19 inches of snow overnight; 10" of snow fell at Fish Camp and 9 inches at Granite Station in the Southern Sierra Nevada. Highways 58 and 166 along with Interstate-5 in the Kern County Mountains were closed by 2055 PST on 1/24/99 due significant amounts of snow on the roadways. (Written up as Storm-of-the-Month).

CAZ024

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--|--|--|----------|----------|--|--|------------------------|
| 30 | 2325PST | | | | 0 | 0 | | | High Wind (G50) |
| 31 | 0600PST | | | | | | | | |

One spotter reported gradient wind at 50 Knots from the southeast at Lebec with a subsequent report from the Tehachapi area indicating wind consistent at 40-45 MPH. The wind persisted through the wee hours of the morning but diminished at dawn.



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

Fresno County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| 2 SE (Fat) Air Terminal | 31 | 1415PST | | | 0 | 0 | | | Funnel Cloud |
| 5 SE (Fat) Air Terminal | | 1425PST | | | | | | | |

Funnel cloud reported also by California Highway Patrol and FAA Fresno Air Terminal ATCT. Pea-size hail was also reported in the vicinity of the funnels.

Merced County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| Merced | 31 | 1540PST | | | 0 | 0 | | | Funnel Cloud |
|--------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

Funnel cloud near Merced.

Kern County

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|
| 10 N Bakersfield | 31 | 1550PST | | | 0 | 0 | | | Funnel Cloud |
|------------------|----|---------|--|--|---|---|--|--|--------------|

Trained spotter reported two funnels at this location.