

NOVEMBER 2019 WEATHER SUMMARY

RIVERSIDE FIRE WEATHER CENTER

PREDICTIVE SERVICES UNIT

INTRODUCTION

A strong ridge of high pressure brought above normal temperatures the first three weeks of November. A series of Pacific troughs brought below normal temperatures the last week of November. A low pressure area from the south brought scattered showers to the region November 20th. A storm over Northern California brought widespread moderate to heavy rainfall to the entire region November 27th – November 29th. A storm off the Pacific Northwest Coast brought rain to Central California November 30th. General winds were mainly south to west ahead of and with the Pacific troughs and north to east behind the troughs and with the ridges of high pressure. There were four weak Santa Ana wind events during the month. They occurred on November 1st, November 8th – November 9th, November 16th – November 17th, and November 24th – November 26th.

TEMPERATURES

A strong ridge of high pressure off the California Coast brought above normal temperatures to most of the region November 1st – November 14th, November 16th – November 19th, and November 23rd – November 24th. A series of Pacific troughs moving into the West Coast brought near to below normal temperatures November 15th, November 20th – November 22nd, and November 25th through the end of the month. Temperatures in the valleys were mainly in the mid 70s to mid 90s with the ridge of high pressure and upper 40s to low 70s with the Pacific troughs. For the month, most locations received above normal temperatures.

PRECIPITATION

A low pressure area from the south brought scattered showers to the region November 20th. Heavy rain fell across San Diego County with 3 to 5 inches of rainfall across the foothill and mountain locations and 1 to 3 inches of rainfall across the coastal and valley locations. Elsewhere, most locations received less than a half inch of rainfall. A storm over Northern California brought 1.5 to 4 inches of rainfall to the entire region November 27th – November 29th. The snow level was around 3,000 feet with this storm and several feet of new snow fell over both the Sierra and Southern California Mountains. A storm off the Pacific Northwest Coast brought rain to Central California November 30th. For the most part, the entire region received above normal rainfall for the month.

WINDS

General winds were mainly 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 most of November. South to west winds with the troughs were mainly 10 to 20 mph and north to east winds with the ridge of high pressure were mainly 5 to 15 mph. However, with the stronger troughs south to west winds over some mountain and desert locations increased to 20 to 40 mph with gusts to 60 mph. However, over the windiest locations, there were gusts to 80 mph. There were four weak Santa Ana wind events during the month. They occurred on November 1st, November 8th – November 9th, November 16th – November 17th, and November 24th – November 26th. Winds over the mountains and below the canyons and passes of Southern California were mainly 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 40 mph. However, over the windiest locations, there were gusts to 50 mph.

FIRES

For November, according to the ICS-209, there was one large fire. It was called the Cave Fire and it burned 3,126 acres. It occurred in the Santa Ynez Mountains in Santa Barbara County in the Western Mountains PSA. It occurred on November 25th during a strong Sun Downer event.

CONCLUSION

Overall for much of the region, November received both above normal temperatures and rainfall. Winds were mostly south to west ahead of and with the Pacific troughs and north to east behind the troughs and with the ridges of high pressure. There were four weak Santa Ana wind events during the month.