

# ***FEBRUARY 2008 WEATHER SUMMARY***

*RIVERSIDE FIRE WEATHER CENTER  
PREDICTIVE SERVICES UNIT*

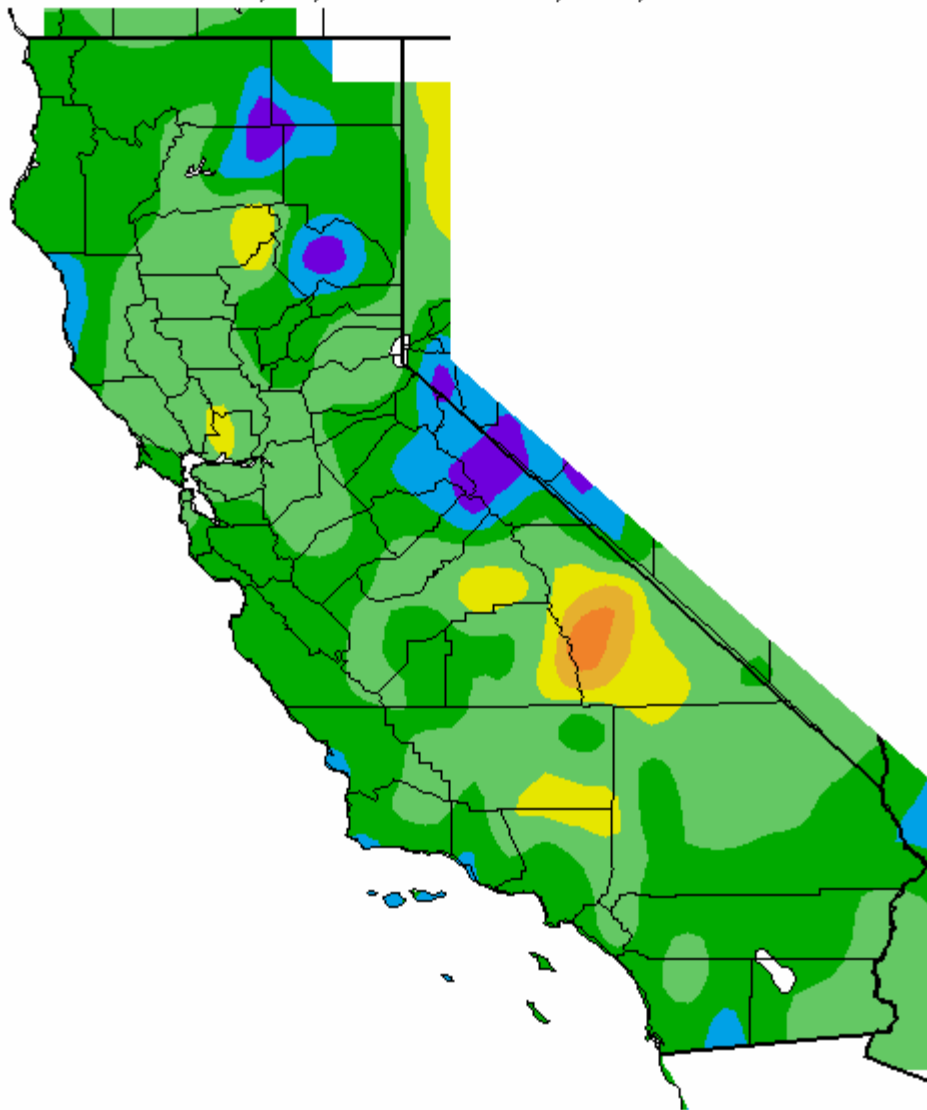
## ***INTRODUCTION***

A series of Pacific troughs brought near to below normal temperatures from February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 7<sup>th</sup> and then again from February 13<sup>th</sup> – February 25<sup>th</sup>. A couple of ridges of high pressure brought above normal temperatures from February 8<sup>th</sup> – February 12<sup>th</sup> and then again from February 26<sup>th</sup> through the end of the month. There were periods of showers across the entire region February 2<sup>nd</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup> and then again from February 19<sup>th</sup> – February 24<sup>th</sup>. There were also showers across Southern California February 14<sup>th</sup>. General winds were south to west ahead of and with the Pacific troughs and north to east behind the Pacific troughs and with the ridges of high pressure. There was one Santa Ana wind event during the month which occurred February 14<sup>th</sup> – February 15<sup>th</sup>.

