Statewide Situation Key Messages
9/01/23
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Daily Focus – Local Assistance Center Open in San Bernardino County to Assist Those Impacted by Tropical Storm Hilary

In partnership with San Bernardino County, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) has opened a Local Assistance Center (LAC) in Yucaipa.

LACs are activated following disasters to support survivors and businesses suffering disaster-related losses or damages. Each center is locally operated with support from state agencies, federal partners and non-profit organizations.

Open noon to 8 p.m. on August 31 and September 1, 2023:

Address:
Yucaipa Community Center
34900 Oak Glen Road
Yucaipa, CA 92399

State Agencies:
- Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Franchise Tax Board (FTB)
- California Department of Insurance (CDI)
- Contractors State License Board (CSLB)
Daily Focus – Planada Community Center Re-Emerges Following Flood

The state of California weathered multiple atmospheric rivers in early 2023. On January 27, the town of Planada, located in Merced County, was inundated by heavy rain that ultimately led to uncontrollable flood water entering the town and inundating the community center.

On April 4, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., approved a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration, allowing counties like Merced to apply for public assistance funding. Public Assistance applies to emergency work, repair and/or replacement of disaster-damaged public facilities and infrastructure.

The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), along with state and local partners, helped the county recover from the February and March storms by coordinating resources, support and funding to rebuild. This support inevitably helped reconstruct the interior of the damaged Planada Community Center building, originally built in 1952.

“Planada’s Community Center reopening is a turning point in the town’s recovery. We're proud to work with local, state and federal partners to ensure the storm survivors can properly recover and rebuild,” Ryan Buras, Cal OES Deputy Director of Recovery.

August 15 marks a new milestone for the town of Planada as they reopen their community center for the first time since the building was flooded. Residents once again can gather, hold events and come together as a community.

“After several months of flood restoration, we're excited to reopen the Planada Community Center. Planada will now be able to celebrate special events and provide continued services for residents,” Cesilia Leon, Deputy Director for Merced County Human Services Agency (HSA)

“The Planada Community Center is the heart of our town. Now that it's officially open everyone who lives here can begin to enjoy it once again,” anonymous community member.

For more information on the February and March Storms.
Daily Focus – Centro comunitario de Planada reabrió sus puertas
El estado de California enfrentó una serie de Ríos atmosféricos durante los primeros meses del 2023, y el 27 de enero una de las poblaciones más afectadas en el Condado de Merced, sería la comunidad de Planada. La intensa lluvia provocaría inundaciones y dañaría varias estructuras, entre ellas, el centro comunitario.

El 4 de abril, el Presidente Joseph R. Biden, Jr. aprobó la declaración presidencial de desastre mayor, lo que permitió que condados como Merced recibieran la ayuda necesaria para salir adelante, a través del fondo de asistencia pública. La asistencia pública cubre labores de emergencia, reparación o remplazo de estructuras y otros daños generados por el desastre natural.

La Oficina de Servicios de Emergencia del Gobernador (Cal OES), de la mano de agencias locales y estatales, ha ayudado en el proceso de recuperación del condado afectado por las tormentas registradas durante los meses de febrero y marzo, coordinando recursos y apoyando en las labores de reconstrucción. Este apoyo fue vital en la reconstrucción del Centro Comunitario de Planada, construido originalmente en 1952.

“La reapertura del centro comunitario de Planada es un punto de partida en la recuperación de este Pueblo. Estamos orgullos de trabajar con las agencias locales, estatales y federales involucradas en este proceso de ayuda a todos los sobrevivientes” Ryan Buras, Director Adjunto de Recuperación de Cal OES.

El 15 de agosto se convierte en una fecha especial para el pueblo de Planada, ya que establece la reapertura de un centro que es muy importante para todos sus residentes.

“Después de varios meses de trabajar en la reparación de los daños generados por la tormenta, estamos muy emocionados de poder reabrir el centro comunitario de Planada. Planada podrá ahora celebrar eventos especiales y brindar servicios de manera constante a sus residentes,” Directora Adjunta de la Agencia de Servicios Humanos del Condado de Merced (HAS).
“El centro comunitario de Planada es el corazón de nuestro pueblo. Y ahora que finalmente reabrió sus puertas, todos los miembros de esta comunidad podrán disfrutarlo nuevamente” miembro comunitario anónimo.

Más información sobre las tormentas registradas en febrero y marzo.

Daily Focus – Safety Tips for Outdoor Activities
As the summer’s last hurrah, Labor Day can be synonymous with outdoor activity. If you’re looking to spend time outside this weekend, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) wants to remind you about the importance of staying safe.

