National Weather Service
Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena

May 2001

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

CALIFORNIA, South Central

CAZ089-091-099 — **W Central Sj Valley - Sw Sj Valley - Se Kern Cty Desert**

01	**2030PST**	**0**	**0**	**105K**	**2.0M**	**High Wind (G70)^{M}**
02	**2000PST**					

CAZ095-098 — **Kern Cty Mtns - Indian Wells Vly**

01	**2255PST**	**0**	**0**			**Wind**
02	**2000PST**					

A strong gradient wind situation began to develop on the 1st and peaked on the 2nd of the month. The highest northwest wind was noted in the Kern County Desert in and around Mojave where wind speed reached 70 Knots late evening on the 1st and early hours on the 2nd. A mobile home was rolled over in Mojave around 9:30 PM PDT on the 1st. Wind in the Indian Wells Valley did not quite meet Wind Warning thresholds early on the 2nd: Indian Wells Canyon had gusts to 45 MPH at 0613 and Inyokern ASOS reported gusts to 38 Knots at 0805 PST. In the Kern Mountains winds also did not quite reach warning thresholds: Tehachapi had 40 Knots by 0812 PST on the 2nd with Jawbone Canyon reaching 54 MPH at 0329 PST. Near dawn on the 2nd a peak wind of 67 MPH was measured at Kettleman Hills on the west side of the San Joaquin Valley. Navy Lemoore reported a peak gust of 37 knots (43 MPH) at 0455 PST on the 2nd. From the Fresno County Ag Commissioner, West Fresno County cotton, almonds, pistachios, tomatoes, and cantalope sustained damage due to the wind. Wind damage was also reported in Los Banos along with other occurrences of downed power lines around Coalinga and broken tree limbs in several other locations on the San Joaquin Valley floor

CAZ090-092 — **E Central Sj Valley - Se Sj Valley**

07	**1400PST**	**0**	**0**			**Excessive Heat**
31	**1800PST**					

Unusual Weather: 9 days of 100+F. temperatures in May at Fresno shattered the old record of 5 days set in 1889 but Bakersfield had only 5 days. The warmest May on record occurred in Fresno with Bakersfield the 2nd warmest. Temperatures jumped up near 20F above normal by reaching 100+F on the 8th in the San Joaquin Valley with subsequently several days of much above normal temperatures for much of the remainder of the month. Bakersfield ended the month with a max temperature of 107F on the 31st. Several max and min temperature records were reset at both Fresno and Bakersfield in the month. Considering the electrical power shortage and anticipated water shortfalls by the end of the warm season in Interior Central California, this early season jump to triple-digit high temperatures was unfortunate.

Tulare County

20 SE Lodgepole	**22**	**1444PST**	**0**	**0**		**Thunderstorm**
		1515PST				

A severe thunderstorm warning was issued on the basis of a radar signature in a remote, high elevation of Tulare County within Sequoia National Park. No confirmation of severe weather was received from this stationary cell that reached 56 dbz with a high probability of large hail and tops in excess of 30K feet.

CAZ099 — **Se Kern Cty Desert**

28	**0600PST**	**0**	**0**			**High Wind (G60)^{M}**
	1000PST					

Gusty wind occurred in the Kern County Desert from 0400 PST until 2000 PST on the 28th but wind reached 50-60 knots in gusts for a 4-hour period just after dawn in the vicinity of Mojave Airport.