Visibility lowered during the night of the 2nd due to dense fog from the Central San Joaquin Valley southward through the Southern San Joaquin Valley. Visibilities were reported as low as 100 feet by law enforcement before midnight in Merced County near Los Banos to 300 feet on the Kings-Kern County Line.

A weather system crossed Interior Central California late on the 6th through much of the 7th depositing significant snows on elevations above 6500 feet M.S.L.: Tuolumne Meadows reported 10” new snow with a water content of 1.09 inches. Approximate snow amounts reported were 18” at Horse Meadow and Agnew Pass; and 12” at Volcanic Knob and Paradise Meadow. Snow amounts dropped off quickly to the south such that the Tulare County Mountains had amounts of 6” or less. Foothill areas had from 1” to 2” rainfall over 24-hours from this event.

A rock slide occurred in the Kern River Canyon after 0.20” of rain had fallen in a 4-hour period close by in the Kern County Mountains.

Meso-net site at CFLO reported south wind gusts to 51 MPH at 2014 PST with a new snow accumulation of 12” at Tuolumne Meadows in a 12-hour period over the night of the 9th.

Gusty southeast wind associated with a rain band swept through northern Kings County and into central Fresno County during the mid-evening hours of the 9th. Minor roof damage occurred in Kings County around 2040 PST and 7 weakened power poles were downed in West Fresno along Highway 99 with the sharp gusts. Over 5000 local utility company customers were without power after 2100 hours on the 9th due to the wind damage. In the Southern Sierra Foothills and Tulare County Foothills some tree limbs were broken as speeds reached 45 knots and 30 knots, respectively. In the higher terrain of the Tulare County Mountains, a mesonet site had sustained wind of 29 knots with an isolated gust of 51 knots at 1121 PST on the 10th.

A rather fast-moving frontal system deposited substantial amounts of snow at higher elevations of Interior Central California. Snowfall amounts included 10 inches at Tuolumne Meadows and Tamarack Summit in the South Sierra Nevada, 8” at Lodgepole in the Tulare County Mountains, and 4” at Lime Kiln Canyon in the Kern Mountains. Other storm precipitation totals ranged approximately from 4/5” at Mariposa in the S.Sierra Foothills, 1/2” at Merced, and 1/3” at Fresno on the Central San Joaquin Valley Floor.

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Post-frontal conditions over the Kern County Mountains and Deserts supported gusty northwest wind. Speeds were generally 45 to 55 MPH in many locations with just a few isolated higher gusts as reported from meso-net stations.

In the Southern Sierra and Tulare County Mountains at the higher elevations substantial snow fell primarily during the morning of the 14th. Estimated amounts included Chilkoot Meadow 15 inches of new snow, Volcanic Knob 13", Beach Meadow 22", and Lodgepole 15". Pre-frontal wind was also present as the foothill areas reported southeast wind gusts to 35 MPH at Catheys Valley. Post-frontal conditions later in the day had north winds sustained at 41 MPH in the Indian Wells Valley area with a gust to 64 MPH. Jawbone RAWS had northwest wind gusts to 58 MPH. Locally heavy rain occurred on the San Joaquin Valley floor with the city of Lemoore reporting street flooding in the late morning hours from 0.41" of rain in that short period.

In a favorable environment, morning fog developed over a 3-day period from the 16th through the 18th. The morning of the 18th had the worst fog with law enforcement reporting visibility as low as 75 feet on area highways. Numerous vehicle accidents occurred with at least 4 indirect deaths and 3 indirect injuries.

Temperatures dropped to the upper 20s in the colder locations around the Central and South San Joaquin Valley on the mornings of the 16th and 17th. Some fog formation minimized temperature falls. Coldest readings reported during the period: Delano 26F; Nicholas Ranch, Wasco, and Colonel Allensworth State Park 28F; and, Merced, Jasmin, and Kettleman City 29F.

A weaker weather system moved through Central California the night of the 20th depositing up to 8" new snow at high elevation mountain locations from Fresno County northward.

Dense fog formation late in the morning of the 21st forced local law enforcement to restrict traffic speeds at several locations in the Central and South San Joaquin Valley.

Strong southeast winds over the Extreme Southern San Joaquin Valley posed threats to high profile vehicles on State Highways in that vicinity. In the Kern Mountains around Frazier Park wind also reached 35 knots.
A significant winter weather event on Christmas brought large amounts of snow to the higher elevations of the Southern Sierra Nevada (24” at Lodgepole, 33” at Crabtree Meadow and Chagoopa Plateau, and 39” at Agnew Pass) while significant snow fell at lower elevations (4” snowfall down to 2700 feet M.S.L.) in the Tulare County Foothills and Kern County Mountains. In the 4-hour time period from 0000 PST to 0400 PST on the 26th 8” of new snow fell in the Tulare County Mountains. Highway 58 was closed for a time and traffic over Interstate-5 was escorted as snow fell on those heavily traveled routes through the Tehachapi Mountains.

Precipitation totals at higher elevations (water equivalent) were 7.30” at Lodgepole (Tulare County), 5.20” at Giant Forest (Tulare), 4.89” at Mammoth Pass (Madera), 4.23” at Pascoes (Tulare), 3.74” at Wishon (Fresno), and 3.60” at Yosemite (Mariposa).

Locally heavy rain on the Southern San Joaquin Valley floor and adjacent foothills led to flooding at several locations over the South Valley due to runoff, including the city of Bakersfield. Fresno received 0.99” of rain for the day shattering the old record of 0.53” set in 1946. Bakersfield receive 0.91” of rain eclipsing their old daily rainfall record of 0.76” set in 1931. A storm total precipitation of 1.54” was reported by a spotter just east of Fresno. Large amounts of snow fell in the neighboring Sierra Nevada Mountains. Some other higher storm precipitation totals at the lower elevations were 2.40” at Glennville, 2.28” at Mariposa, and 0.55” at Mojave and 0.46” at China Lake in the Kern Deserts. There were 4 indirect deaths in vehicles caused by the heavy rainfall southeast of Bakersfield.

Following the significant and cold winter storm over Christmas, cold air brought freezing conditions to the floor of the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley on the mornings of the 27th and 28th. Overnight low temperatures recorded ranged from 26F to 30F for much of the area with many readings around 28F.

In a late month storm snow totals at elevations from 6000 feet M.S.L. and above varied from 18” at Kibbie Ridge to 26” at Paradise Meadow in the Southern Sierra Nevada and from 10” at Pascoes to 17” at Crabtree Meadow in the Tulare County Mountains.

Prefrontal southeast wind swept through the Central San Joaquin Valley and adjacent foothill areas the evening of the 29th.
Dense fog formed in the Central and Southern San Joaquin Valley on the morning of the 31st hindering traffic movement with visibilities lowered to less than 1000 feet. Dense fog reformed briefly and then dissipated in the evening of the 31st in the Southern San Joaquin Valley.