Here are some tips if you’re planning to go hiking – or spend extended time outside – during the remaining summer days:

- Take plenty of water
- Wear sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses
- Take breaks in the shade, if possible
- Take a fully charged mobile phone and let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be back
- Wear loose, lightweight clothing and sturdy shoes with traction
- Follow all posted safety rules
- Bring extra food, a flashlight, a first aid kit, a multi-purpose tool and a whistle

MAKE A PLAN
It’s important to plan before you leave your home. Whether you’re camping, hiking or just going outside for some relaxing, know the route you’ll be taking and how long you plan to be gone.

Tell a responsible person about your plans and when you anticipate you’ll be home. If you don’t come back in a reasonable amount of time, they can notify local authorities and provide them with details that can be really important if you need to be rescued.

BE PREPARED
Even if you don’t plan on being outdoors for very long, it’s important to be prepared for changing conditions or being gone longer than expected. Pack extra resources including food, water and clothing. Weather
conditions can change quickly, so it’s best to have extra layers in case you’re out later in the day and it starts to cool off. Packing ahead of time will ensure you’re prepared for any situation.

If you’ll be hiking, ensure you have plenty of water and food. It’s easy to get off trail so you might end up out longer than you anticipated.

CHECK THE WEATHER
It’s best to be prepared for any and all situations. Checking the weather for the day of your trip ensures you know what clothing to wear and what additional supplies you may need. It’s also a good idea to check the weather for the following day and pack additional supplies. If you end up stuck outside overnight, you’ll be prepared with additional resources until help arrives.

DON’T FORGET YOUR PETS
Many people want to go outside and take their pets with them. Be sure to limit their exercise if it’s a hot day and always provide plenty of water for them to drink. Most importantly, never leave your pet in a hot vehicle.

Daily Focus – Consider These Beach Safety Tips Before Planning Your Next Trip
Swimming in high tides can be dangerous, especially for young children or inexperienced swimmers. Before you plan your next beach trip, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) wants you and your family to stay safe and keep these safety tips in mind:

- Before heading to the beach, check your local beach conditions to identify the wave forecast: When waves are two to three feet high or greater, you are likely to have strong rip currents.

- Never swim alone: In case of an emergency, having a partner ensures someone is there to call for help.

- Always be cautious, especially when swimming at unguarded beaches: Whenever possible, swim at a lifeguard protected beach. Obey all instructions and orders from lifeguards.
• If caught in a rip current, remain calm to conserve energy, and think clearly: Don’t fight the current. Swim out of the current in a direction following the shoreline. When out of the current, swim towards shore. If you are unable to swim out of the rip current, float or calmly tread water. When out of the current, swim towards shore.

• If you are still unable to reach shore, draw attention to yourself: face the shore, wave your arms, and yell for help.

• If you see someone in trouble, get help from a lifeguard: If a lifeguard is not available, have someone call 9-1-1. Throw the person a floatation device and yell instructions on how to remain afloat and away from the current. Do not enter the water to rescue them.

Daily Focus – Recreate Safely With these Boating Safety Tips
Before you head out to your local lake or river, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) wants you and your family to recreate safely. Here are a few boating tips to consider:

• Conduct a Vessel Check: Make sure you have the right safety equipment on board your boat such as life jackets, flares, navigation lights, a horn or whistle, and a first aid kit.

• Make a Float Plan: Email or text a float plan to a loved one or friend with details of your trip in the event of an emergency.

• Wear a Life Jacket: Everyone should wear a properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket when in or near the water. You never know when an accident may happen, and a life jacket can help save you until search and rescue help can arrive. In swift water, even the strongest swimmers may be easily overwhelmed. By the time a person is struggling in the water, a rescue is extremely unlikely and places the rescuer at risk.

• Avoid Alcohol: Do not drink and boat.
Actively Supervise Children: Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Do not assume that someone is watching them. Appoint a designated “water watcher,” taking turns with other adults. Teach children that swimming in open water is not the same as swimming in a pool: they need to be aware of uneven surfaces, river currents, ocean undertow and changing weather.

Daily Focus – BBQ Safety this Holiday Weekend

Labor Day is time to remember and celebrate the men and women who fought for workers’ rights in the United States. The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) would like everyone to honor and celebrate safely this Labor Day weekend.

Labor Day this year is accompanied by warmer weather and celebrations, but with that comes risk for fires. Grilling is popular when the weather is nice, but grill fires can easily start and spread quickly, BBQ safety is important this year as we enter into peak wildfire season.

