

Earth Log: So far, Fresno's rainless January feels pretty familiar

By Mark Grossi

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It has been about five weeks since measurable rain hit the Fresno and Clovis areas. This rain was in late September

last year.

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A Fresno reader was telling me this winter is beginning to feel like last winter. There are some big differences between the two, but the wait for rainfall does feel familiar.

The last time Fresno had measurable rainfall was Dec. 17. There has been no rain yet this month, so it has been almost a five-week run of dry weather here.

Flash back to last winter. Fresno went from Dec. 7 to Jan. 29 without measurable rainfall — a run that lasted more than seven weeks.

But the differences between the two winters are noticeable, mainly because last winter was such a freak. There was very little fog and less than 1 inch of rain for the whole season at this point in January.

Fresno has had more than 3 inches of rain this winter, and the gray San Joaquin Valley days have settled in like chronic bronchitis.

How long will the city wait for rain? From the looks of the National Weather Service's webpage on [precipitation forecasts](#), it looks pretty grim over the next several days here.

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