

## Quick Look at Weekend Precipitation Event in Southern California

*Updated: 24 January 2025*

A low-pressure system will bring rain and high-elevation snow to portions of Southern California this weekend into early next week.

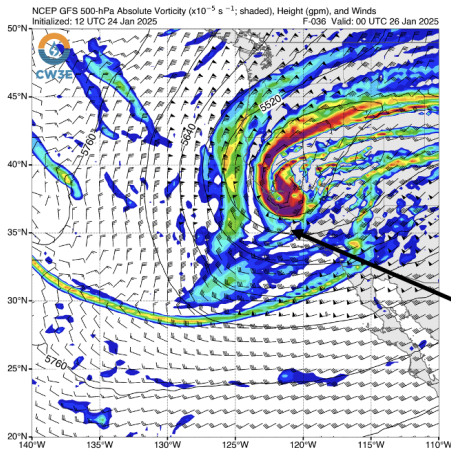
### Forecast Highlights:

- A weak low-pressure system and an associated mid-level shortwave trough are forecast to slowly propagate down the US West Coast during the next few days.
- Although moisture will be somewhat limited, southerly-to-southwesterly low-to-mid-level winds may support upslope moisture flux, particularly over the Transverse Ranges.
- Given the ongoing fire situation, precipitation from this system will likely be beneficial in terms of facilitating fire containment efforts and deterring new fires from initiating.
- The NWS Weather Prediction Center (WPC) is forecasting 1–3 inches of precipitation in the eastern Transverse Ranges and 0.75–1.5 inches of precipitation elsewhere in coastal Southern California through early Mon 27 Jan.
- The WPC has issued a **marginal risk ( $\geq 5\%$ ; level 1 of 4)** excessive rainfall outlook (ERO) for coastal Southern California Sat 25 Jan into early Mon 27 Jan.
- This ERO has been issued in response to an increase in forecast precipitation and the potential for higher-intensity rainfall (0.25+ inches/hour) in thunderstorms, which could trigger localized flash flooding and debris flows, particularly over recent burn scars in the Transverse Ranges and Peninsular Ranges.
- Freezing levels are forecast to drop below 6,000 feet by Sun morning (26 Jan), allowing for accumulating snowfall in the higher terrain of the Transverse Ranges.
- The NWS is forecasting at least 6 inches of total snowfall above 6,000 feet in the Transverse Ranges, with 12 inches or more possible in San Gabriel Mountains.
- After a prolonged period of dry conditions, extended-range and subseasonal forecast products are indicating the potential for landfalling AR activity along the US West Coast late next week into early February.

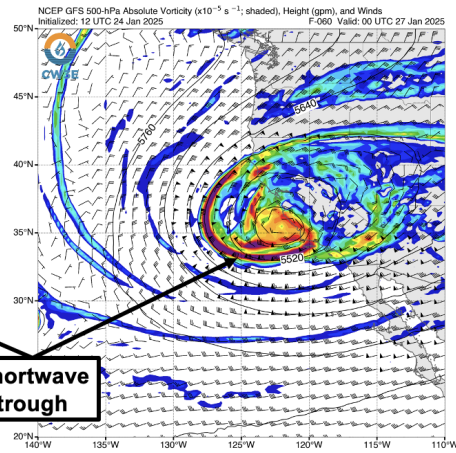
**Stay alert to official NWS forecasts, watches, and warnings at [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov) and follow guidance from local emergency management officials**

