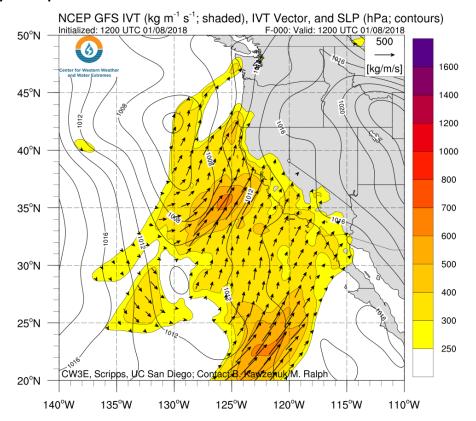
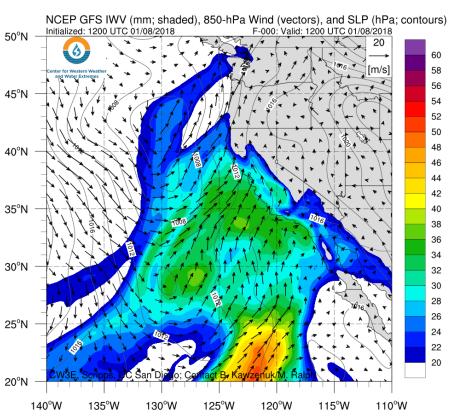
# **CW3E Atmospheric River Update – Outlook**



### AR conditions currently bringing precipitation to U.S. West Coast

- The majority of the U.S. West Coast is currently experiencing AR conditions (IVT >250 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and IWV >20 mm) and precipitation associated with these conditions
- These conditions could lead to precipitation over the majority of CA and southwest OR for the next 36 hours with accumulations up to 7 inches over CA
- An AR is expected to make landfall over the Pacific Northwest on 10 January 2018 and could produce up to 6 inches of precipitation over the Cascade Mountains





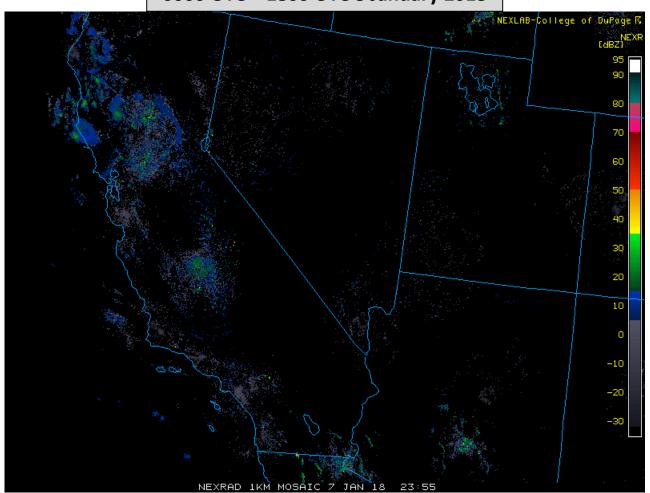
Outlook provided by B. Kawzenuk, J. Kalansky, and F.M. Ralph; 11 AM PT Monday 8 January 2018

For California DWR's AR Program

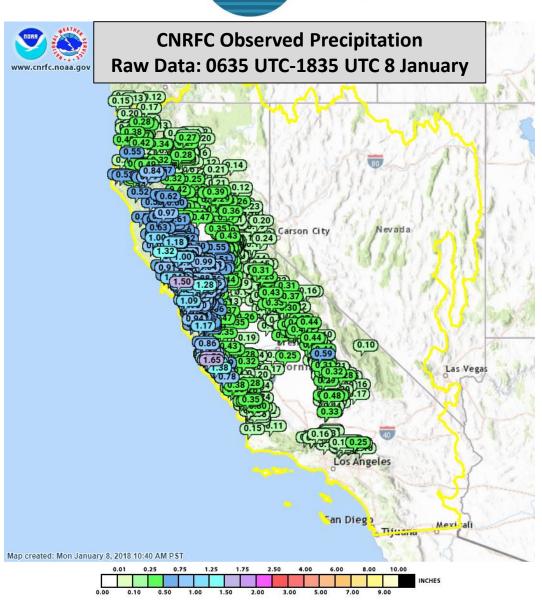
Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes

SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY AT UC SAN DIEGO

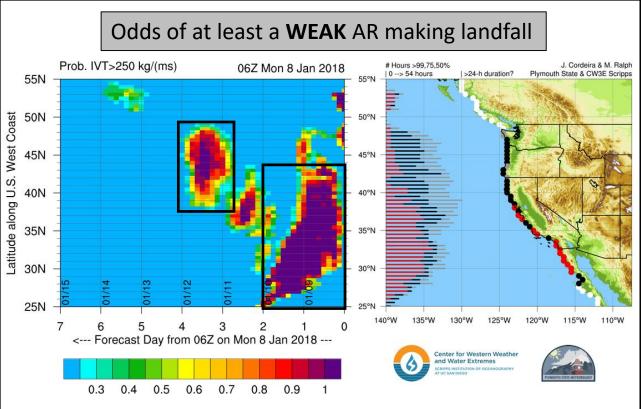
NEXRAD Radar Imagery
0000 UTC – 1800 UTC 8 January 2018

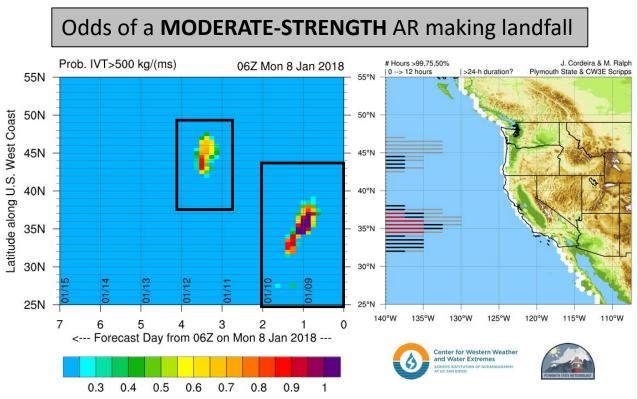


- Precipitation began over CA around 0400 UTC 8 January
- As of 1835 UTC 8 Jan, up to 1.65 inches of precipitation has been observed over coastal CA





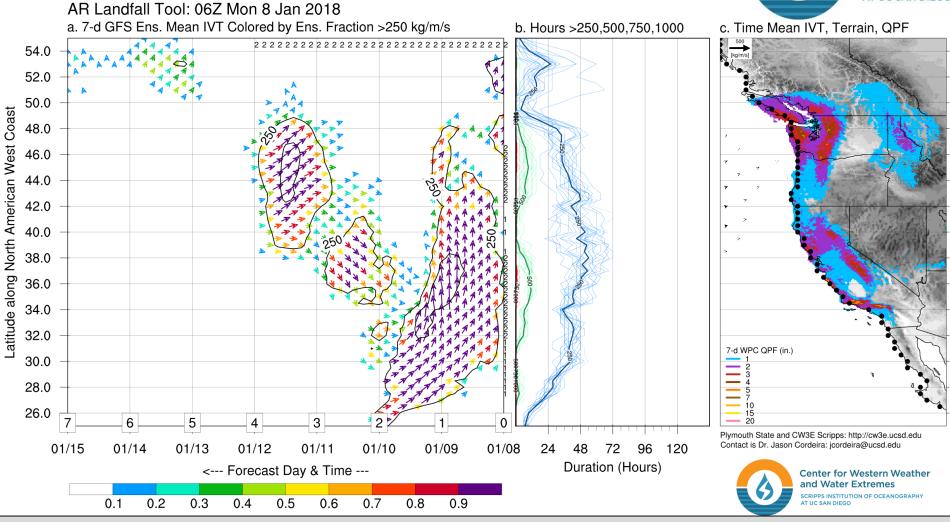




- There is high certainty (>95%) of weak AR conditions (IVT >250 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) over central CA over the next 48 hours
- There is also high certainty of weak AR conditions over the PNW during 10–12 January 2018
- There is high certainty (>95%) of moderate AR conditions (IVT >500 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) over central CA during 9-10 January 2018
- There is moderate certainty (~75%) of moderate AR conditions over OR during the 10-12 January 2018 AR

