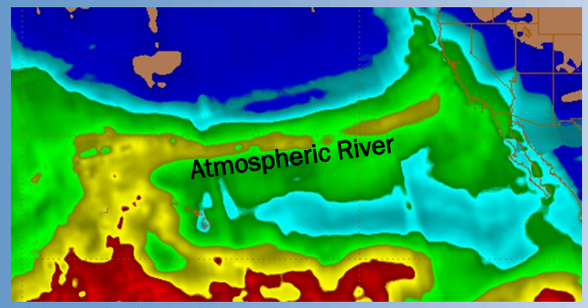
NOAA Forecasting and Monitoring for Weather and Floods

Weather-Ready Nation



Atmospheric moisture rivers, a common source of precipitation and California floods.

Monitor Weather

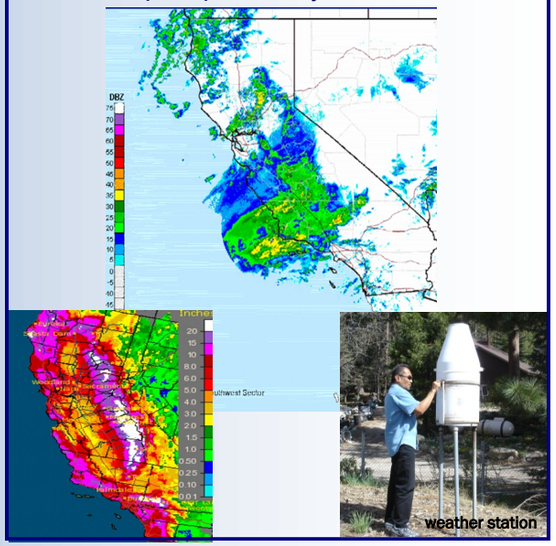
- Warnings, watches and advisories
- Observed rainfall
- Historical data
- NOAA Weather Radio

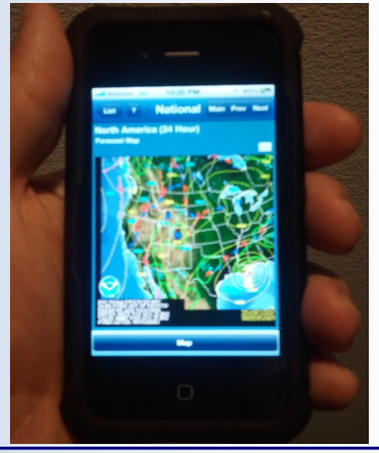
Important Definitions

- **WARNING: Hazardous life, property or commerce threatening conditions are imminent or occurring. Take action now.**
- **WATCH: There is the potential for hazardous conditions. Prepare now.**
- **ADVISORY: Means low impact and not property or life threatening. Flood prone areas should take notice.**

Doppler Radar

Continuous monitoring of precipitation systems





Mobile weather and forecasts

mobile.weather.gov

California Floods: Be Aware. Be Prepared.

This first annual California Flood Preparedness Week brochure is designed to provide you with some helpful information to increase your awareness of flooding in California. The resources in this brochure can help you find flood insurance, find out if you are in a FEMA mapped floodplain, and help you prepare for flooding before it happens..

January 1997 flooding on San Joaquin River, near Merced. Photo from DWR.

www.water.ca.gov/ca-flood-preparedness/

Contact National Weather Service at:
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Brochure Created by NOAA
California Flood Preparedness Week

sponsored by:

California Department of Water Resources
California Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Sacramento County Department of Water Resources, Stormwater Utility

California Flood Hazards Awareness

Flood Hazard Types

- Flash floods (excessive rainfall)
- Levee or dam break
- Alluvial fan or dry wash flooding
- Debris flow
- River overflow on floodplains
- Coastal inundation (surge and tsunami)
- Storm water and localized flooding

Be Aware

- Stay away from waterways and monitor children
- Pay attention to nearby storms
- Do not drive through water
- Water may be deeper or flowing faster than it appears
  –Turn Around Don't Drown®
- Know your risk and surroundings in low lying areas or near waterways
- Identify evacuation routes and areas of higher ground
- Monitor weather forecasts

Does your homeowner's insurance cover floods?

- You might be surprised to find out it does not cover floods
- Find out more http://www.floodsmart.gov

Black Rascal Creek flooding near Merced in April 2006. Photo from DWR.

Be Prepared

- Have a plan and know where to evacuate
- Purchase flood insurance if you live in flood-prone area
- Have an emergency kit
- Keep storm drains clear

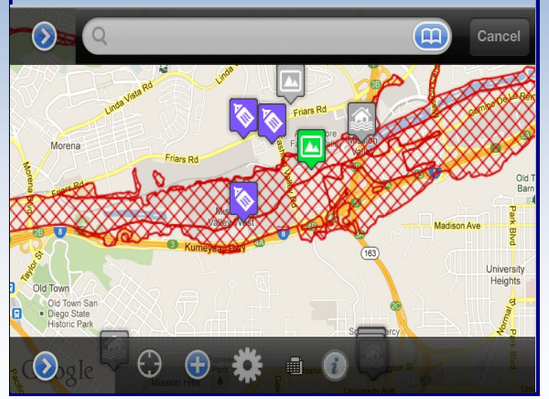
Turn Around Don't Drown®

Car trapped at Mission Valley in San Diego, from San Diego River overflow flooding in December 2010. Photo by Alex Tardy.

Flood Facts

- 6 inches of water can float a car
- 1 inches of flood water can cause $10,000 of damage
- $5.4 billion worth of crops are grown in California floodplains
- 1.4 million Californians live or work in floodplains
- On average flooding kills more people than any other natural disaster

Mobile Flood Application



FloodMap Mobile from Atkins North America allows you to view FEMA flood maps, insurance rates, claims and letters of map change data, stream gages, and more. Available for Apple and Android smart phones. FEMA's Flood Smart program also offers downloadable Google layers at http://www.r9map.org

Internet Sources

Weather Information

http://weather.gov
http://radar.weather.gov
http://water.weather.gov

Flood and Water Information

http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov
http://www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk
http://www.StormReady.org
http://www.floodsmart.gov
http://www.msc.fema.gov
http://www.r9map.org