

3.2 Previous Flood Disasters Affecting Riverside County

The length of this section indicates the ongoing severity of the flood problem in Riverside County, as elsewhere.

3.2.1 Floods Meriting Disaster Proclamations

The following flood disasters affecting Riverside County resulted in either a Gubernatorial Proclamation of a State of Emergency or Presidential Major Disaster Declaration (California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, 2000):

1965 Heavy Rainfall: Abnormally heavy and continuous rainfall

Declared: **Riverside (11/24/65)**, San Bernardino, Ventura (11/26/65), San Diego (12/23/65)

Damage: public-\$5,826,239; private-\$16,017,500; TOTAL-\$21,843,739

1966 Winter Storms Abnormally heavy and continuous rainfall

Declared: Kern, **Riverside**, Tulare (12/9/66), San Bernardino, San Luis Obispo (12/13/66), Monterey (12/16/66), City of Escondido (San Diego County 12/16/66), Inyo (12/23/66)

Damage: public-\$14,599,391; private-\$14,161,650; TOTAL-\$28,761,041

1969 Storms Storms, flooding

Declared: Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo (1/23/69), Fresno, Inyo, **Riverside**, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Tulare, Ventura (1/25/69), Amador, El Dorado, Kern, Kings, Madera, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus, Tuolumne (1/28/69), Mariposa, Merced (1/29/69), Calaveras, San Benito, Sierra (2/8/69), Contra Costa, Humboldt, Mendocino, Sonoma (2/10/69), Plumas, Tehama, Yuba (2/16/69), Butte, Marin, Yolo (3/12/69)

47 dead, 161 injured

Damage: public-\$185 million; private-\$115 million; TOTAL-\$300 million

1976 High Winds and Flooding: High winds, heavy rains and flooding

Declared: Imperial, **Riverside (9/13/76)**, San Bernardino, San Diego (9/22/76)

Damage: public-\$65,743,671; private-\$54,389,100; TOTAL-\$120,132,771

1977 Threat of Floods/Mudslides

Declared: Monterey, **Riverside (9/8/77)**

Damage: \$6.110 million estimated

1978 Winter Storms

Declared: Inyo, Mono, San Diego, San Luis Obispo (3/9/78), Kings, Monterey (2/27/78), Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, **Riverside**, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Tulare, Ventura (2/13/78)