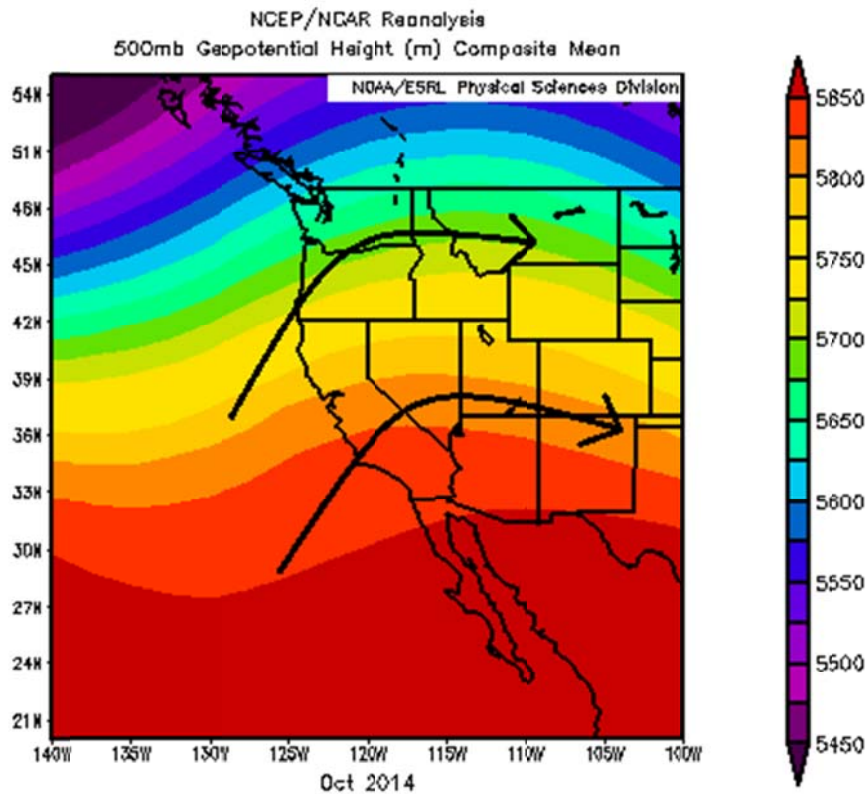


October 2014 Climate Summary



Average location of October ridge depicted by 500 mb heights. Courtesy: NOAA/ESRL

October usually is a time of transition to cooler and occasionally unsettled weather. This year was an exception. High pressure was located over or just offshore of the West Coast for most of the month and kept the area warm and dry. In fact, no measureable precipitation was recorded on SORD's mesonet.

The month did begin with cooler temperatures due to a trough that had impacted the area at the end of September. By the 3rd, the trough was replaced by a ridge of high pressure which allowed afternoon temperatures to rise well above normal. Many stations at lower elevations exceeded 90 degrees with the warmest temperatures of the month observed on the afternoon of the 6th. An area of low pressure undercut the ridge and began to affect the area on the 8th. The low had just enough moisture for an isolated afternoon thunderstorm to develop which prompted the only lightning alert of the month. High pressure reestablished itself and remained over the West during the middle of the month.

A pattern shift occurred during the last week of October as a trough developed offshore of the Pacific Northwest. As a result, the ridge moved off to the east and windy conditions developed which prompted the issuance of a wind advisory on the afternoon of the 24th. By the 26th, The trough was east of the area and cooler air overspread the NNSS. A second and stronger system approached the area on the 31st bringing an increase on clouds and wind.

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)	88	04	51	27	0.00
Desert Rock Airport	92	06	45	29	0.00
Meda 05 (W5B)	92	06	30	29	0.00
Meda 40 (Rainier Mesa)	72	04	32	27	0.00
Meda 43 (Yucca Dry Lake)	91	04	32	28	0.00

Hazardous Weather Notifications:

A Lightning Alert was issued for October 8th from 1600 to 2000 PDT.

A Wind Advisory was issued for October 24th from 1400 to 2200 PDT.

James Wood