#### For California DWR's AR Program





- IVT orientation during the first period of AR conditions is expected to be southerly and southwesterly resulting in the highest precipitation amounts over the Transverse Ranges of CA
- The AR during 10-12 Jan is expected to have southwesterly oriented IVT, resulting in the highest precipitation over the Cascade and Olympic Mountains

For California DWR's AR Program



There is relatively high certainty in the GEFS of the magnitude and timing of the AR conditions over CA during 8-9 Jan

### **Magnitude of Potential AR**

• Maximum possible IVT  $\sim$ 775 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

• Mean IVT  $\sim$  750 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

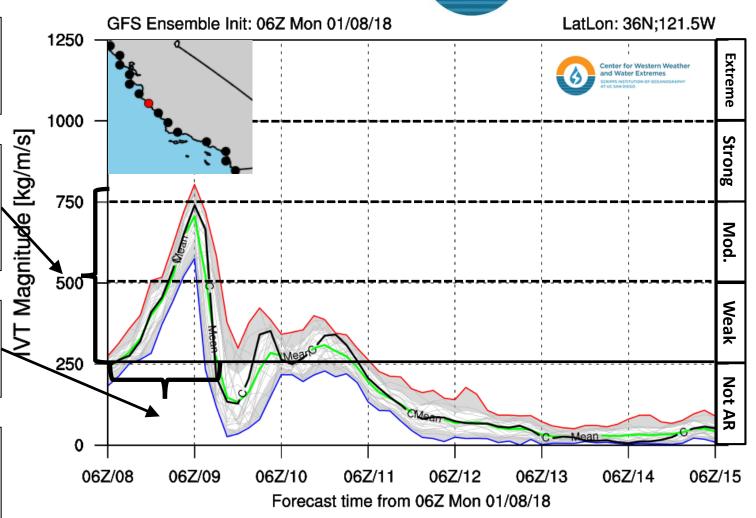
• Minimum possible IVT  $\sim$ 560 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

#### **Duration of AR conditions**

• Weak: ~30 hours +/-6 h

Moderate: ~12 hours +/- 6 h

All of GEFS members are predicting moderate
AR conditions during 8-9 Jan, with several
predicting strong AR conditions



For California DWR's AR Program



There is high uncertainty in the GEFS of the magnitude and timing of the AR conditions over OR during 10-12 Jan

### **Magnitude of Potential AR**

• Maximum possible IVT  $\sim$ 775 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

• Mean IVT  $\sim$  700 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

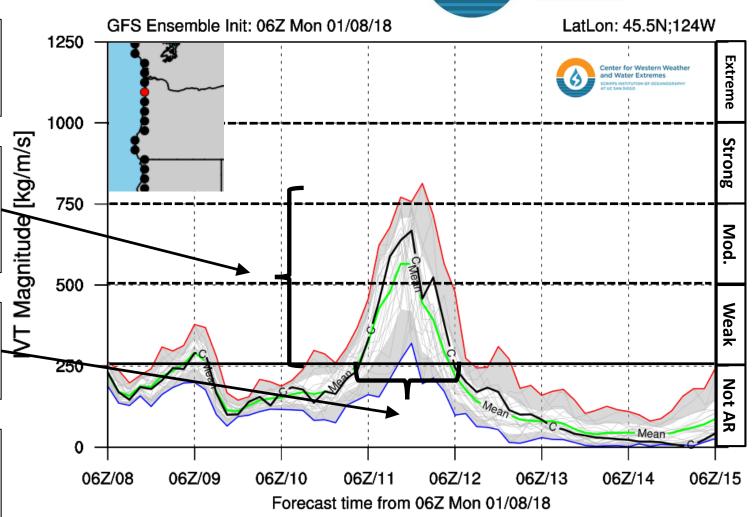
• Minimum possible IVT  $\sim$ 300 kg m<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

