

DAMAGE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

DISASTER CA26-3

FEBRUARY 2026 STORMS

GLENN, HUMBOLDT, AND MENDOCINO COUNTIES

COMMENCING FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Prepared by:

California Department of Transportation
Division of Budgets
Federal Resources Office

Introduction

This Damage Survey Summary Report (DSSR) has been prepared for submission to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in response to a series of storm systems impacting Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties, which first began on February 15, 2026. According to FHWA's Emergency Relief Manual (May 2013), the purpose of this DSSR is to "summarize the damage assessment and provide information and documentation for the FHWA Division Administrator to make a finding that a natural disaster or catastrophic failure has occurred within the intent of 23 U.S.C. 125." The DSSR also "provides the Division Administrator with a basis to make a finding that the disaster is eligible for funding under the FHWA ER program."

Damage Description

Beginning February 15, 2026, a powerful storm system struck the State of California, bringing heavy rain and snowfall, wind gusts exceeding 65 miles per hour, and rising rivers across Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties. The storms affected roads and other critical infrastructures, resulted in erosion, washouts, undermined embankments, damaging structures and obstructing highways.

The Governor's Proclamation dated September 21, 2026, for the series of storms events impacting Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties. This Damage Survey Summary Report includes copies of the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation.

Damage Estimate

To date, the estimated cost to repair or reconstruct the damage to federal-aid highways in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 125 is \$8.6 million for State facilities, and currently no damages are reported by the Local agencies, subject to increase.

Additional Information

The following attached information describes the winter storm system damage in additional detail:

- Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation.
- State and Local damage estimates (to date).
- Sampling of newspaper articles.
- Sample pictures of reported damage sustained

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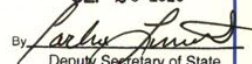
GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

26-068

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

FILED
in the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

SEP 29 2026

By 
Deputy Secretary of State

WHEREAS beginning on February 15, 2026, and lasting through February 24, 2026, a series of powerful storms impacted California ("February 2026 Storms"), including Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties; and

WHEREAS the February 2026 Storms resulted in heavy rain and snowfall, wind gusts exceeding 65 miles per hour, and rising rivers across Northern and Central California; and

WHEREAS on February 19, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued Freeze and Extreme Cold Warnings across Northern California which identified additional hazards for response efforts for the February 2026 Storms; and

WHEREAS the February 2026 Storms also resulted in damage to trees, roadways, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS the February 2026 Storms further resulted in debris accumulation that blocked transportation routes and required emergency repairs; and

WHEREAS the February 2026 Storms contributed to hazardous travel conditions, avalanche concerns, and widespread roadway disruptions across mountain passes throughout the Sierra Nevada; and

WHEREAS these storms significantly impacted Glenn County, resulting in road closures and hazardous travel conditions throughout the county, with County Road 306 reported as impassable due to storm damage and debris accumulation; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558 subdivision (b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the February 2026 Storms; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558 subdivision (b), I find that the conditions caused by the February 2026 Storms, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625 subdivision (c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the extreme peril posed by the February 2026 Storms; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the February 2026 Storms.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Glenn, Humboldt, and Mendocino Counties due to the February 2026 Storms.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

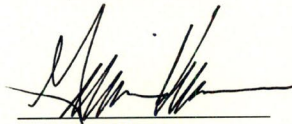
1. All agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance to Glenn County, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.
3. The California Department of Transportation shall formally request immediate assistance for Humboldt and Mendocino Counties through the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief Program, United States Code, Title 23, section 125, in order to obtain federal assistance for highway repairs or reconstruction.
4. The restrictions set forth in Penal Code section 396, which are automatically triggered upon proclamation of a state of emergency, are suspended, and no such restrictions are imposed, with respect to the February 2026 Storms.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.



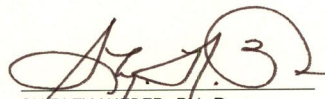
IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 21st day
of September 2026.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California



ATTEST:



SHIRLEY WEBER, PH. D
Secretary of State

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STATE & LOCAL
DAMAGE ESTIMATES

State Damage Estimate CA26-3:

Feb Storm		Caltrans Preliminary Major Damage Assessment REPORT (PMDAR)								FHWA ER	
District	Approx Start Date of Damaging Event	DO (Y/N)	EA #	Verbal Approval Date	Reporting Code(s)	Main Damages	Work Description	County	ER Potential Eligibility?	TOTAL COST (REQUESTED OR APPROVED)	
1	2/20/2026	DO	0R060	2/25/2026		LANDSLIDE (SLOPE BETWEEN SWITCHBACK)	CONSTRUCT WALL (Mobilization, Traffic Control, Construction BMPs, Erosion Control, Slide Removal, Slope Grading & Roadway Repairs)	MEN	\$ 7,050,000	\$ 7,050,000	
1	2/21/2026	DO	0R150	2/26/2026		SLIPOUT (EMBANKMENT SLOPE)	SLOPE STABILIZATION TBD (Mobilization, Traffic Control, Construction BMPs, Erosion Control & Roadway Repairs)	HUM	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 1,350,000	
1	2/22/2026	DDO	0R160	N/A		BRIDGE DEBRIS REMOVAL	REMOVE TREES UNDER BRIDGE (Mobilization, Traffic Control & Debris Disposal)	MEN	\$ 460,000	\$ 460,000	
GRAND TOTAL										\$ 8,860,000	

Local Damage Estimate CA26-3:

Currently, no damage is reported.