## ***TEMPERATURES***

A series of Pacific troughs moving through California brought near to below normal temperatures to the region from February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 7<sup>th</sup> and then again from February 13<sup>th</sup> – February 25<sup>th</sup>. A couple of ridges of high pressure moving over the region from the Pacific Ocean brought above normal temperatures from February 8<sup>th</sup> – February 12<sup>th</sup> and then again from February 26<sup>th</sup> through the end of the month. Across Southern California, many inland valley locations had maximum temperatures in the mid 70s to mid 80s with the ridges of high pressure and 50s to low 70s with the Pacific troughs. Normally, the valley locations of Southern California are in the mid 60s to low 70s the whole month. For the month, maximum temperatures over the region averaged out to around 1 to 3 degrees below normal. However, maximum temperatures ranged from 6 to 8 degrees below normal over some Eastern Sierra locations to 4 to 6 degrees above normal over some Northern Desert locations. For the most part, almost all locations had below normal temperatures, except for Inyo County. Riverside set a daily high minimum temperature on February 12<sup>th</sup> with 53 degrees.

Av. Max. Temperature dep from Ave (deg F)  
2/1/2008 – 2/25/2008



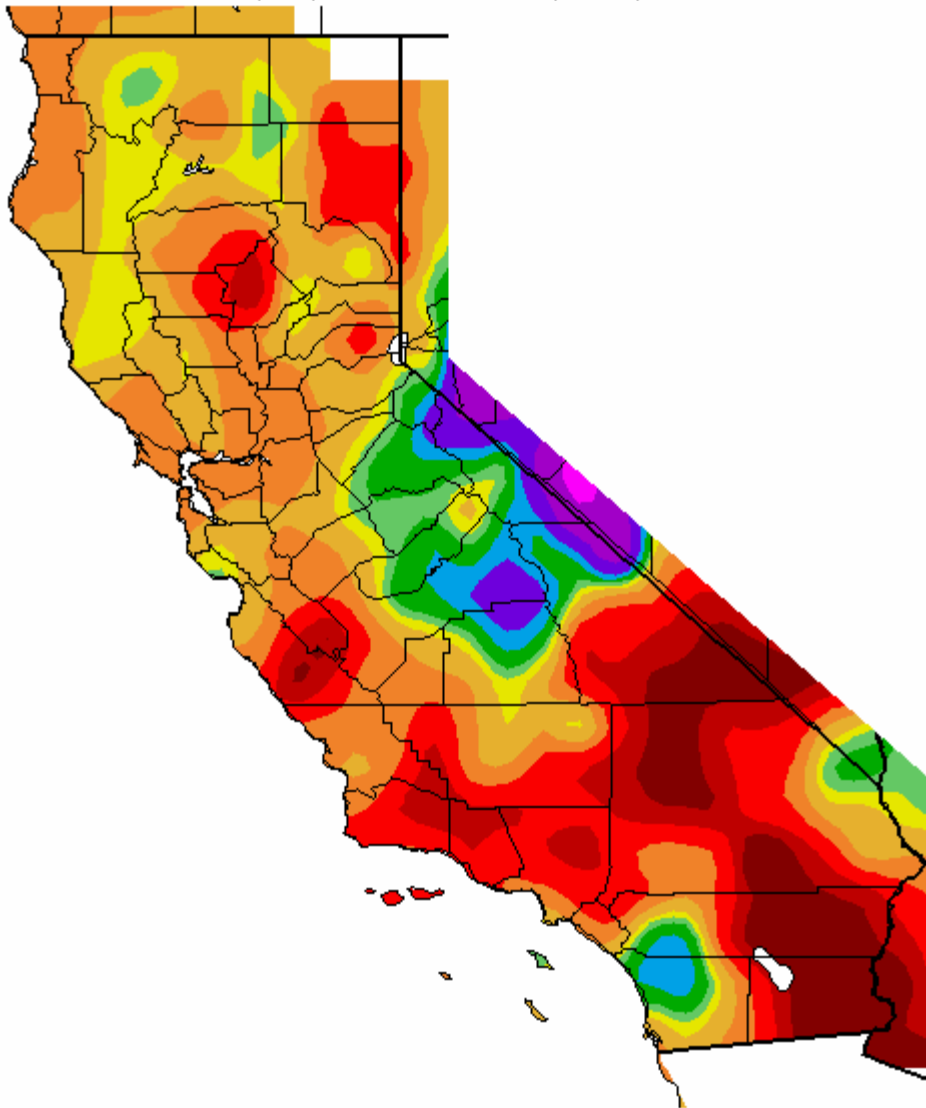
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### ***PRECIPITATION***

