



# NEWS



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## HI-DESERT WATER SAYS AVOID ROADS UNDER CONSTRUCTION DURING THE RAIN

Staff Writer, Z107.7 FM News  
Posted: February 5, 2019

With rain continuing in Yucca Valley today, the Hi-Desert Water District is advising commuters to avoid roads under construction, particularly in the areas of Onaga Trail and Yucca Trail.

Just this reminder that if you need sandbags to protect your home or property, you can get free bags from your local fire station. However, be advised that Morongo Valley Fire Department only gives out 5 free sandbags, and **county fire** stations give out 10. If you need more, you can get them from Home Depot or Harbor Freight in Yucca Valley.

<http://z1077fm.com/hi-desert-water-says-avoid-roads-under-construction-during-the-rain/>

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## Brrr! Snow in Lake Elsinore, Yucaipa, Devore? It's possible this week

Beatriz E. Valenzuela, San Bernardino Sun  
Posted: February 4, 2019, 1:07 PM



Danny Candelaria, of Seven Oaks, left, removes snow chains from his truck as Holly Haas looks on along Hwy 38, north of Forest Falls in the San Bernardino National Forest on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. (Photo by Watchara Phomicinda, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

Snow! It's possible some of us will have to commute in the white stuff come Tuesday.

Forecasters are predicting lower-than-usual snow levels Tuesday night, Feb. 5, several agencies — including Caltrans and sheriff's departments — are getting ready for what could be a chaotic situation on the roadways.

“The storm will produce lower temperatures and possible snow levels down to 1,500 feet, affecting the afternoon and evening commute (Tuesday),” said Terri Kasinga, spokeswoman for Caltrans. “Winds up to 40 mph and low visibility is also expected during the storm.”

A very cold low-pressure system is moving into the region from the north, according to National Weather Service Meteorologist Jimmy Taeger. “It's colder than what we'd usually see,” he said.

These wintry conditions could impact highways across the region, including:

- 15 Freeway: From Devore to the High Desert; in Mountain Pass at State Line; and from Lake Elsinore to Wildomar — if snow at or below the 2,500-foot elevation
- 10 Freeway: From Yucaipa to Banning
- Highway 62: In higher elevations such as Yucca Valley and Joshua Tree
- Highway 74 (Ortega Highway): Between Lake Elsinore and Orange County

- Highway 79: From San Jacinto to Beaumont.
- Highway 60: From Moreno Valley to Beaumont.
- All mountain routes, including Highway 74 from Hemet to Palm Desert.

Caltrans, **San Bernardino County Fire** and sheriff's officials advise residents remain vigilant and drive cautiously.

“In seasons past where we’ve seen snow levels drop to the valley floor, it typically creates a beautiful picture for a few hours down here with a potential uptick in traffic-related incidents,” according to Eric Sherwin, spokesman with the San Bernardino County Fire Department. “We recommend that commuters exercise a high level of caution when driving as roads have the potential to be slick — more so than during rains — and possibly icy.”

Depending on the location, according to NWS, some areas could see a small accumulation of snow Tuesday night, but it will mostly dissipate.

Although seemingly rare, snow at levels as low as 2,500 feet is not as uncommon as some may think.

“Snow levels drop this low, I’d say, a couple of times a year,” said Taeger. “But because in the last few years we didn’t have that many storm systems it only happened maybe once, but during a normal year we may see it a couple of times a year.”

On New Year’s Eve 2014, snow fell on portions of Temecula, Wildomar and Murrieta catching residents by surprise.

Temperatures in the Inland Empire, including Yucaipa, Banning and Portions of Lake Elsinore could drop to the mid 20s to lower 30s Tuesday night. They will then warm to about the mid 30s and lower 40s Wednesday, according to the NWS.

A series of storms have brought spurts of heavy rain to areas of Southern California, prompting some evacuation warnings and debris flows.

Periods of heavy rain over the next 48 to 72 hours could trigger debris flows in the Holy fire burn area, according to RivCoReady. Officials urge residents in the area to be prepared to evacuate.

Although there could be a slight break in the wet weather midweek, more rain could be moving into the region later in the week.

<https://www.sbsun.com/2019/02/04/brrr-snow-in-lake-elsinore-yucaipa-devore-its-possible-this-week/>

## **San Bernardino man killed in collision with a box truck**

Staff Writer, Highland Community News

Posted: February 4, 2019

A 55-year-old San Bernardino man was killed last Friday when his car ran into the rear of a box truck, the coroner reports.

At 11:57 a.m., San Bernardino Police Department officers and **San Bernardino County Fire Department** paramedics responded to the collision at Palm and Irvington avenues in San Bernardino.

The driver was taken to Community Hospital of San Bernardino, where he was pronounced dead at 12:46 p.m.

The San Bernardino Police Department is investigating the collision. The name is being withheld until his family is notified of the death.

[https://www.highlandnews.net/news/public\\_safety/san-bernardino-man-killed-in-collision-with-a-box-truck/article\\_34652f06-28d7-11e9-9ee3-9738db085704.html](https://www.highlandnews.net/news/public_safety/san-bernardino-man-killed-in-collision-with-a-box-truck/article_34652f06-28d7-11e9-9ee3-9738db085704.html)

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## **Video Shows Officer Rescuing 84-Year-Old Yucca Valley Man From Vehicle Swept in Flood Water**

Kristina Bravo, KTLA 5 News

Posted: February 4, 2019, 10:20 AM

The weekend's storm led to heavy flooding in Yucca Valley, where officers had to rescue an 84-year-old resident from a vehicle that had been swept by a rush of water.

The video-recorded incident happened Saturday around 6:20 p.m. in the area of Yucca Mesa Road and Barron Drive, according to the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

Deputies and the **San Bernardino County Fire Department** responded to the scene after receiving a report of a man, later identified as Thomas Mallon, stuck in his car.

"Mallon was still trapped inside and was surrounded by fast moving and rising water," a statement from the Sheriff's Department said. "Due to the steep banks, high winds and torrential rain, ground units were unable to access the vehicle from the shore."

Dive team members were deployed on a patrol helicopter from the Apple Valley Airport.

One of them, Detective Mark Rios, was lowered to the roof of the vehicle and managed to break the back window to extricate Mallon. The officer pulled the 84-year-old from the car and placed into a harness.

Mallon had a hard time moving after being in the frigid water for more than hour, the Sheriff's Department said.

The crew from the helicopter lifted Mallon and Rios at the same time through the harness, video shows.

Mallon was transported to the Hi-Desert Medical Center in Joshua Tree for his injuries, officials said.

Corporal Jon Anderson piloted the helicopter, and Deputy Cody Korkotsakis served as crew chief.

Rain over the weekend caused several incidents across Southern California. On the 5 Freeway in the Castaic area, a volunteer with the Ventura County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team died Saturday after being hit by a vehicle while assisting in another crash.

Heavy precipitation throughout the region was expected to continue Monday.

<https://ktla.com/2019/02/04/video-shows-officer-rescuing-84-year-old-yucca-valley-man-from-vehicle-swept-in-flood-water/>