The Wapama Complex Fire in Yosemite National Park was initially deemed a prescribed burn initiated around September 20th by lightning but a later request on October 1st re-assigned the burn as a wildfire. The fire's location was 20 miles northwest of Yosemite Village and burned 1014 acres at a cost of $280K to battle the blaze. No injuries occurred nor were structures lost.

Gusty northwest wind swept over the Kern County Mountains and adjacent desert late on the 2nd and through the 3rd in the typically windy areas of Interior Central California. Wind speeds as high as 59 MPH were reported at Indian Wells Canyon and 52 MPH at nearby Jawbone Canyon during the period.

Numerous locations in Kern County reported locally heavy rain that not only led to the documented flash flooding but also minor flooding at other locations. The Cummings Valley in the Tehachapi Mountains experienced minor flooding by the late evening of the 17th as well as Taft on the Southern San Joaquin Valley Floor by 2305 hours PDT. Bear Valley Springs had 2.31” and Tehachapi 1.25” in the Tehachapi Mountains while the Piute Forest Service RAWS reported 2.31” of rain for the event in the Southern Sierra Nevada.

Weak low pressure off the Southern California Coast entrained tropical moisture that resulted numerous rainfall report of 2.5 to 3 inches of rain in Kern County around Frazier Park from the evening of the 17th into the morning of the 18th. Numerous locations around Kern County had flooding but especially hard-hit was the Frazier Park area with flooded homes leading to the evacuation of at least 20 people and mudslides along the northbound portions of Interstate Highway-5. Cuddy Creek through Frazier Park overflowed putting more than a foot of water and mud over the roadway at several locations with reports of the 4-foot deep water in the northern portions of the community.

Heavy rainfall resulted in substantial water runoff onto the Southeast Kern Desert areas during the evening hours of the 17th. State Highway 14 was impacted by water and mud over the roadways as well as upstream, smaller roadways. Rainfall amounts reported in the Kern Desert included 2.37” and 2.55” around Rosamond, 1.83” at Boron, and 1.16” at Mojave.
Heavy rainfall in the Kern County Mountains and Deserts led to flooding on the 17th and early on the 18th. On the Kern Desert Floor normally dry streams flash flooded affecting areas north of California City, including State Highway 14 near the intersection with Redrock-Randsburg Road.

Kings County
Countywide 24 1845PST 0430PST 0 0 Lightning

Tulare County
Countywide 24 1845PST 0430PST 0 0 Lightning

Fresno County
Countywide 24 1915PST 0400PST 0 0 Lightning

Madera County
Countywide 24 1930PST 0300PST 0 0 Lightning

Mariposa County
Countywide 24 1930PST 0300PST 0 0 Lightning

An upper air disturbance moving inland over South-Central California developed evening thunderstorms on the 24th and brought widespread lightning over portions of Kings, Tulare, Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa Counties. While the South San Joaquin Valley lightning diminished just before 2200 PST, numerous lightning strikes were noted until just before dawn in the foothill and mountain locations of Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, and especially Tulare Counties. Brief, locally heavy thundershowers accompanied the lightning. Yosemite reported 0.41" of rain in one such thundershower.

Fresno County
(Fat) Air Terminal 24 2027PST 0 0 Lightning

Local thunderstorm activity resulted in lightning in and around the Fresno Air Terminal during the evening of the 24th.