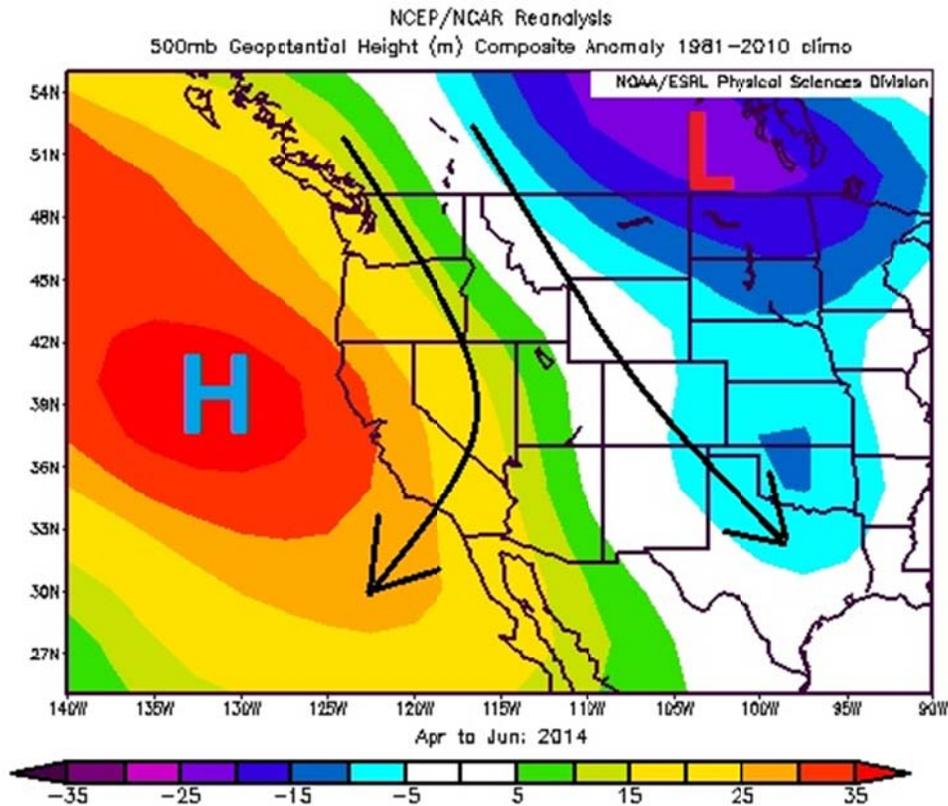


# NNSS Climate Summary

## April – June 2014



500 mb height anomalies for April thru June 2014. Courtesy NOAA/ESRL

The third quarter of FY14 was warm and dry at the NNSS. A persistent upper level pattern with high pressure along the West Coast and low pressure over the central U.S. remained nearly stationary throughout the period. The image above represents the height anomalies at 500 mb and their effect on the mean flow over the western United States.

April was relatively warm and dry on the NNSS. A persistent ridge of high pressure was located off the California coast keeping the area under dry northwest flow aloft. There were exceptions at the beginning and end of the month when a few Pacific systems impacted the area. The first five days of the month saw below average temperatures and light precipitation amounts due to low pressure located over the West. Beginning on the 6<sup>th</sup>, high pressure developed and initiated a warming trend under mostly sunny skies. Temperatures peaked in the mid 80's at the warmest locations on the 11<sup>th</sup> before a weak system brought them down to near seasonal values through the 15<sup>th</sup>. High pressure once again established itself over the area on the 16<sup>th</sup> and provided warm conditions through the 21<sup>st</sup>. The highest temperatures of the month were on the 21<sup>st</sup> with many locations in the mid to upper 80's. Meda 05 in Frenchman Flat recorded the warmest temperature of 87 degrees. April ended on an active note with several Pacific systems affecting the area. The most significant was on the 25<sup>th</sup> thru 26<sup>th</sup>. It was preceded by strong southwest winds and brought measurable precipitation to most of the NNSS. Some snow was also observed at the highest locations.