Tips to avoid a grill disaster:
- Do not use your propane or charcoal grill inside your home, garage or hanging branches.
- Grills should be set up away from eaves, deck railings and your home.
- Do not use an uncleaned grill to BBQ, this can cause unwanted fires and safety concerns.
- Never leave your grill unattended especially when children and pets are nearby.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, “an average of 22,155 patients per year went to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills”.

Tips to follow when grilling.
- Propane and charcoal grills should only be used outdoors.
- Set up your grill on a flat, stable nonflammable surface like concrete.
- To prevent unwanted grill fires, clean your grill in between uses.
- Grilling with friends and family is fun but keeping pets and children away from the grill can help prevent unwanted injury.
As California prepares to celebrate a holiday founded “when labor activists pushed for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America’s strength, prosperity, and well-being.” Cal OES urges everyone to celebrate safety and responsibly.

**Daily Focus – It’s Time to Prep: Get You and Your Family Ready for the Next Disaster**

California is no stranger to disasters of all kinds that can strike at any time and because of that, it’s important to be prepared for anything.

With National Preparedness Month quickly approaching, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) encourages all Californians to take simple steps to be prepared.

Preparing now can reduce the stress you and your family could experience due to an emergency situation.

**BEFORE A DISASTER**

There are things you can do now and throughout the year, to prepare you and your family for the next disaster.

Sign up for emergency alerts through your county to ensure you’re informed when something happens.

Talk with your family about an emergency plan. Know what you’ll do in the event of a major disaster and how you’ll reconnect with loved ones.

- Where will you meet if you need to evacuate your home?
- Who will contact who when the emergency happens?
- What is the best evacuation route away from your home?

If you need to leave your home quickly during an emergency, a go-bag will help ensure that you have important items with you. Keep the go-bag in an easily accessible area so you can grab it as you head out the door.

Some important items for your go-bag include:

- Food and water to last several days
- Medications
- First aid kit
• Important documents
• Cell phone charger

Don’t forget about our furry and feathered friends, our pets! Create a go-bag for them as well with food and water and vaccination records.

DURING A DISASTER
It’s important to stay tuned to update from local officials and if told to evacuate, don’t wait!

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
Additional go-bag information: click here
Animal preparedness: click here

Daily Focus – What to Know During a Drinking Water Emergency
In times of unexpected drinking water emergencies, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) encourages everyone to be well-informed to safeguard the health of yourself and your loved ones.

Understanding Unsafe Water Notices
Unsafe Water Notices are critical tools used to communicate potential risks associated with water contamination. These notices are issued by water service providers or local governments in response to varying degrees of water contamination:

• Boil Water Notice: A Boil Water Notice is issued when the water supply is compromised by microbiological contamination that can be neutralized through boiling. The recommended method is to bring the water to a rolling boil for at least one minute which effectively eliminates most disease-causing microorganisms. If you are unable to boil the water, find alternative sanitation methods from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

• Do Not Drink Notice: When the water supply is deemed unsafe due to a contaminant that cannot be removed through boiling or disinfection, a Do Not Drink Notice is issued. In such cases, it’s
important to find an alternate source of water for drinking, food preparation and brushing teeth. While the contaminant may not pose a threat through bodily contact, it’s recommended to avoid using this water for activities involving consumption or oral contact.

- **Do Not Use Notice**: A Do Not Use Notice is employed when a water supply is considered unsafe due to suspected or unknown contamination, or when a known contaminant poses a health risk through bodily contact. In these situations, it’s advised to seek an alternative water source for all purposes, including drinking, food preparation, brushing teeth, personal hygiene and other household tasks. This notice may also be issued as a precautionary measure when the quality of water is uncertain.

Unsafe Water Notices will help you make informed decisions and take the necessary precautions during drinking water emergencies. For more detailed guidance and information, you can refer to [CDPH’s Safe Drinking Water Guide](#).

**Determine Water Needs**

Clean drinking water may not be available following a disaster. Your regular water source could be cut off, compromised or contaminated. Prepare yourself by building a supply of water that will meet your family’s needs during an emergency. View the [recommended emergency supplies list](#).

Store at least one gallon of water per person per day for several days, for drinking and sanitation. A normally active person needs about three-quarters of a gallon of fluid daily, from water and other beverages. However, individual needs vary depending on age, health, physical condition, activity, diet and climate.

