



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2000

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

Fresno County

Biola	13	1405PST 1406PST			0	0			Hail (0.75)
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A spotter indicated a very short duration hail event with the hail conditions stated as mushy. The Severe Thunderstorm Warning was issued for both Madera and Fresno Counties as the cell straddled the county line. Confirmation could only be made on the Fresno County side.

Kern County

Bakersfield	16 17	2000PST 0300PST			0	0			Wind
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Fresno County

5 SW Five Pts to Lanare	17	1845PST 1859PST			0	0			Funnel Cloud
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Fresno County

5 SW Five Pts to Lanare	17	1845PST 1859PST			0	0			Lightning
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Fresno County

5 SW Five Pts to Lanare	17	1845PST 1859PST			0	4	40K	500K	Small Hail
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Pre-frontal wind caused some power line problems in the Southern San Joaquin Valley although warning criteria were not reached. Over 2000 customers lost power in the South Valley due to the wind. Following a vigorous trof passage early on the morning of the 17th rainfall accumulations on the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley floor were between 1/2 to 1.5". Late afternoon convective activity through Central California generated what is classed as a low-topped supercell in rural, western Fresno County. The cell did trigger a tornado vortex signature alarm on the HNX 88D-Radar. Spotters confirmed a long-lasting funnel (3 vortexes) reaching halfway to the ground right after radar indicated mid-level rotation. Frequent cloud-to-cloud and cloud-to-ground lightning accompanied this cell as well as hail (1/2-inch diameter; piled 2-3 inches deep) with a path 3-to-4 miles wide from 5.0 miles southwest of Five Points to Lanare (13 miles). From the Fresno and Madera Ag Commissioners, 10,000+ acres of planted cotton were damaged along with some tomato fields due to hail damage. Further but difficult to assess damage was also done to area strawberry and cherry crops. At least 4 vehicle accidents could be attributed to the deep hail and heavy rain

Fresno County

15 W Five Pts	17 18	1038PST 0300PST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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Merced County

3 N Merced	17 18	1945PST 0300PST			0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
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Heavier than normal rainfall caused localized flooding problems in western Fresno (Cantua Creek) County and Merced County (Black Rascal). Rainfall amounts around the Valley...Fresno 0.97 inches..Visalia 0.98" ..Merced 1.42".

CAZ096>097

S Sierra Mtns - Tulare Cty Mtns

	17 18	1100PST 0300PST			0	0			Winter Storm
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CAZ095

Kern Cty Mtns

	17 18	1200PST 0300PST			0	0			Snow
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Low pressure centered just off the coast of Central California sent a slow moving front over Interior Central California beginning on the 17th and into the 18th. Although snowfall began at high elevations, the snow level eventually dropped to about the 4000 foot level in the mountain areas. Amounts of snow received: Lodgepole 14 inches of snow in 9 hours/ 23 inches in 24 hours; Shaver Lake 12 inches; Sierra Summit 18" at 7500 ft MSL and 24" at 9200 ft; Mammoth Mountain 26" storm total; and Pine Mountain Club 6 inches and Mt. Pinos 10 inches in the Tehachapi Mountains.



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CALIFORNIA, South Central

Merced County

11 WSW Santa Nella	17	1730PST			0	1			Lightning
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Merced County

11 WSW Santa Nella	17	1730PST 1744PST			0	0	30K		Small Hail
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Report from California Highway Patrol that a woman's car had been struck by lightning going over Pacheco Pass during a thunderstorm. CHP also reported 1/4 inch hail causing several accidents due to heavy rain and hail on the roadway

CAZ095-098>099

Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert

22		0700PST			0	0			Wind
23		0730PST							

Gusty winds again were prevalent over the Kern County area..mountains and deserts..during the 22nd and early on the 23rd. In the Tehachapi Mountain area, winds were sustained at 44-52 MPH with gusts to 68 MPH at 1308 PST on the 22nd. In the desert winds of 35 to 40 MPH were observed around Inyokern. With a mountain wave, a gust to 68 knots occurred at Edwards AFB at 1011 PST on the 22nd.

CAZ095-098>099

Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly - Se Kern Cty Desert

27		0800PST			0	0			Wind
28		2000PST							

A relatively dry frontal passage brought gusty wind to Interior Central California with wind gusts exceeding advisory criteria of 45 MPH by 2000 PST on the 27th in the Kern County Mountains. Other sensors in the Tehachapi Pass indicated wind gusts reached 70 MPH on the ridge tops with Tehachapi Valley sensors at 30 to 35 MPH. Jawbone Canyon winds were sustained at 40-45 MPH with a few gusts to 70 MPH and Indian Wells Canyon had gusts to 69 MPH between 1200-2000 PST pm on the 28th. On the Kern Desert floor, wind gusts were 40 to 60 MPH at Mojave and often to 35 MPH around Edwards AFB and the Indian Wells Valley