A strong atmospheric river (AR) is making landfall along the California Coast. The AR is propagating south and will have mostly moved through California by the end of today, with remnant moisture penetrating into Arizona, New Mexico and northern Mexico.

Forecast Highlights:

- The AR was/will be a CAT 3 along most of the California coast based on the recently published AR Category Scale (Ralph et al. 2019). If the AR duration is longer than forecasted for Southern California the category could increase to an AR CAT 4.
- The decrease in category was a result of lower than forecasted maximum IVT in the Bay area and shorter than forecasted duration in Southern California.
- Heaviest precipitation in Southern California is expected to occur through the morning and afternoon today, bringing increased hazard potential (https://www.weather.gov/sgx/)

AR IVT magnitude and duration for San Diego area. The AR Cat is based on both the Global Forecast System analysis and Global Ensemble Forecast system mean.

CNRFC river forecasts. For more information, please visit https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/

Impacts:

- In the last 24 hours Northern California coastal ranges and the northern Sierra Nevada received 5-6.5 inches of precipitation at higher elevations. Locations in the Bay Area received 2-5 inches.

- Currently the California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) is forecasting 1 river gauge to go above danger stage, 14 river gauges to go above flood stage and 22 to go above monitor stage. Visit 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/iwv-and-ivt-forecasts/

Update provided by J. Kalansky
jkalansky@ucsd.edu

Stay tuned to the CW3E webpage for a full AR Update