

Adventures in weather

Adventures in weather

A dozen years of WeatherCurrents

Adventures in weather

A dozen years of WeatherCurrents

John Toman

A dozen years of WeatherCurrents

- Perfect storm
- Me
- Measures
- TemeculaWeather.com
- Inspiration
- Early evolution
- WeatherCurrents.com
- Out of Southwest Riverside
- Reflections
- Crossroads
- Credits

Perfect storm
(1994-2000)

Hurricane Adrian, June 2011



Perfect storm
(1994-2000)

Hurricane Adrian, June 2011



Perfect storm (1994-2000)



Internet



Perfect storm
(1994-2000)



Temecula Grows



Internet

Perfect storm
(1994-2000)



New Home



Temecula Grows

Perfect storm
(1994-2000)



Where the hell is Temecula?



Perfect storm
(1994-2000)

Temecula?



Where the hell is Temecula?



New Home

Perfect storm
(1994-2000)



Perfect storm
(1994-2000)

Why the new **ULTIMETER 2000** is
The world's best
home weather
station

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Instant access too • current values • today's highs and lows • yesterday's highs and lows • long term highs and lows • time/date for all highs/lows • rain* totals for today, yesterday and long term • alarms, and much more. Over 100 values in all!

Versatile 4 mode serial port makes it easy to record data automatically or monitor values remotely by phone, modem or radio link.

Patented design makes this complete weather monitoring system easy to install and simple to use. Informative, educational, and fun. The **ULTIMETER 2000** is a great value, too—only \$379 + ship'g. (*Optional sensors add'l'l.)

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planetary formation. She argues that the strong gravitational pull of the companions would have sucked any planet-building materials that might have been around billions of years ago into the twin suns.

Why was the name of the huge dinosaur *Brontosaurus* changed to *Apatosaurus*?

acroll@island.net

IN 1877, the Yale paleontologist O.C. Marsh named a fragmentary sauropod dinosaur specimen found in Wyoming *Apatosaurus ajax*. Two years later, he named another partially preserved specimen *Brontosaurus excelsus*. Several years after that, experts concluded that the two differently named specimens were actually one and the same. Because the name *Apatosaurus* appeared earlier in the scientific literature, it is the correct one. Scientifically speaking, there is no such thing as a *Brontosaurus*.

about five to six times that of standard house current. That's enough voltage to stun a human being or kill small animals and fish.

Electric eels are usually gray-brown in color, can grow to nine feet in length, and weigh as much as 50 pounds. The tail section is four-fifths of the eel's total length.

Other electric fish include the electric catfish, found in Africa; the electric stargazer (so called because its eyes are on top of its head), found in the tropical portions of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; and the electric ray, found in most warm waters of the world. ☐

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We answer your most frequently asked science and technology questions in the Ask Popular Science section of FYI. Only letters selected for publication can be answered.

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PopularScience

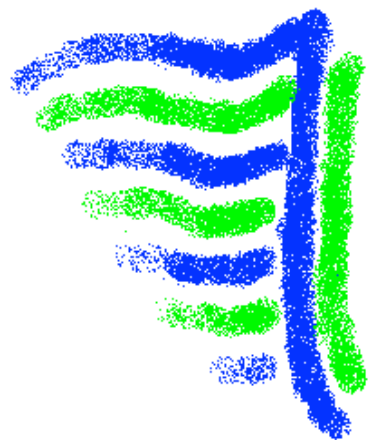
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Where the hell is Temecula?

Perfect storm
 (1994-2000)



Compendium
Technologies,
Inc.

Perfect storm
(1994-2000)

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sure change • indoor/outdoor hu-
midity • dew point • wind
speed/direction • indoor and out-
door temperature • wind chill
temperature • rainfall

Instant ac-
cess to • cur-
rent values •
today's highs
and lows • yes-
terday's highs
and lows • long
term highs and
lows • time/
date for all highs/lows • rain* totals for today,
yesterday and long term • alarms, and much
more. Over 100 values in all!

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remotely by phone, modem or radio link.

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Over 20th Year © 1995 Peet Bros. Co.

NEW!

