

Storm lays foundation for Tahoe resorts to open next month

Snow is likely to keep falling on-and-off today in the greater Lake Tahoe area.

Chain controls are in affect this morning on Interstate 80, the Mount Rose Highway and Highway 88 near Kirkwood. (Click on the state icons on *Lake Tahoe News*' home page for up-to-date info on road conditions.)



At the Heavenly tram terminal on Oct. 5. Photo/Provided

There must be something about Oct. 5 because in 2010 Heavenly Mountain Resort received about 5 inches of snow and this year it tallied about the same amount by 11am Wednesday.

All Lake Tahoe ski resorts are covered in the white stuff, with Kirkwood early on boasting of about close to a foot of snow. Farther south, Mammoth had more than a foot from this quick storm. Both resorts last had people schussing down their slopes in July.

With it dumping hard Wednesday night, most Tahoe resorts today

are reporting about a foot and a half of snow on the ground.

While storm totals will increase as the day goes on, forecasters do not anticipate there being enough accumulation for resorts to open this month. A few years ago people were skiing before Halloween. Still, many Tahoe resorts are continuing with their pre- or near Thanksgiving opening dates.

With record snowfall a year ago, forecasters are saying it could be another doozy of a year. The National Weather Service says La Nina conditions are returning to the area.

– Kathryn Reed