**GFS 500-hPa Vorticity & Geopotential Height**

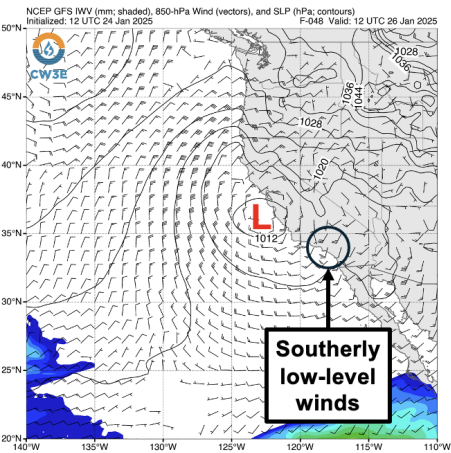
**Valid 4 PM PT 25 Jan (F-036)**



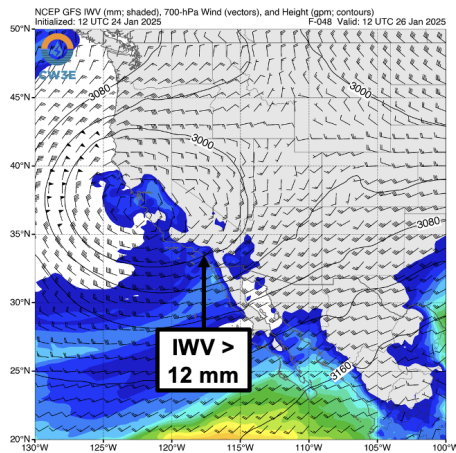
**Valid 4 PM PT 26 Jan (F-060)**



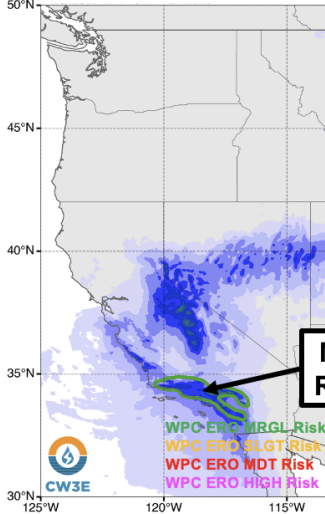
**GFS IWV, 850-hPa Wind, & SLP**  
**Valid 4 AM PT 26 Jan (F-048)**



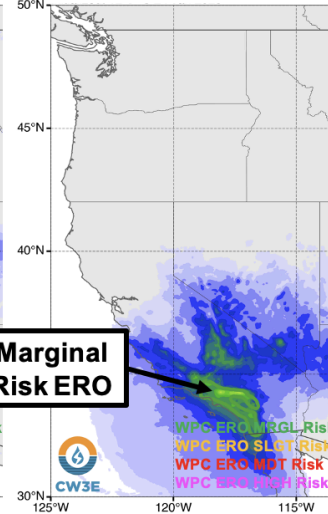
**GFS IWV & 700-hPa Wind/Geopotential Height**  
**Valid 4 AM PT 26 Jan (F-048)**



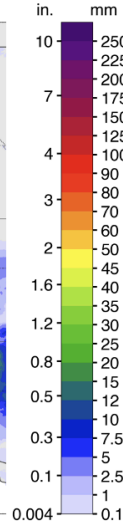
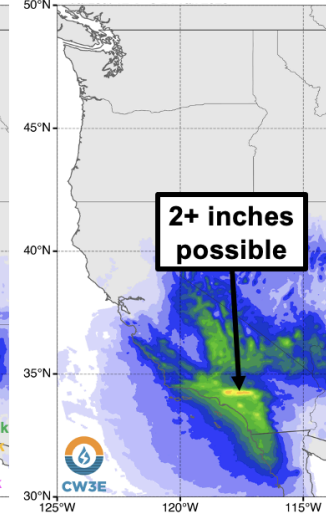
**WPC Day 2 24-h QPF**  
**Valid 4 AM PST 26 Jan**