There were two periods of widespread showers during the month associated with Pacific storms. The first widespread rains occurred from February 2<sup>nd</sup> – February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Most foothill and mountain locations received between 1 and 2 inches of rainfall and most coastal and valley locations received between 0.5 and 1 inch of rainfall during this period. The snow level was around 3,000 feet over Central California and 4,000 feet over Southern California. Most of the Sierra and the higher mountain locations of Southern California received between 1 and 2 feet of new snow. The next period of widespread

rains occurred February 19<sup>th</sup> – February 24<sup>th</sup>. As with the first storm, most foothill and mountain locations received between 1 and 2 inches of rainfall and most coastal and valley locations received between 0.5 and 1 inch of rainfall during this period. The snow level was around 5,000 feet over Central California and 6,000 feet over Southern California. Once again, new snow accumulations were mainly between 1 and 2 feet over the Sierra and over the higher mountains of Southern California. A low pressure area moving into Southern California from Nevada brought scattered showers to Southern California on the morning of February 14<sup>th</sup>. Most locations over Southern California received less than a quarter inch of rainfall. However, over Southern Riverside and San Diego Counties most locations received a half inch to an inch of rainfall. The snow level was around 3,000 feet with this low pressure area and up to a foot of new snow fell over the San Diego Mountains. Most locations over the Sierra as well as Southern Riverside and San Diego Counties received above normal precipitation for the month. For the most part, these locations received 4 to 8 inches of rainfall. Elsewhere, most locations had below normal precipitation for the month. These locations received between 1 and 3 inches of rain for the most part, except most desert locations received less than an inch of rainfall. Riverside received 0.65 inches of rainfall, when normally they receive 2.41 inches.

Percent of Average Precipitation (%)  
2/1/2008 – 2/25/2008



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### ***WINDS***

General winds were south to west ahead of and with the Pacific troughs and north to east behind these troughs and with the ridges of high pressure. South to west afternoon winds with the Pacific troughs were mainly 10 to 20 mph and north to east winds with the ridges of high pressure were mainly 5 to 15 mph. However, a few stronger Pacific troughs brought south to west winds over some mountain and desert locations to 15 to 30 mph with gusts to 50 mph. There was one moderate Santa Ana wind event during the month. It occurred February 14<sup>th</sup> – February 15<sup>th</sup>. Winds over the mountains and below

the canyons and passes of Southern California were mainly 15 to 30 mph with gusts to 50 mph. However, over the windiest locations, there were gusts as high as 70 mph.

### ***FIRES***

According to the ICS-209, there were no significant fires this month.

### ***CONCLUSION***

Overall, for much of the region, February had below normal temperatures. Precipitation was above normal over the Sierra and far Southern California. Otherwise, precipitation was below normal over the region. Winds were mainly south to west ahead of and with the Pacific troughs and north to east behind these troughs and with the ridges of high pressure. There was one significant offshore wind event during the middle part of the month.