Actual Size: 10 1/2" x 12 1/4" x 1 1/4"

90

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acroll@island.net

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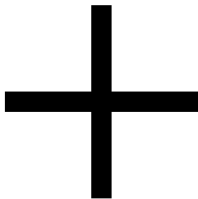
Me

- Arrived in Temecula from San Diego in 1994
- UCSD Graduate - Computer Engineering, Literature/writing minor
- Co-Founded Compendium Technologies (departed 2003)
- Software developer, ...
- Married, one son
- Founder of WeatherCurrents



Forecasting 2006

Measures



Date	High	Low	Average	Precipitation
January 1	85.8°F(29.9°C)	41.8°F(5.4°C)	55.8°F(13.2°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 2	87.8°F(31.0°C)	35.0°F(1.7°C)	58.2°F(14.5°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 3	83.5°F(28.6°C)	51.6°F(10.9°C)	65.9°F(18.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 4	90.9°F(32.7°C)	44.4°F(6.9°C)	59.8°F(15.4°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 5	63.4°F(17.4°C)	41.0°F(5.0°C)	51.7°F(10.9°C)	0.02"(0.5 mm)
January 6	80.1°F(26.7°C)	40.2°F(4.6°C)	56.1°F(13.4°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 7	82.5°F(28.1°C)	39.5°F(4.2°C)	55.1°F(12.8°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 8	54.7°F(12.6°C)	42.0°F(5.6°C)	48.9°F(9.4°C)	0.33"(8.3 mm)
January 9	69.9°F(21.1°C)	44.2°F(6.8°C)	52.3°F(11.3°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 10	64.3°F(17.9°C)	38.6°F(3.7°C)	48.5°F(9.2°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 11	52.9°F(11.6°C)	43.4°F(6.4°C)	46.8°F(8.2°C)	1.58"(40.1 mm)
January 12	58.1°F(14.5°C)	39.4°F(4.1°C)	45.6°F(7.6°C)	0.15"(3.8 mm)
January 13	66.8°F(19.3°C)	35.7°F(2.1°C)	46.9°F(8.3°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 14	66.9°F(19.4°C)	33.8°F(1.0°C)	46.5°F(8.1°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 15	59.8°F(15.5°C)	38.7°F(3.7°C)	45.6°F(7.6°C)	0.02"(0.5 mm)
January 16	62.9°F(17.2°C)	33.4°F(0.8°C)	44.8°F(7.1°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 17	65.8°F(18.8°C)	30.3°F(-0.9°C)	44.4°F(6.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 18	72.2°F(22.3°C)	29.7°F(-1.3°C)	46.2°F(7.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 19	75.1°F(23.9°C)	32.9°F(0.5°C)	50.2°F(10.1°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 20	82.9°F(28.3°C)	38.0°F(3.3°C)	55.4°F(13.0°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 21	75.2°F(24.0°C)	38.7°F(3.7°C)	53.8°F(12.1°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 22	68.0°F(20.0°C)	42.5°F(5.8°C)	52.9°F(11.6°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 23	71.7°F(22.1°C)	37.2°F(2.9°C)	49.9°F(9.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 24	55.5°F(13.1°C)	36.6°F(2.5°C)	45.6°F(7.6°C)	0.04"(1.0 mm)
January 25	63.0°F(17.2°C)	35.0°F(1.7°C)	46.5°F(8.1°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 26	48.6°F(9.2°C)	35.0°F(1.7°C)	40.6°F(4.8°C)	0.43"(10.9 mm)
January 27	55.3°F(12.9°C)	36.6°F(2.5°C)	43.8°F(6.5°C)	0.09"(2.2 mm)
January 28	59.5°F(15.3°C)	41.8°F(5.4°C)	48.1°F(8.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 29	59.0°F(15.0°C)	38.0°F(3.3°C)	46.8°F(8.2°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 30	72.7°F(22.6°C)	36.1°F(2.3°C)	49.8°F(9.9°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)
January 31	70.8°F(21.6°C)	39.6°F(4.2°C)	50.9°F(10.5°C)	0.00"(0.0 mm)

Measures



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Measures



Do you know the way to San Jose?

Measures



TemeculaWeather.com

- Peet Bros. Ultimeter 800 weather station: Dec. 1998
- Recording software: Aug., 1999
- Domain name: Aug. 20, 2000
- Googlebot visits: Aug. 17, 2000
- First visitor: Aug. 27, 2000
- City of Temecula links: Nov., 2000

TemeculaWeather.com

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What's The Weather Like In Temecula, California?

