News

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could put Connecticut at a larger risk for climate impacts, such as extreme weather.

Connecticut Department of Public Health Commissioner Manisha Juthani said this decision would come at the expense of more vulnerable populations. She pointed out that Black women and children are the most affected by problems exacerbated by poor air quality, such as asthma.

Juthani also said that rescinding the finding was especially dangerous in conjunction with other Trump administration policies.

"The administration's planned cuts to Medicaid will result in decreased access to care for respiratory illness in communities with the greatest need, at the same time they are proactively attacking public health by abandoning efforts to protect the air we breathe," Juthani said.

Environmental advocates and states are expected to challenge the EPA's repealing of the endangerment finding in court.



Gasses being emitted from a factory into the sky. Connecticut officials and legislators have criticized the decision in a recent press release. PHOTO COURTESY OF CREATIVE COMMONS.

California walloped by winter storm with high winds and heavy rain and snow

AP - California was walloped Monday by a powerful winter storm carrying treacherous thunderstorms, high winds and heavy snow in mountain areas.

Millions of Los Angeles County residents faced flash flood warnings as rain pounded the region and people in some areas scarred by last year's devastating wildfires were under an evacuation warning through Tuesday because of the potential for mud and debris flows.

Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass ordered emergency crews and city departments to be ready to respond to any problems.

The storm wreaked havoc on roadways spanning from Sonoma County to the Sierra Nevada. Traffic was halted temporarily in both directions on I-80 near the Nevada state line due to spinouts and crashes, the California Department of Transportation reported. In Santa Barbara County, a large tree toppled onto US-101, shutting down southbound lanes.

Forecasters said the western slope of the Sierra Nevada, northern Shasta County — including portions of Interstate 5 — and parts of the state's Coast Range could see up to 8 feet (2.4 meters) of snow before the storm moves through late Wednesday. The heavy snow, wind and low visibility could also make travel conditions dangerous to near impossible, forecasters added.

"It has seemed 'springlike' for a large part of 2026, but winter is set to show it's not quite done yet," the Shasta County Sheriff's Office said in a social media post urging residents to stay aware of the storm.

California's Office of Emergency Services said it was placing fire and rescue personnel and resources in areas most at risk for flooding, mud and debris flows.

In Southern California, Six Flags Magic Mountain was closed Monday due to the storm, and Knotts Berry Farm amusement park shut its doors early. But the winter weather was celebrated by local ski resorts that have waited weeks for snow.



This image provided by the Santa Barbara County Fire Department shows a large tree that has fallen across the highway blocking all southbound lanes and the fast lane northbound in Goleta, Calif., Monday, Feb. 16, 2026.

(SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT VIA AP)



South Lake Tahoe resident and international fruit importer Meg Dowley skis Palisades at Kirkwood Ski Resort in Kirkwood, Calif., on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026. (BRONTË WITTPENN/SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE VIA AP, FILE)

Other states on Monday braced for different threatening weather events. Residents in parts of eastern Colorado received warnings that they could be in fire danger due to a combination of abnormally high temperatures, gusty winds and dry conditions. The risks were expected to continue further into the week as gusts up to 60 mph (96 kph) are likely to hit the Colorado eastern plains on Tuesday. Parts of Texas, New Mexico and Kansas were also under red flag warnings.

The latest storm comes amid a snow drought across much of the American West, with snow cover and depth measuring at the lowest levels scientists have seen in decades. Most states saw half their average precipitation or less in January, though California fared better others due to heavy rains in December.

It was the first of several days of stormy weather forecast for California. A coastal flood advisory was in effect for San Francisco until Tuesday afternoon, with cooler showers and a chance of hail on Tuesday, while nearby mountains were expecting snow, the National Weather Service in Monterey reported.

Kashawna McInerny, a Realtor in the mountain community of Wrightwood, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) northeast of Los Angeles, on Monday said she was still dealing with several tons of rock and debris on her property from Christmas and New Year's storms that pummeled the community. After the last one, she said she got help trenching part of her side yard to direct stormwater down the street and placed a barrier of metal and wood by a door in hopes of keeping out mud and debris.

"We're not panicking yet. At least I'm not," she said with a laugh.

The Daily Campus

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