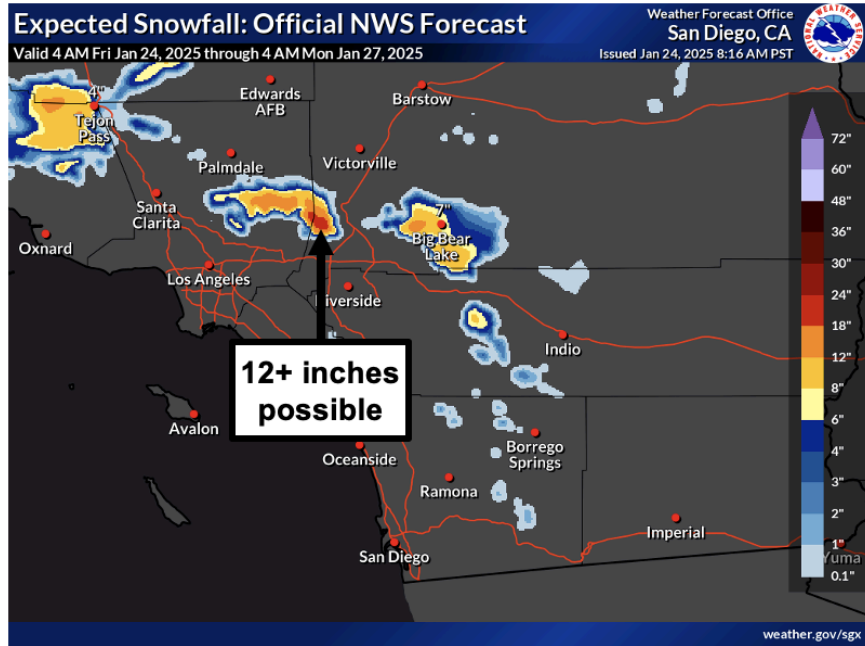
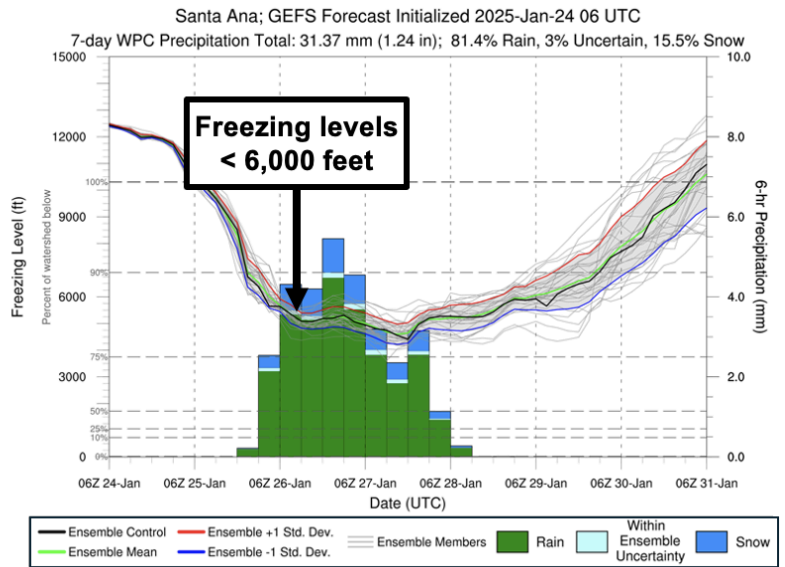
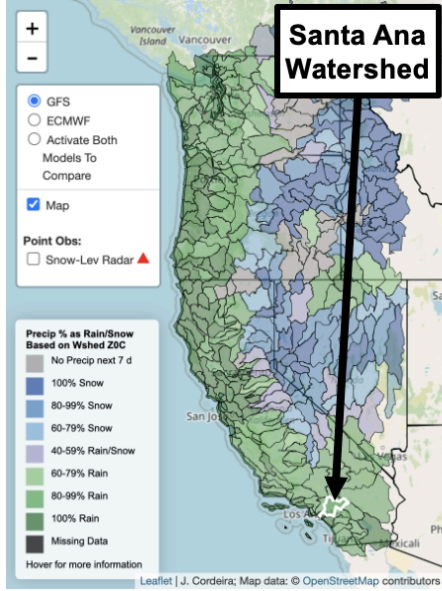