Take the following into account:
- Children, nursing mothers and sick people may need more water.
- A medical emergency might require additional water.
- If you live in a warm weather climate more water may be necessary. In very hot temperatures, water needs can double.
Daily Focus – Weather Update

NWS Sacramento - Showers and isolated thunderstorms (20-50% probability) are possible Today-Sunday, mainly over the mountains and the northern Sacramento Valley. Main impacts are lightning, small hail, gusty winds, and brief heavy rain. When thunder roars, go indoors.

NWS Hanford - High temperatures throughout Central California this afternoon will be nearly ten degrees lower than yesterday afternoon. Maximum temperatures across Central California Thursday afternoon will be around ten degrees below normal for this time of year.
NWS Los Angeles - Showers chances thru Sunday, highest on Saturday. Rain is far from certain, but minor impacts to #LaborDay activities possible. Any rain should be light, but some foothill areas (like #Montecito #LaCrescenta #Ojai) may see several hours of steady light rain adding up to 0.50 inches.
Daily Focus – California Mobilizes Firefighting Resources Ahead of Red Flag Weather

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The state is prepositioning firefighting equipment and resources as the first red flag warning of the year has been issued for much of the Northern Sacramento Valley.

SACRAMENTO – As much of the Northern Sacramento Valley faces its first red flag warning of the year forecasting critical fire weather conditions, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the state has mobilized firefighting resources and equipment to communities most at risk.

What Governor Newsom said: “While wildfire season is year-round in California, we’re heading into some of the most challenging months for fire weather – and we’re better equipped than ever before. We’ve sent additional equipment and firefighters to where the latest weather and prediction technology shows the greatest wildfire risk, and are using some of the most advanced tools in the world to detect and monitor new wildfires.”

In addition to the prepositioned resources, California is leveraging technologies like AI to fight fires faster and smarter, saving countless lives and communities from destruction.

As reported by the Los Angeles Times, CAL FIRE recently launched a pilot program that uses AI to monitor live camera feeds and issues alerts if anomalies are detected. Already, the program has successfully alerted CAL FIRE to 77 fires before any 911 calls were made.

Governor Newsom and the Legislature have made record investments in recent years in forest wildfire resiliency totaling $2.8 billion.

How You Can Prevent Wildfires & Stay Safe from Smoke

- Vehicle Safety: prevent sparks from your vehicle by securing chains, removing dragging parts and checking tire pressure

- Ready, Set Go! (tips from ReadyforWildfire.org)
  - Be Ready: Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.
• **Get Set**: Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate. Ensure you have a plan of what to take and where to go. Ask friends or relatives outside your area if you would be able to stay with them, should the need arise.

• **Be Ready to GO!**: When wildfire strikes, go early for your safety. Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

• **Smoke Safety** (tips from *Smoke Ready California*):
  - Download California's **Smoke Spotter App** (available in both English and Spanish)
  - Check your local AQI and listen to local officials
  - Avoid breathing smoke and stay indoors when possible
  - Use N95 masks
  - Install air filters

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**Daily Focus – Spring Flood Recovery Update**

**MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION**

Governor Gavin Newsom requested a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration on March 28, 2023, in response to the February and March storms, which was approved by President Joe R. Biden on April 3, 2023. The disaster is declared as California Severe Winter Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides (DR-4699-CA).

The President has the authority to declare a Major Disaster Declaration for any natural event that is deemed to have caused damage beyond the capacity of state and local governments to manage. This declaration offers a broad range of federal assistance programs to support public infrastructure and individuals affected by the disaster.

**CURRENT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR THIS FEDERAL MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION** (Updated July 26, 2023)

Please note that this Major Disaster Declaration is specific to the impacts of the February and March storms. To find information on the ongoing impacts of the January storms visit: [2023 Winter Storms Recovery](#).
Additional areas may be requested and added following further damage assessments for counties not presently covered by FEMA’s Major Disaster Declaration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Counties Designated</th>
<th>Individual Assistance</th>
<th>Public Assistance</th>
<th>Hazard Mitigation Assistance</th>
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What it means

Individuals and households in these designated counties are eligible to apply for financial and direct services. Apply for assistance, or learn more about the Individual Assistance program.

State, local, tribal, and territorial governments and certain private-non-profit organizations in these designated counties are eligible for assistance for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. Learn more about the Public Assistance program.

Assistance to state and local governments and certain private non-profit organizations for actions taken to prevent or reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural hazards.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Resource Centers

Disaster recovery centers are activated following a major disaster to aid individuals and businesses that have suffered losses or damages as a result of the disaster. These centers are locally driven and vary in structure, drawing support from local, state, federal, and non-profit organizations.

