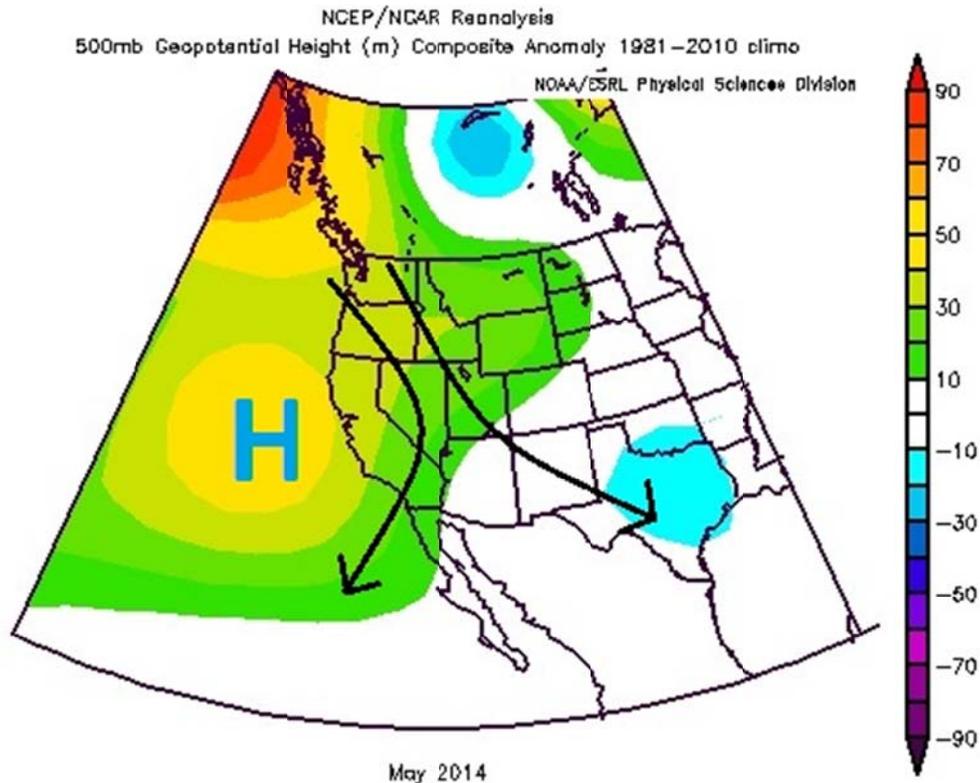


May 2014 Climate Summary



Location of anomalous west coast ridging for April depicted by 500 mb anomalies. Courtesy: NOAA/ESRL

The NNSS experienced a wide variety of weather that is characteristic of spring in south central Nevada. High pressure was located off the California coast for most of the month allowing temperatures to climb towards summer values. However, several systems did manage to move through the area providing wind, precipitation and cooler air.

The month started off with high pressure over the southwest that allowed daytime highs to reach well above seasonal values through the 5th. The 6th thru 9th saw a return to unsettled conditions. A strong late season storm approached the area on the morning of the 6th. Gusty southwest winds overspread the NNSS and by mid-morning scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms developed. The storm also had unseasonably cold air associated with it so snow was observed down to 6000 feet. All locations observed measurable amounts with several locations on the higher terrain recording nearly an inch of precipitation. This was the most significant precipitation event since February.

The most significant weather system of the month affected the NNSS on the 10th. Gusty southwest winds were observed for most of the day ahead of a potent cold front. Very strong northwest winds overspread the NNSS immediately behind it. All stations recorded gusts above 50 mph with Yucca Mountain observing the highest gust of 81 mph. Other notable gusts were 74 mph at Jasper, 63 mph at Schooner Crater, 60 mph on Rainier Mesa, and 60 mph at Climax Mine.

High pressure provided warm and dry conditions from the 12th thru 19th. A slow moving area of low pressure settled over the southwest from the 20th thru 23rd. It didn't have much moisture to work with so only light showers were observed at the higher elevations. Temperatures were below seasonable values. The low was east of the area by the 24th allowing high pressure to build in. Temperatures quickly rebounded with the warmest readings of the year being observed on the 26th and 27th. The high

weakened slightly at the end of the month allowing temperatures to decrease towards seasonable values.

Below is data for some select locations.

<u>Station</u>	<u>Highest (°F)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lowest (°F)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Precipitation (in.)</u>
Meda 23 (Mercury)	96	27	44	07	0.23
Desert Rock Airport	100	27	43	07	0.27
Meda 05 (W5B)	98	26	35	12	0.19
Meda 40 (Rainier Mesa)	79	26	24	11	0.41
Meda 43 (Yucca Dry Lake)	94	26	40	02	0.28

Hazardous Weather Notifications:

A Wind Advisory was issued for May 5th from 1300 to 2200 PDT.

A Lightning Alert was issued for May 6th from 1415 to 1900 PDT.

A High Wind Warning was issued for May 10th, 2000 to May 11th, 0800 PDT.

James Wood