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AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LAS VEGAS NV  
335 AM PDT SAT JUN 18 2011

.SYNOPSIS...AN AREA OF LOW PRESSURE WILL MOVE THROUGH THE GREAT BASIN ON SUNDAY. GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS WILL OCCUR AHEAD OF THE SYSTEM TODAY AND SUNDAY...PARTICULARLY ACROSS SAN BERNARDINO AND MOHAVE COUNTIES. AS THE TROUGH PUSHES THROUGH ON SUNDAY...  
SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE POSSIBLE NORTH OF THE LAS VEGAS VALLEY. TEMPERATURES WILL REMAIN BELOW NORMAL THROUGH MONDAY FOLLOWED BY A SIGNIFICANT WARMING TREND GOING INTO THE MIDDLE OF NEXT WEEK AS HIGH PRESSURE BUILDS OVER THE REGION.  
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.SHORT TERM...TODAY THROUGH MONDAY...  
SATELLITE LOOPS SHOWED THE REGION WAS MOSTLY CLEAR WITH ONLY SOME THIN CIRRUS COMING DOWN OVER THE GREAT BASIN. THE MAIN FEATURE WHICH WILL STIR UP THE WEATHER TONIGHT THROUGH SUNDAY NIGHT IS AN UPPER LOW CURRENTLY SLIDING DOWN THE BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST. SOUTHWEST BREEZES WILL INCREASE ACROSS THE FORECAST AREA THIS AFTERNOON AS THE SYSTEM DROPS INTO THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST. THERE IS GOOD AGREEMENT AMONG THE NAM...GFS AND ECMWF WHICH TRACK THE VORT MAX IN THE BASE OF THE UPPER LOW DOWN THROUGH THE GREAT BASIN EARLY SUNDAY AND ACROSS THE FOUR CORNERS REGION SUNDAY NIGHT. THIS NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST TRACK WILL FAVOR GUSTY WEST WINDS ACROSS THE WESTERN MOJAVE DESERT TONIGHT BUT THE WINDS THEN TURN WEST TO NORTHWEST ACROSS MUCH OF THE REGION SUNDAY AND SPEEDS DO NOT APPEAR MORE THAN 15-25 MPH AHEAD OF THE COLD FRONT WHICH IS FORECAST TO PUSH THROUGH SOUTHERN NEVADA BY SUNDAY AFTERNOON. SPEEDS MAY BE STRONGEST WITH THE NORTH WINDS DIRECTLY BEHIND THE FRONT FOR A FEW HOURS. THE LATEST GUIDANCE DOES NOT APPEAR TO SUPPORT WIDESPREAD PERSISTENT GUSTS OVER 35 MPH FOR SOUTHERN NEVADA AND NORTHWEST ARIZONA THIS AFTERNOON THROUGH SUNDAY AFTERNOON SO WILL MAINLY EMPHASIZE BREEZY CONDITIONS IN FIRE WEATHER FORECASTS. ISOLATED TO SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS STILL LOOK FAVORABLE ACROSS LINCOLN COUNTY LATE TONIGHT THROUGH EARLY SUNDAY AFTERNOON AS THE VORT MAX SWINGS ACROSS. NORTHERN MOHAVE COUNTY SHOULD ALSO SEE SOME ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS THROUGH SUNDAY AFTERNOON. TEMPERATURES WILL BE A COUPLE DEGREES WARMER TODAY THEN TREND DOWNWARD SLIGHTLY SUNDAY AND MONDAY DUE TO THE PASSING SYSTEM.

.LONG TERM...TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY...  
HIGH PRESSURE WILL SET UP OVER THE REGION THE MIDDLE PART OF NEXT WEEK AND BRING WELL ABOVE NORMAL TEMPERATURES TO THE REGION... ESPECIALLY BY THURSDAY AS A TROUGH APPROACHING THE COAST BRINGS AN INCREASE IN THE SOUTHWEST FLOW. THE MODELS ARE STILL PROGGING A MEAN TROUGH PATTERN TO SET UP LATE IN THE WEEK OVER THE REGION. ALTHOUGH HEIGHTS LOOK TO FALL...THERE SHOULD STILL BE ENOUGH OF A SOUTHERLY FLOW TO KEEP US WELL MIXED IN THE AFTERNOONS AND KEEP TEMPERATURES CLOSE TO SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL THROUGH NEXT WEEKEND. ANY MOISTURE LOOKS TO REMAIN WELL NORTH OF THE CWA AND NOTHING MORE THAN A FEW AFTERNOON CLOUDS ARE EXPECTED.  
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ADAIR/GORELOW

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