#### **Duration of AR conditions**

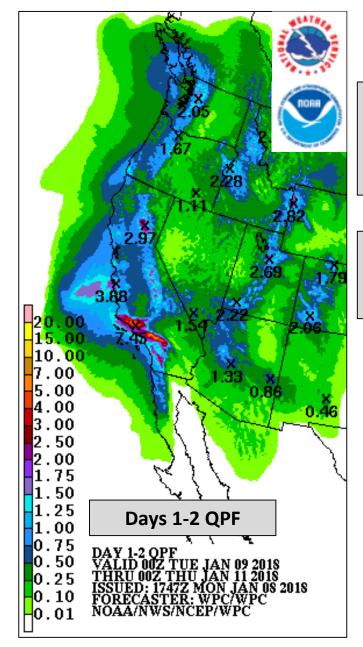
• Weak: ~30 hours +/-12 h

• Moderate: ~12 hours +/- 12 h

All of GEFS members are predicting at least weak AR conditions during 10-12 Jan, with most predicting moderate AR conditions





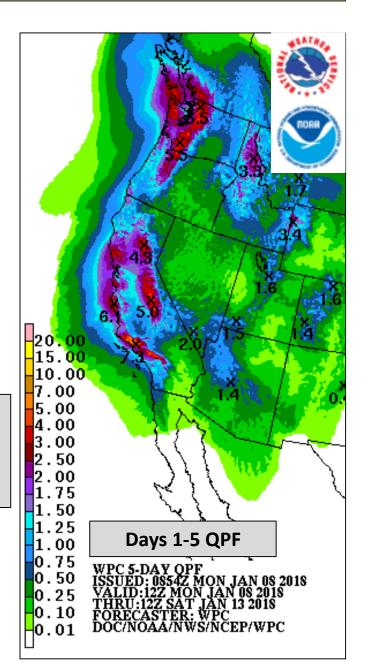


### **Weather Prediction Center QPF**

The elevated moisture transport over central and northern CA over the next two days could produce up to 7 inches of precipitation over the Transverse Ranges

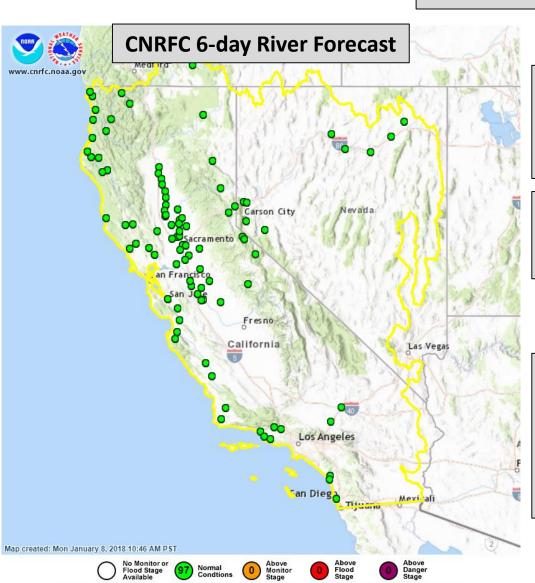
The Sierra Nevada and Coastal Range in northern and central CA could receive over 3 inches of precipitation over the next two days

The 10-12 January AR could produce an additional 4 inches of precipitation over the Olympic and Cascade Mountains in OR and WA





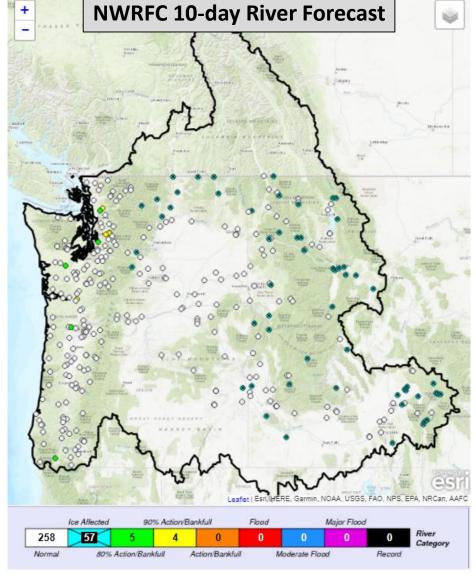
### **River Forecast Center River Forecasts**



Most current river stages are still relatively low and soil moisture is relatively dry throughout CA

As a result no rivers in the CNRFC region are expected to come near flood stage.

Nine rivers in the PNW are expected to reach action level, with 4 reaching 90% bankfull, however none are expected to rise to flood stage



The number inside each circle above represents the number of gages with forecast conditions inside that category.