Sunday, April 1, 2001

TEMECULA WEATHER FORECASTS

55°F (13°C) at 8:21 AM PDT

Today's High: **56°F** (13°C) at 12:31 AM PST

Today's Low : **53°F** (12°C) at 6:51 AM PDT
[Normal](#) High: **77°F** (25°C) Low: **48°F** (9°C)

Relative Humidity: 99.9% Dew Point: 55°F

Wind: calm

Precipitation (today): 0.00" Month to date: 0.00"

Season to date: 10.21" (starting November 8, 2000)

- [Forecast from Yahoo! Weather](#)
- [Forecast from WeatherLabs](#)
- [Forecast from CNN.com Weather](#)
- [Forecast from AccuWeather](#)
- [National Weather Service - San Diego \(Inland Empire Zone Forecast\)](#)
- [National Weather Service - San Diego \(All Forecast Areas\)](#)

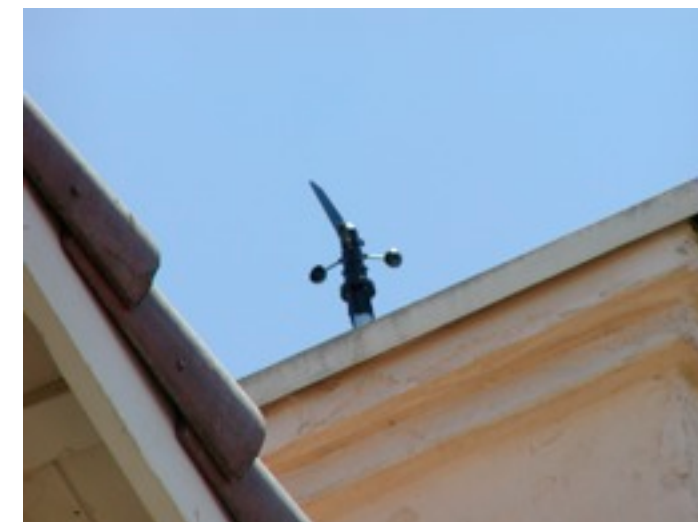
[Use The Weather Applet](#)

RECENT WEATHER SUMMARY

DATE	HIGH (° F)	LOW (° F)	AVE (° F)	PRECIPITATION
March 31, 2001	80°	51°	62°	0.00"
March 30, 2001	84°	55°	64°	0.00"
March 29, 2001	71°	54°	59°	0.01"
March 28, 2001	68°	50°	58°	0.00"
March 27, 2001	78°	47°	59°	0.00"
March 26, 2001	70°	51°	59°	0.00"
March 25, 2001	72°	53°	58°	0.01"



TemeculaWeather.com



Early evolution

- Weather archive
- Forecasting
- Photos
- Normals
- Newspaper coverage
- National Weather Service



WeatherCurrents.com

- Multi community web site required re-writing software
- Run web site as a business
- Decision point: January, 2003
- December, 2003: Murrieta Launch
- February, 2004: Hemet Launch
- June, 2004: Fallbrook Launch

The screenshot shows the WeatherCurrents.com website. The browser address bar displays "weathercurrents.com". The website header features the "EXCLUDED" logo and the "weather currents .com" logo. Below the header, a green banner reads "Current Weather for Southern California Communities". The left sidebar contains navigation links: "WeatherCurrents", "Weather News", "Mobile Access", "On Your Site", "Press Releases", "Station Hosting", "For Developers", "Contact Us", "RSS Feed", "Weather Sites", "Local Roundup", and a list of communities: "Beaumont", "De Luz", "Fallbrook", "French Valley", "Hemet", "Lake Elsinore", "Menifee", "Moreno Valley", "Murrieta", "Perris", "Riverside", "San Bernardino", "Simi Valley", "Temecula", and "Wildomar". The main content area displays a "Community Weather Sites" table with columns for location, temperature, wind speed/direction, and precipitation. Below the table is a link to "Complete Local Weather Roundup". At the bottom, a "Coming Soon" section lists "Planned" launches for various California locations.

