



(image courtesy of FEMA El Nino Loss Reduction Center/ <http://www.fema.gov/nwz97/elnino.htm>)

Winter '97/'98: Year of the Great El Niño?

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Floodplain Management Association

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ISOHYETAL AND ISOFREQUENCY MAPPING OF THE DECEMBER 1997 STORM IN LAGUNA BEACH, CALIFORNIA

By

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ABSTRACT

The December 6, 1997, storm in and near Laguna Canyon, Orange County, California, was extreme in three respects: 1. size (100-year isofrequency line encompasses 200 square miles); 2. multi-duration intensity (30 minutes through 12 hours); 3. record breaking depths. A dense rain gage network has enabled a detailed mapping of this storm. A companion paper by the third author presents a statistical analysis of the gage data.

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