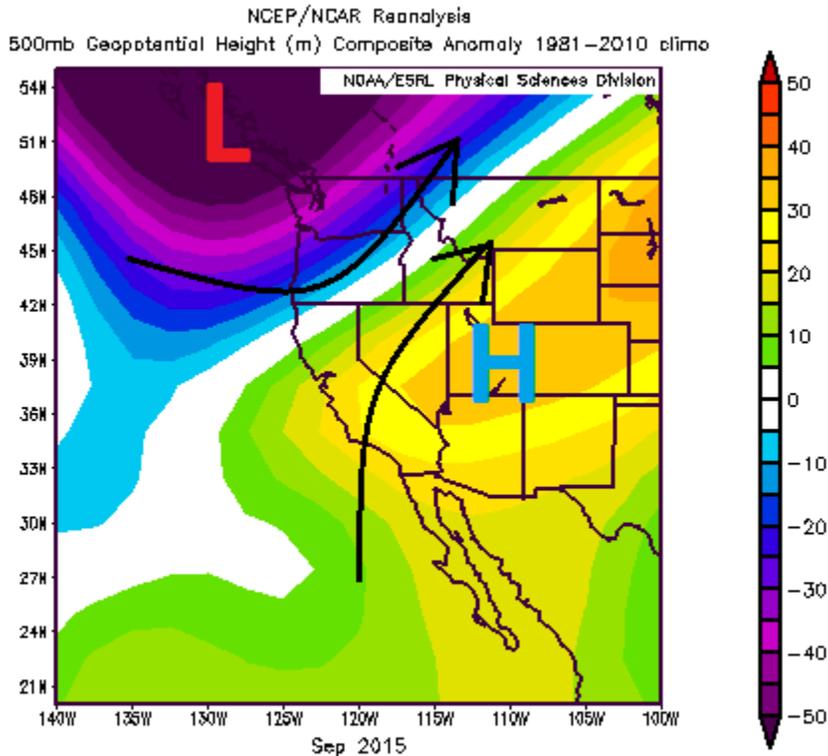


# NNSS Climate Summary

## September 2015



500 mb height anomalies for September 2015. Courtesy: NOAA/ESRL

September is the first month of meteorological fall but it felt like the fourth month of summer. The weather resembled that of a typical June. Strong high pressure was over the Southwest for most of the month resulting in well above average temperatures and sparse precipitation.

The month began with low pressure off the West Coast. The low moved inland by the 5<sup>th</sup> and was replaced by high pressure by the 8<sup>th</sup>. The high built northward and was centered over Utah by the 11<sup>th</sup>. This produced the warmest temperatures of the month with most locations recording their highest reading on either the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>.

An area of low pressure was located off the Baja coast during this time and the flow between these systems helped to funnel moisture from the remnants of Hurricane Linda northeastward towards the Desert Southwest. Most of this moisture passed to the east of the NNSS but some mid and high level moisture provided partly cloudy skies and a few light showers on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Soon after a trough of low pressure set up over the West and provided a brief break from the unseasonably warm weather. Temperatures were actually below average from the 15<sup>th</sup> thru 18<sup>th</sup>. September ended with another prolonged period of warm and dry weather as low pressure off the Pacific Northwest coast coupled with high pressure over Arizona left the NNSS under a dry southwest flow.

Drought information: The U.S. Drought Monitor has the NNSS classified D3 (Extreme Drought)

El Niño update: El Niño has reached strong event criteria. Forecast models predict the event to persist through the winter of 2015-16.

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>
Mercury	100	11	58	17	0.01
Desert Rock Airport	104	11	56	18, 19	0.00
Frenchman Flat	103	10	44	20	0.00
Rainer Mesa	82	11	42	17	0.00
Yucca Dry Lake	101	11	44	19	0.00

**Monthly highlights:**

Highest temperature: 104°F at Meda 50 (Area 25)  
Lowest temperature: 40°F at Meda 07 and Meda 09  
Highest precipitation: 0.20" at Meda 14 (Mid Valley)  
Lowest precipitation: 0.00" at 12 sites.

**Hazardous Weather Notifications:**

A Wind Advisory was issued for September 14th from 1445 to 2000 PDT.

James Wood