Community Weather Sites			
Beaumont, California	53°F	1 mph SE	0.00"
De Luz, California	56°F	calm	0.00"
Fallbrook, California	59°F	calm	0.00"
French Valley, California	56°F	calm	0.00"
Hemet, California	55°F	calm	0.00"
Lake Elsinore, California	57°F	5 mph SE	0.00"
Menifee, California	56°F	1 mph SE	0.00"
Moreno Valley, California	56°F	calm	0.00"
Murrieta, California	55°F	6 mph SW	0.00"
Perris, California	54°F	5 mph S	0.00"
Riverside, California	59°F	calm	0.00"
San Bernardino, California	59°F	3 mph SW	0.00"
Simi Valley, California	52°F	calm	0.00"
Temecula, California	57°F	3 mph SW	0.00"
Wildomar, California	60°F	1 mph E	0.00"

[Complete Local Weather Roundup](#)

Coming Soon

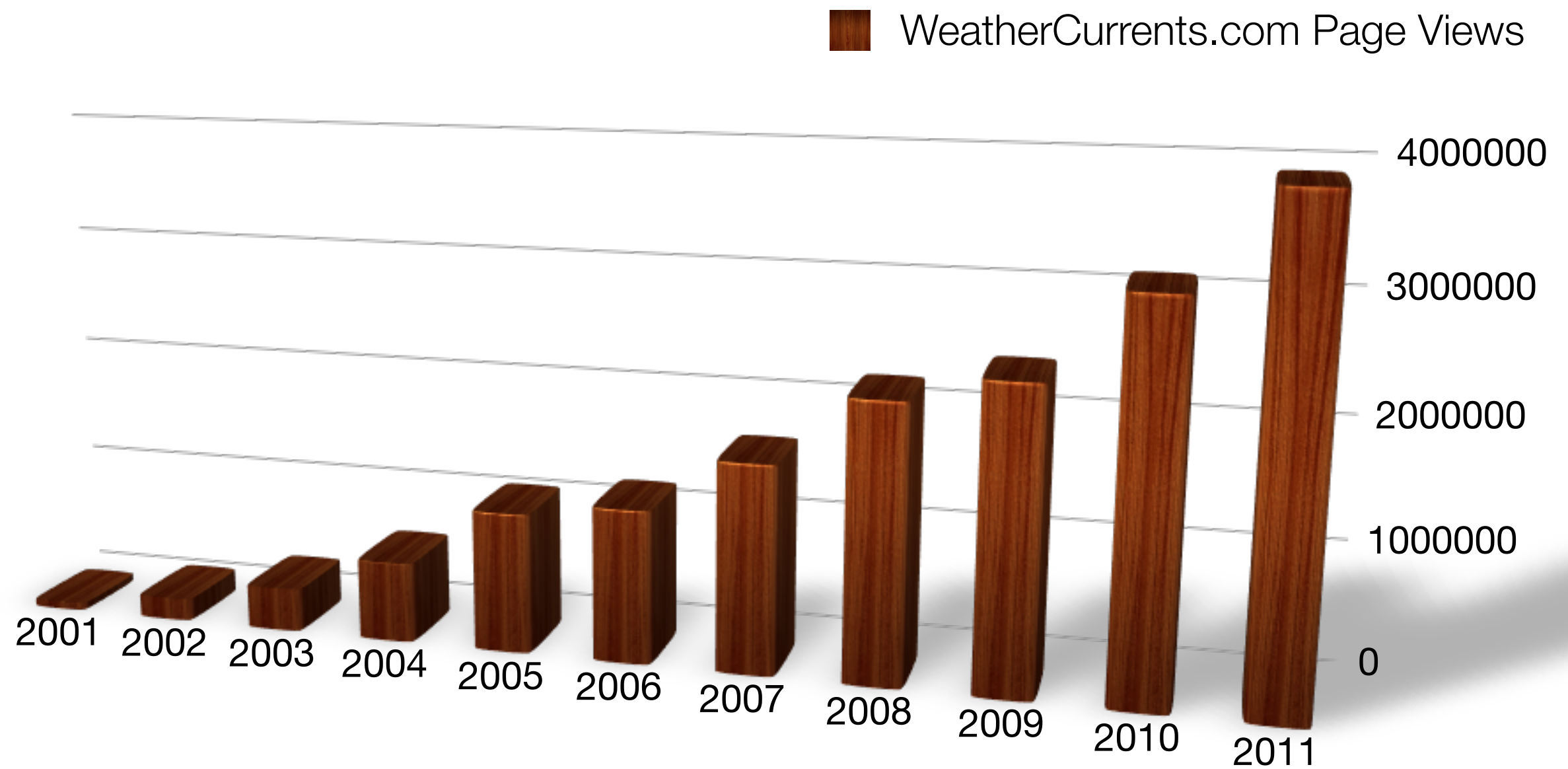
Planned:

- Aguanga, California (2011)
- Carlsbad, California (2011)
- Colton, California
- Corona, California (2011)
- Escondido, California

Out of Southwest Riverside

- Murrieta - 2003
- Hemet (Robert Leonard) - 2004
- Fallbrook - 2004
- Menifee - 2004
- Lake Elsinore - 2005
- De Luz (Steve Rhodes) - 2006
- Riverside (Jim Ness) - 2006
- San Jacinto (inactive) - 2007
- Perris (Jim Ness) - 2007
- Moreno Valley - 2008
- Wildomar - 2008
- French Valley - 2009
- Beaumont (Rick Leonard) - 2011
- San Bernardino - 2011
- Simi Valley (Orv Beach) - 2011
- Jurupa Valley - 2011

Out of Southwest Riverside



Out of Southwest Riverside

Weather station up, running in downtown San Bernardino

By Josh Dulaney Staff Writer
Posted: 03/24/2011 03:54:55 PM PDT



Amateur weather enthusiast John Toman of Temecula has placed a weather station on a KCAA-AM antenna on top of Carousel Mall. The weather station will provide updates of temperature, precipitation level, wind speed and barometer readings, and automatically sends information to the National Weather Service in San Diego. (Al Cuizon/Staff Photographer)

SAN BERNARDINO - Meteorology buffs rejoice: there's a new weather station downtown that provides real-time updates on atmospheric happenings.

John Toman, a software developer by trade and creator of weather information service WeatherCurrents, runs the station that stands atop the downtown KCAA-AM (1050) studios at Carousel Mall.

The station is the 15th in the WeatherCurrents network and the first in San Bernardino County.

"It fills a hole," Toman said. "I'm trying to do the community a service as I do this. I don't really make any money (from it), but it's fun."

The 44-year-old Temecula resident also runs 13 stations in Riverside County and one in San Diego County. Weather information from all the stations can be found at www.weathercurrents.com.

National Weather Service officials in San Diego said the new station here means the city has dependable daily weather data for the first time since a weather station at the former Norton Air Force Base closed in 1994.