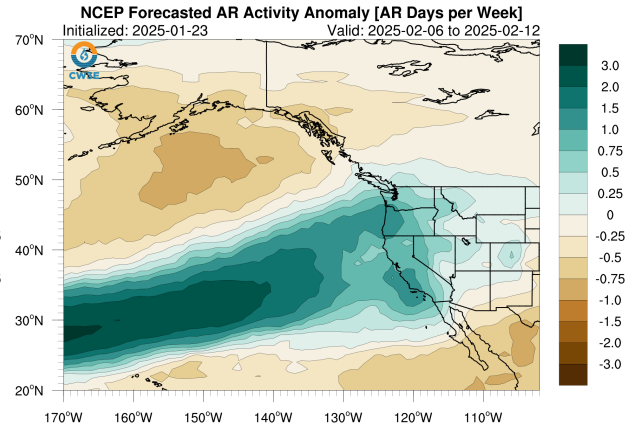
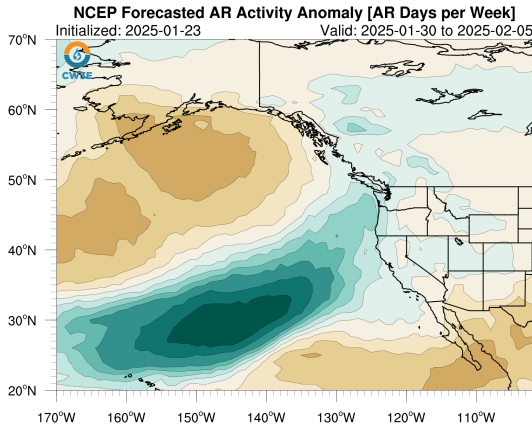
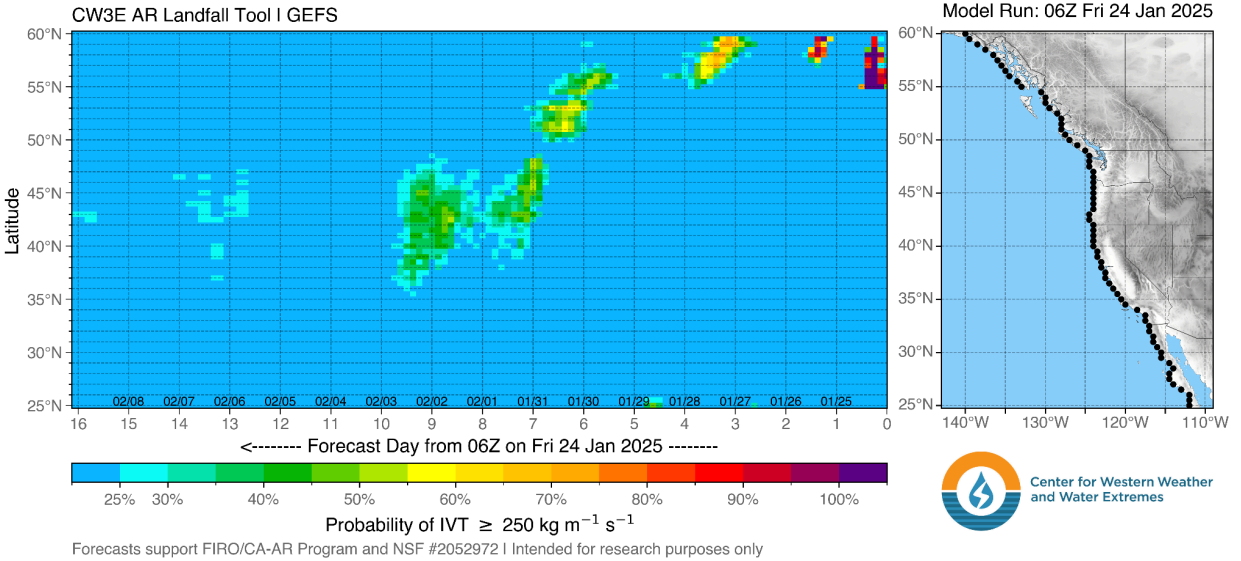
**WPC Day 3 24-h QPF**  
**Valid 4 AM PST 27 Jan**



**WPC 72-h Total QPF**  
**Valid 4 AM PST 28 Jan**







Additional Considerations:

- Visit [cnrfc.noaa.gov/](https://cnrfc.noaa.gov/) for specific river and stream forecasts and [weather.gov/](https://weather.gov/) for point specific watches, warnings, and forecasts.

In-depth AR forecasts products can be found here:  
<https://cw3e.ucsd.edu/iwv-and-ivt-forecasts/>

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