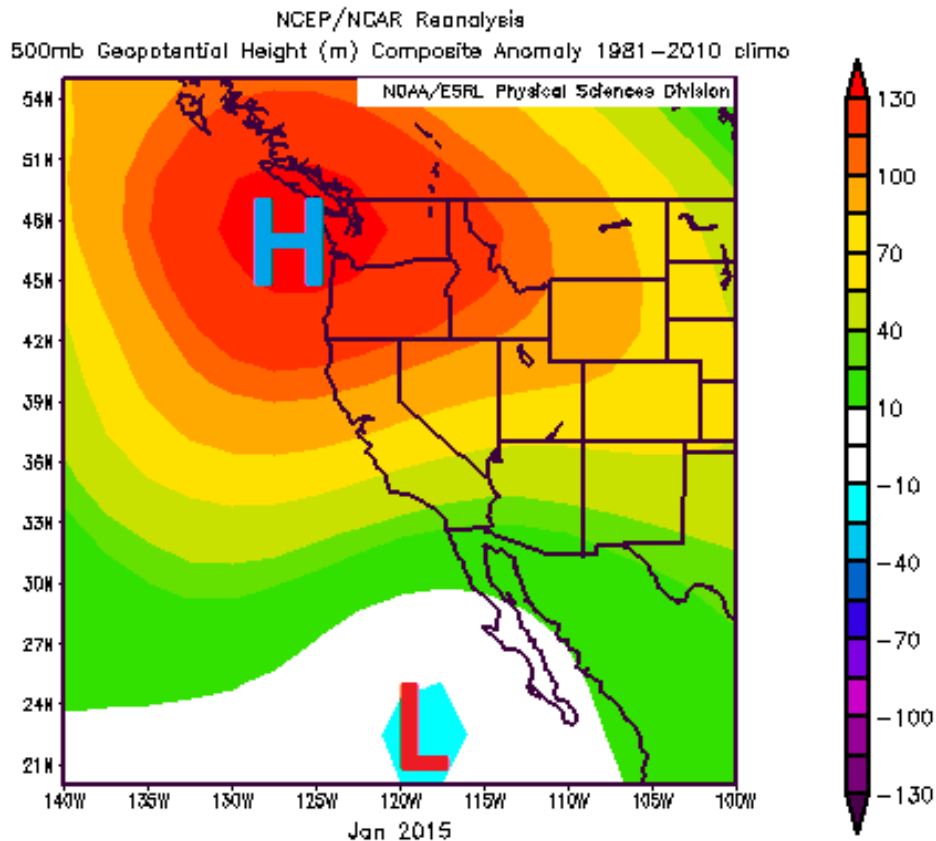


NNSS Climate Summary

January 2015



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

Winter made a brief appearance at the end of 2014 but only managed to hold on for a few days to begin the new year. A highly amplified pattern with high pressure over the Northwest kept Pacific systems and cooler air well to the north and east of the area. It also resulted in a somewhat unusual weather pattern with several areas of low pressure affecting the area from the south. Overall, above average temperatures and near average precipitation were observed.

Cold low pressure was located over southern Nevada to begin the month and influenced the weather through the 4th. The coldest readings of the month were observed then with freezing temperatures at night and limited daytime recovery. The low was replaced by a ridge of high pressure that moved in from the eastern Pacific and was located over the West through the 9th. Afterwards a significant warming trend took place with temperatures reaching well above average. Several stations at the lower elevations measured highs in the low 70's with the highest temperatures observed on the 7th. A weak area of low pressure undercut the ridge and affected the area on the 10th. This served to cool daytime highs under considerable cloud cover. The low was east of the area by the 11th. This allowed high pressure to reestablish itself and resulted in dry, mild weather through the 25th. The remainder of the month was unsettled due to two areas of low pressure which moved in from the subtropics.

The first developed off the coast of Baja California and moved northward on the 26th. Widespread precipitation overspread the area from the south. All sites recorded precipitation with Climax Mine in area 15 recording the most with 0.89". This low was quickly followed by another one that again approached the area from the south on the 30th. It too, spread rainfall across the area with Climax Mine once again receiving the most with 1.14". There was limited snowfall at the higher elevations due to the warm nature of these weather systems with snow levels mostly remaining above 7000 feet.

On an interesting note, this was the second January in a row that no hazardous weather notifications were issued for the NNSS.

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)	71	07	26	01	0.49
Desert Rock Airport	72	25	23	02, 03	0.39
Meda 05 (W5B)	75	07	11	02	0.54
Meda 40 (Rainer Mesa)	55	08	13	01	0.93
Meda 43 (Yucca Dry Lake)	73	07	14	03	0.78

Hazardous Weather Notifications:

No products were issued.

James Wood