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SAMPLING OF NEWS ARTICLES

WEATHER

Photos: Winter storm turns Mendocino County into a snow-covered landscape

by **Mendo Voice Staff**
February 21, 2026

Email Facebook Bluesky X Threads Mastodon Nextdoor

MENDOCINO CO., 2/21/26 — A winter storm moved through Northern California earlier this week, bringing heavy rain, hail and snow to Mendocino County.

In communities like Willits, Brooktrails, Leggett, Covelo, Laytonville — and even Ukiah and Hopland — familiar roads, fences, doorsteps, grapevines and trees were softened under a white blanket. Where it didn't snow, such as Fort Bragg, bursts of hail turned lawns and driveways bright and unexpected.



Snow falls around the Willits Arch, a landmark that welcomes visitors to Willits, Calif., on the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2026. (Rolina Fuentes)

The storm brought its share of challenges — slick roads, scattered power outages and school disruptions — but it also offered moments of stillness and reflection. Snow clung to redwood branches and created a fantasy land in nearby forests. Rural backroads were quiet but for the occasional hum and crackle of tires forging through mud or ice. Driveways that usually hold dust and gravel instead sparkled in frost.

Damage Survey Summary Report

10/02/2026

[Local News](#)

Cold weather system brings widespread rain to Northern California, snow in the foothills

By [Brandon Downs](#), [Jose Fabian](#)

Updated on: February 17, 2026 / 6:38 AM PST / CBS Sacramento

The coldest system of the season is bringing heavy rain to Northern California and snow to higher elevations, with Sierra foothill communities also bracing for a chill.

The Sacramento Valley could see 2-3 inches of rain, whereas areas in the foothills could get up to four inches of rain by Wednesday. The event arrived on Sunday, with it becoming widespread Sunday evening and continuing until Wednesday.

In the Bay Area, heavy rain began around noon Sunday in San Francisco and the North Bay, and by the evening, most of the region was experiencing heavy rain and thunder. The severe weather conditions continued through Monday evening. Due to the heavy rain, there is a coastal flood advisory across the San Francisco Bay and Monterey Bay shorelines through Tuesday.

"The combination of high astronomical tides (spring tides) and storm surge will combine to bring minor high tide flooding of low-lying areas," the NWS said.

With the rain comes southerly winds, which can produce gusts up to 50 mph. A wind advisory goes into effect Monday morning until Wednesday night.

The big story of this storm is its impact on the mountains, as heavy snow is expected and snow levels could drop to 1,500 feet in the Sierra foothills as early as Tuesday. There is even a chance for snow levels to drop to 1,000 feet overnight Tuesday into Wednesday.

LATEST HEADLINES

Winter storm brings hail to Humboldt Bay, snow to mountain passes

After a brief respite Tuesday evening, storms will last through Thursday, likely followed by more this weekend

This week, the first surge of a winter stormfront touched down on the Humboldt Coast, bringing dramatic thunder, hail and hazardous driving conditions. Snow dropped as low as 1,500 feet in some areas, and storms resuming Tuesday evening through Thursday could bring snow as low as 500 feet — and potentially even down to the coast.



Heavy rain washed away much of the morning's persistent hail outside the Humboldt County Courthouse on Tuesday morning.

Author By Robert Schaulis | rschaulis@times-standard.com

PUBLISHED: February 17, 2026 at 2:19 PM PST

National Weather Service Meteorologist James White told the Times-Standard on Tuesday just before noon that we experienced the “first big pulse of an ongoing winter storm” that began Monday. He said that after a brief reprieve Tuesday evening, a second storm would persist through Thursday and another following closely behind it this weekend.

“It, more or less, seems to have progressed as forecast,” White said on Tuesday. “Snow levels got down to around 2,000 feet or so, maybe even lower, in some cases, as we’ve continued to get cold air pulling into the area today, and that’s brought heavy snow to our upper elevation mountain passes — especially in Del Norte and interior Humboldt counties — but also even down further south.”

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PHOTOGRAPHS



MEN-1-31.15: Landslide debris blocking both lanes of travel, resulting in full highway closure



MEN-1-31.15: Head scarp of slide below upper road in switch back

Typical Storm Damage Photos: 01-MEN-1



GLE-5-PM 27.05: Damaged fence embedded into creek and loss of embankment material



GLE-5-PM 27.05: Loss of embankment material caused by recent storm

Typical Storm Damage Photos: 03-GLE