May started off with high pressure over the southwest that allowed daytime highs to reach well above seasonal values through the 5<sup>th</sup>. The 6<sup>th</sup> thru 9<sup>th</sup> saw a return to unsettled conditions. A strong late season storm approached the area on the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup>. 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 10<sup>th</sup>. 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 12<sup>th</sup> thru 19<sup>th</sup>. A slow moving area of low pressure settled over the southwest from the 20<sup>th</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>. 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 24<sup>th</sup> allowing high pressure to build in. Temperatures quickly rebounded with the warmest readings of the year being observed on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The high weakened slightly at the end of the month allowing temperatures to decrease towards seasonable values.

June is normally the driest month of the year and 2014 continued this trend with no precipitation being reported. Temperatures were also above average. The month started with seasonable conditions before high pressure provided several hot days from the 7<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup>. The middle of the month observed a period of unsettled weather with several late season "cold" fronts affecting the NNSS. Temperatures fell below seasonal values and were accompanied by periods of gusty winds. A Wind Advisory was issued on the 16<sup>th</sup> with several sites observing gusts over 50 mph. The remainder of the month observed a typical summer pattern featuring high pressure over the Southwest. This initiated a warming trend with temperatures climbing above seasonal values. The hottest temperatures of the month were on the 30<sup>th</sup> when several stations at the lower elevations exceeded 105 degrees. Meda 50 in area 25 and Desert Rock Airport were the hottest at 107 degrees.

Listed below are some selected stations with temperature and precipitation amounts for the period...

<u>Station</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Highest(F)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lowest (F)</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Precipitation</u>
<u>Meda 23(Mercury)</u>	Apr	84°	21 <sup>st</sup>	38°	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0.11"
	May	96°	27 <sup>th</sup>	44	7 <sup>th</sup>	0.23"
	Jun	103°	30 <sup>th</sup>	59	18 <sup>th</sup>	0.00"
<u>Desert Rock Airport</u>	Apr	88°	21 <sup>st</sup>	35	3 <sup>rd</sup>	0.04"
	May	100°	27 <sup>th</sup>	43	7 <sup>th</sup>	0.27"
	Jun	107°	30 <sup>th</sup>	57	19 <sup>th</sup>	0.00"
<u>Meda 05 (W5B)</u>	Apr	87°	21 <sup>st</sup>	29	3 <sup>rd</sup>	0.04"
	May	98°	26 <sup>th</sup>	35	12 <sup>th</sup>	0.19"
	Jun	106°	30 <sup>th</sup>	44	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0.00"

<u>Meda 43 (Yucca Lake)</u>	Apr	81°	21 <sup>st</sup>	26	5 <sup>th</sup>	0.09"
	May	94°	26 <sup>th</sup>	40	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0.28"
	Jun	101°	30 <sup>th</sup>	46	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0.00"
<u>Meda 40 (Rainer Mesa)</u>	Apr	68°	10 <sup>th</sup>	20	2 <sup>nd</sup>	0.11"
	May	79°	26 <sup>th</sup>	24	11 <sup>th</sup>	0.41"
	Jun	88°	30 <sup>th</sup>	37	18 <sup>th</sup>	0.00"

**Hazardous Weather Notifications:**

A Lightning Alert was issued for April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1415 to 2000 PDT.  
 A Wind Advisory was issued for April 21<sup>st</sup> from 1415 to 1900 PDT.  
 A Wind Advisory was issued for April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1215 to 1900 PDT.  
 A Wind Advisory was issued for May 5<sup>th</sup> from 1300 to 2200 PDT.  
 A Lightning Alert was issued for May 6<sup>th</sup> from 1415 to 1900 PDT.  
 A High Wind Warning was issued for May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2000 to May 11<sup>th</sup>, 0800 PDT.  
 A Wind Advisory was issued for June 16<sup>th</sup> from 1300 to 2200 PDT.