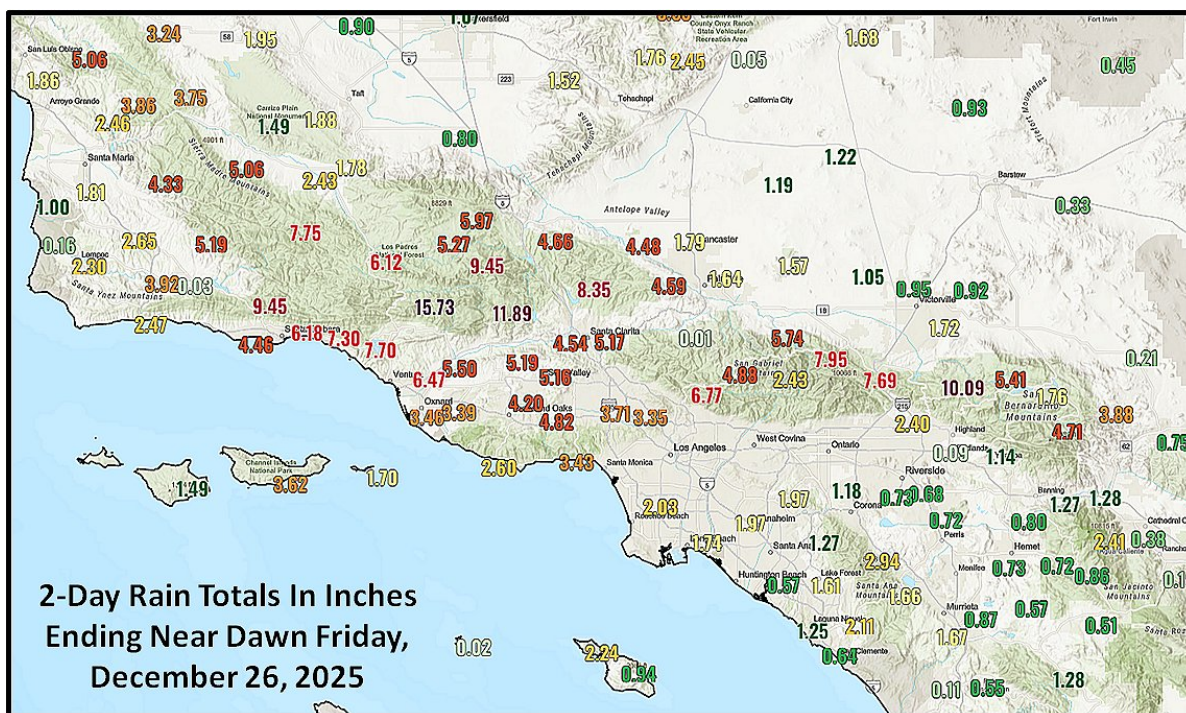


Second Flood Event Hits Southern California During Christmas

By Drew Lerner

Kansas City, December 26 (World Weather Inc.) – Severe flooding resulted in the Los Angeles Basin in southern California during the Christmas holiday. The event was a near duplicate of the flood event that impacted the same region November 15 – 18 causing extensive damage and impacting travel. The excessive precipitation event resulted from a combination of factors including unusually warm ocean surface temperatures between Hawaii and California and a series of weather disturbances moving through the region picking up greater moisture from the ocean as they moved inland. The Sierra Nevada and other areas in northern California were also impacted. World Weather, Inc. suggests there is some potential for another wave of significant rain in the first days of February.



Some impressive rainfall occurred in southern California impacting the Los Angeles Basin the past two days. Moisture totals of 2.65 to more than 6.50 inches resulted with much greater amounts in the mountains to the immediate north. Some of the mountainous areas north of the Los Angeles Basin reported rainfall of 6.00 to 15.73 inches. Flooding in the Los Angeles Basin was significant with damage to personal property, some businesses and infrastructure.

A similar weather pattern occurred November 15-18 producing similar moisture totals. These two events produced some impressive moisture totals surpassing the normal annual rainfall in some areas. The pattern could repeat a third time in the early part of February if ocean temperatures do not cool sufficiently soon.

The series of storm systems impacting the Los Angeles area impacted northern California and southwestern Oregon earlier this week. The Christmas series of the storms,

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though, produced 3-5 feet of snow in elevated areas above 7000 feet in the Sierra Nevada. Moisture totals in some of the mountainous region varied from 3.00 to 6.00 inches with local totals getting up to 9.48 inches in some of the southern mountains.

Additional heavy rain and mountain snow will impact the Sierra Nevada, Los Angeles Basin and some of the northern mountains of California today and early Saturday. Another 0.50 to 2.00 inches of moisture is expected before the precipitation finally abates. There will be some other periodic rain events in the coming two weeks, but none of those will produce excessive moisture like that of the past two days.

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