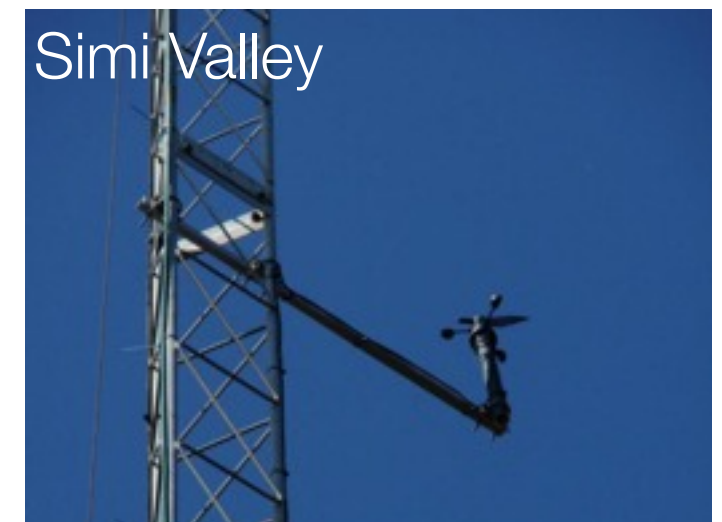
Moreno Valley



Fallbrook



Simi Valley



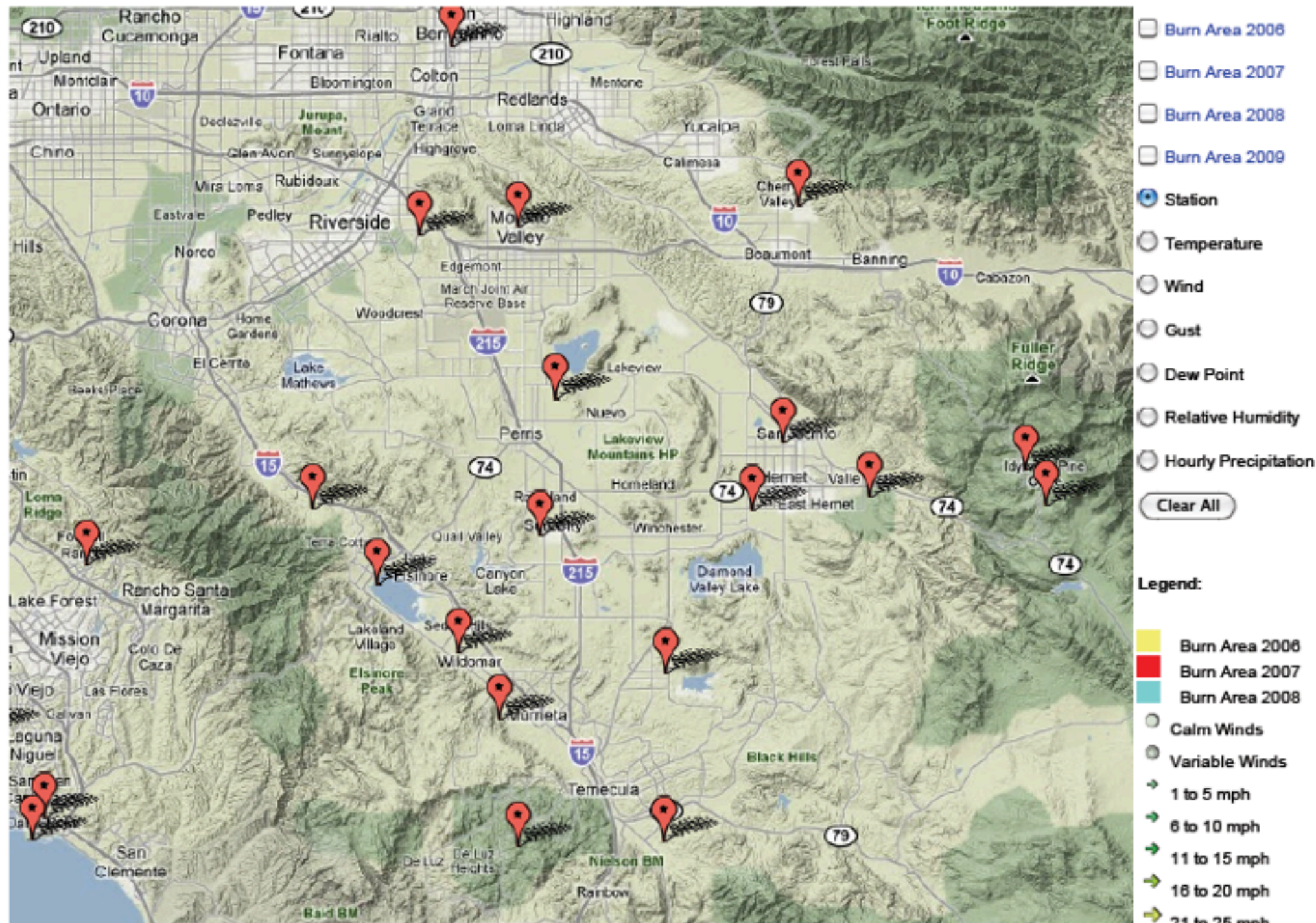
Out of Southwest Riverside

San Diego Mesonet Station (SDM) - Last Update: 12 June 2011 07:10:02.

The page will momentarily zoom in to the San Diego region and plot the latest data.

This map shows an hourly weather report. Public [comments and suggestions](#) are encouraged or take this [user survey](#).

Some points may not appear until the map is zoomed in.



Reflections

- Serendipity
- Commitment
- Public service
- Getting help
- Making deals
- Planning
- Struggles



John, Lauren and Steven 2004



Crossroads

2011

Credits

- Lots of assistance:
 - Lauren Toman
 - Robert Leonard - <http://hemetweather.com/>
 - Hundreds of contributors (photos and reports)
 - National Weather Service - San Diego (Ted Mackechnie, Miguel Miller, Jim Purpura, Michael Khuat, Brad Doyle, Noel Isla, Alex Tardy)
 - John Hunneman, Dave Downey & The Californian
 - Jim Ness - Inland Empire News Radio
 - Tom Chester, Katy Parkhurst, Bruce Quimby, Mike Monroe, Rick Leonard, Orv Beach, KCAA Radio, Paul Calderon, Steve Rhodes, Rick Guild, Connie Kehrli, Mike Box, Harold Roosa, Michael Mojarro, Brian Endres, Jim Sappington, Monty Parrott, R.C. Blankenhorn, Keith Newman
- By no means an exhaustive list