Federal Assistance
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- [California Secures Presidential Major Disaster Declaration to Support Storm Response and Recovery](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [Federal Assistance Now Available in Affected Counties Following February & March Storms](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News

Small Business Administration (SBA)

Individuals and business owners who sustained losses in the designated areas can apply for disaster assistance:
- Online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov)
- Calling 800-621-3362
- By using the FEMA smartphone application

If you use a relay service, such as video relay service (VRS), captioned telephone service or others, give FEMA the number for that service.

**State Assistance**
Franchise Tax Board
- [Tax Deadline Extended for Many Californians in Disaster Declared Counties](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News

California Department of Social Services
Employment Development Department
- [New Disaster Unemployment Assistance benefits declared for workers impacted by winter storms in seven California counties](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News

Department of Justice

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL**
- [California Continues its All-In Mission to Recover from the 2023 February and March Storms](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [State to Mobilize Flood Outreach Effort to One Million Californians](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [California Storm Response and Recovery Update](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [Governor Newsom Expands Storm State of Emergency to Four Additional Counties](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [Be Alert to Fraud After a Disaster](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [Central Valley Recovery Efforts: The Return of Tulare Lake](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
- [More California Counties Added to Presidential Major Disaster Declaration](https://caloes.gov/news) | Cal OES News
Actions Taken by the State and Federal Government

August 30 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced the state has mobilized firefighting resources and equipment to communities most at risk ahead of red flag weather.

August 29 – Governor Gavin Newsom announced the deployment of urban search and rescue (US&R) personnel from California to assist those in the path of Hurricane Idalia.

August 20 - As Tropical Storm Hilary made landfall in Southern California, Governor Newsom met with impacted communities and first responders leading the initial recovery efforts. The Governor also expanded the number of counties under the state of emergency proclamation – ensuring more communities can access the support, services, and resources they need to respond and recover.

August 19 - Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency for much of Southern California to support Hurricane Hilary response and recovery efforts as the state continues mobilizing and coordinating resources ahead of the storm’s forecasted impacts. The text of the emergency proclamation can be found here.

August 17 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced that local communities would be receiving $72 million to prevent destructive wildfires and $25 million to bolster disaster warning systems.
August 10 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced the deployment of resources and urban search and rescue personnel to assist in the coordination and support of emergency response operations for the wildfires in Hawaii.

August 10 - Cal OES awarded more than $8.2 million under the “Jumpstart" portion of the Prepare California Program for local infrastructure improvements designed to protect people and property.

August 4 - Governor Newsom signed an executive order to streamline levee repairs and debris removal to help local communities recover from flooding and prepare for the next wet season. This is the latest in a series of actions to protect communities and conserve water from record rain and snowfall. A copy of the executive order can be found here.

August 3 - California announced a new initiative with the Chinese province of Hainan in the global fight against climate change. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed outlines five areas of cooperation between California and Hainan: cutting air pollution, developing and implementing climate adaptation and carbon neutrality plans, advancing clean energy, accelerating zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) and driving nature-based solutions.

July 27 - President Biden received a briefing on extreme heat conditions and announced steps his Administration is taking to help cities and states fight heat.

July 24 - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) expanded Public Assistance to six additional counties impacted by the February and March storms: the Counties of Alameda, Imperial, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Ventura.

July 24 - Supporting California communities impacted by the February and March severe storms, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) received from the federal government and received an extension for Californians to apply for federal assistance until September 1, 2023.

July 20 - Working to fortify state and local resources to keep Californians safe from all-hazard disasters, Cal OES has created a first-in-the-state partnership with a Tribal Nation. Through an agreement with the state, the Pala Band of Mission Indians and Pala Fire Department are now a partner of the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.

July 13 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced CAL FIRE is providing $47 million in grants to help schools convert asphalt to green spaces and plant trees and other
vegetation – adding cooler spaces essential to protecting kids from dangerous extreme heat.

**July 11** - California sends Urban Search & Rescue Teams to Vermont to support severe flooding response

**July 11** - California launches “Heat Ready CA” campaign to help protect communities from extreme heat, which is the deadliest form of climate-driven extreme weather.

**July 3** – Cal OES announced the approval in late May of $582,639 in California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding to help Inyo County cover eligible costs related to the replacement of a bridge over Pine Creek that failed due to severe erosion of the river’s bank caused by excessive snow and rain generated by storms in January and February 2017, as well as the cost of measures to protect the slope of the river’s bank.

**July 3** – Cal OES announced the approval last month of $583,456.50 in California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding to help Placer County cover eligible costs of clearing roadways and access to public facilities made roadways impassable by the record-setting snowfall generated by the December 2021 Winter Storms.