Global forecast models indicate the potential for a strong atmospheric river to make landfall in Southern California as early as Wednesday, Feb. 13.

**Forecast Highlights:**
- The AR is forecast to make landfall over Northern CA this afternoon before making landfall over Southern California tomorrow morning.
- Models currently suggest maximum integrated vapor transport (IVT) magnitudes could be >750 kg m\(^{-1}\) s\(^{-1}\) (strong) over a large portion of coastal Southern California.
- The current forecast AR magnitude and duration from this event would equate to an AR-Cat 4 event over California based on the recently published AR Category Scale (Ralph et al. 2019).

**Large ensemble variability in IVT magnitude at the end of the event introduces uncertainties in the overall duration of the event.**
- NOAA Weather Prediction Center is currently forecasting as much as 3–7 inches of precipitation over high elevations during the next 5-days.
- Higher precipitation amounts are forecast for Northern California as the parent low-pressure system associated with this AR is forecast to move inland and remain situated over N. CA for ~48 hours.

**Additional Considerations:**
- High freezing-levels (~4,000 feet), combined with the recent heavy snowfall in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, increases the potential for rain on snow at lower levels and introduces the concern for high run-off and flooding in the Central Valley and Sierra Foothills.
- Visit [https://cnrfc.noaa.gov/](https://cnrfc.noaa.gov/) for specific river and stream forecast and weather.gov for point specific watches and warnings.

In-depth AR forecasts products can be found here: [http://cw3e.ucsd.edu/ivw-and-ivt-forecasts/] (http://cw3e.ucsd.edu/ivw-and-ivt-forecasts/)  
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Stay tuned to the CW3E webpage for a full AR Update