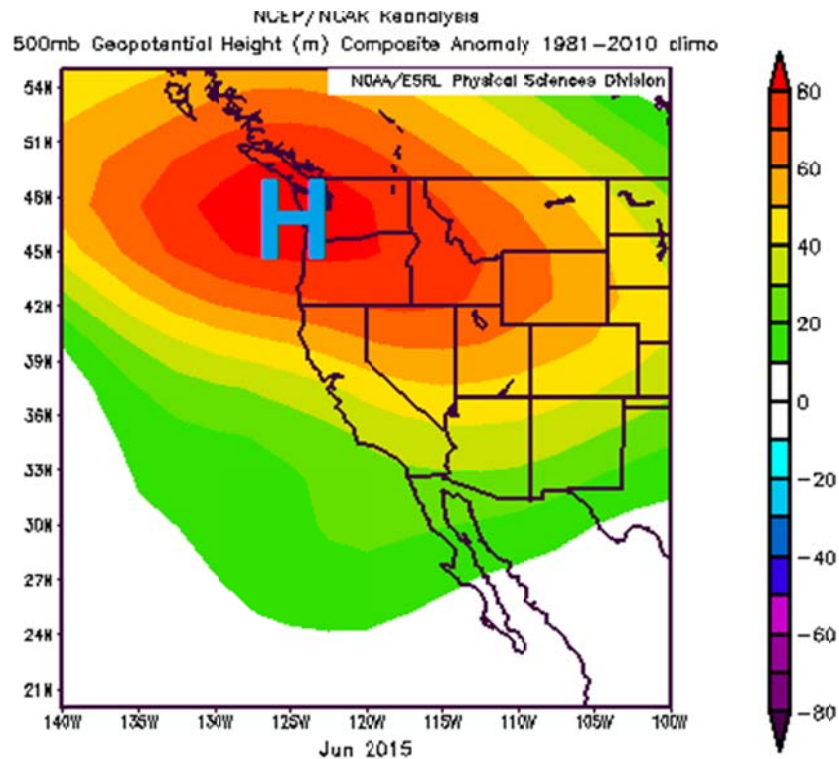


NNSS Climate Summary

June 2015



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

The plot above shows anomalously high heights were located over the Northwest Coast during June. This was a change from May when anomalously high heights were found over the Gulf of Alaska and low heights were located over the Southwest Coast.

June is the beginning of meteorological summer and is usually a time of increasing daytime highs and little precipitation. Thus, June normally is the driest month of the year on the NNSS. This past June was a little different as it had two distinct halves. The month began with several Pacific systems affecting the NNSS with some light precipitation and below average temperatures. This pattern was influenced by the continued development of El Niño in the equatorial Pacific.

Around the middle of the month, the weather changed from spring to summer. A strong ridge of high pressure began to develop on the 13th and took control of the weather of the Southwest. Temperatures quickly climbed to above normal values with these conditions persisting through the end of the month. Many sites at the lower elevations recorded high temperatures above 100° for a long period of time. For example, Desert Rock Airport recorded high temperatures of 100° or above for 18 consecutive days, from the 13th to the 30th. By the end of the month, the ridge was centered to the north of the NNSS which produced easterly flow across the region. This resulted in an increase in middle and upper level moisture and set the stage for the arrival of the monsoon in July.

Drought information: The U.S. Drought Monitor has the NNS classified D3 Extreme Drought.

El Niño update: El Niño was declared on March 5, 2015 and has now reached moderate strength. There is a 90% chance that El Niño will continue through the Northern Hemisphere summer and a greater than 85% chance it will last through 2015.

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	105	20	59	05	0.00
Desert Rock Airport	109	20	53	05	T
Frenchman Flat	107	27	46	05	0.01
Rainier Mesa	88	27	43	07	0.13
Yucca Dry Lake	103	26	50	05	0.00

Monthly highlights:

Highest temperature: 109°F at Armargosa Valley and Desert Rock Airport

Lowest temperature: 42°F at Schooner Crater

Highest precipitation: 0.34" at Climax Mine

Lowest precipitation: 0.00" at many locations

Hazardous Weather Notifications:

A Lightning Alert was issued for June 10th from 1330 to 2000 PDT.

A Wind Advisory was issued for June 15th from 1330 to 2000 PDT.

James Wood