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AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LAS VEGAS NV  
924 AM PDT THU JUL 21 2011

.SYNOPSIS...SOUTHWEST FLOW ALOFT WILL KEEP THE AREA UNDER DRY AND STABLE CONDITIONS THROUGH FRIDAY WHILE TEMPERATURES WILL BE NEAR NORMAL. MONSOON MOISTURE WILL EDGE NORTHWESTWARD INTO MAINLY MOHAVE COUNTY THIS WEEKEND LEADING TO A SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS.

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.UPDATE...ANOTHER DOWN DAY EXPECTED TODAY WITH MOISTURE SUPPRESSED WELL TO THE SOUTHEAST AND THIS WILL LIKELY REMAIN THE CASE AGAIN ON FRIDAY. SURFACE DEWPOINT TEMPERATURES ARE UP CONSIDERABLY FROM YESTERDAY BUT THE LAYER IS NEAR THE SURFACE AND VERY SHALLOW SO THERE SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM MIXING THAT LAYER OUT. TEMPERATURES THIS MORNING ARE RUNNING 4 TO 6 DEGREES COOLER THAN YESTERDAY MORNING ACROSS THE LAS VEGAS VALLEY. THE FORECASTED MAX TEMPS FOR THIS AFTERNOON ARE A COUPLE OF DEGREES COOLER THAN YESTERDAY WHICH MAKES SENSE BASED ON AN AREA OF LOW PRESSURE OVER SOUTHWESTERN CANADA FORECAST TO SINK SOUTHWARD INTO THE PACIFIC NW STATES TODAY AND LOWERING HEIGHT AND THICKNESS VALUES. WINDS WILL AGAIN BE FROM THE SOUTHWEST AND GUSTY. NO UPDATES PLANNED TO THE INHERITED FORECAST.

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.PREVIOUS DISCUSSION...310 AM PDT...

.SHORT TERM...AN UPPER TROUGH MOVING ACROSS THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST WILL KEEP A DRY SOUTHWEST FLOW OVER THE FORECAST AREA THROUGH AT LEAST FRIDAY. GENERALLY CLEAR SKIES AND NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES ARE EXPECTED. MODELS CONTINUE TO INDICATE AN INCREASE IN MOISTURE FROM THE SOUTH SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND SATURDAY NIGHT...DUE IN PART FROM HURRICANE DORA MOVING NORTHWEST NEAR THE TIP OF BAJA...BUT ALSO FROM CONVECTION OVER NORTHWEST MEXICO AS THE FLOW BECOMES MORE SOUTHEASTERLY. I KEPT THE MENTION OF A SLIGHT CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING ACROSS MAINLY EASTERN MOHAVE COUNTY FOR NOW. THERE IS STILL A FAIR AMOUNT OF UNCERTAINTY REGARDING THIS POTENTIAL MOISTURE SURGE AS FAR AS TIMING AND EXACT LOCATION AND WE MAY NEED TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT ADJUSTMENTS AT SOME POINT.

.LONG TERM...MUCH OF WHAT GOES ON WITH THE WEATHER FROM SUNDAY MORNING INTO THE REST OF NEXT WEEK WILL DEPEND ON WHETHER HURRICANE DORA TRIGGERS ANY SORT OF INFLUX OF MOISTURE INTO THE AREA. BASED ON THE LATEST OPERATIONAL RUNS OF THE GFS AND ECMWF A PUSH OF MOISTURE IS SHOWN TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE INTO THE AREA BY SUNDAY MORNING WITH THE GFS SHOWING EVEN JUICIER CONDITIONS THAN THE ECMWF WITH PWATS AROUND 1.80 INCHES OVER MOHAVE COUNTY AND THE 8C 850 MB DEWPOINT LINE WELL NORTH OF I-15. THIS FAR OUT IT IS A BIT SPECULATIVE AS TO WHETHER A GULF SURGE WILL MATERIALIZE OR NOT BUT GIVEN THE DECENT MODEL AGREEMENT I HAVE OPTED TO RAISE POPS FOR THE PERIOD FROM LATE SUNDAY MORNING INTO MONDAY EVENING OVER THE SOUTHERN PORTIONS OF THE AREA AS WELL AS LINCOLN COUNTY. FURTHER NORTH AND WEST IT APPEARS THE MOISTURE MAY HIT A BRICK WALL AS AN UPPER LEVEL TROUGH OVER THE PAC NW WILL KEEP ENOUGH OF A WEST TO SOUTHWEST FLOW ALOFT IN PLACE TO KEEP ANY JUICIER MOISTURE ON OUT. GIVEN THE SET UP SHOWN...I KEPT POPS A BIT HIGHER FOR SUNDAY NIGHT AND MONDAY NIGHT THAN WOULD BE TYPICAL WITH A MORE DIURNALLY DRIVEN PATTERN.

TUESDAY INTO WEDNESDAY THE AFOREMENTIONED TROUGH ACROSS THE PAC NW

IS SHOWN TO MOVE INLAND. THIS SHOULD PUSH ANY MOISTURE THAT MOVES INTO OUR AREA EASTWARD. POPS WERE MAINLY CONFINED FROM THE COLORADO RIVER VALLEY EASTWARD THEN AS MOISTURE MAY BE SLOWER TO EXIT THESE AREAS. THE ARRIVAL OF THIS TROUGH SHOULD ENHANCE AFTERNOON AND EVENING WINDS FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

FROM NEXT THURSDAY INTO NEXT FRIDAY...THE MODELS SHOW A SOUTH TO SOUTHEAST FLOW ALOFT TRYING TO SET UP OVER THE AREA WHICH COULD OPEN THE DOOR FOR A RETURN OF SOME MOISTURE TO THE AREA. AS A RESULT I KEPT SOME POPS IN OVER THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE AREA WITH A FAVOR TOWARDS MORE TYPICAL AFTERNOON/EVENING CONVECTION.

TEMPS WILL BE TRICKY FROM SUNDAY THROUGH TUESDAY AS THE EXTENT OF CLOUDS AND CONVECTION COULD LOWER THEM QUITE A BIT FROM WHAT IS FORECASTED. SOME ADDITIONAL COOLING SHOULD TAKE PLACE FOR WEDNESDAY WITH THE LOWER HEIGHTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TROUGH. NEXT THURSDAY INTO NEXT FRIDAY SHOULD SEE A WARMING TREND AS HEIGHTS RISE.

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.AVIATION...FOR MCCARRAN...OVERALL SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST WINDS ARE EXPECTED THROUGH TONIGHT WITH SPEEDS SUSTAINED AT 8-14 KTS. GUSTS OF 20-25 KTS ARE EXPECTED MAINLY FROM LATE THIS MORNING INTO EARLY THIS EVENING. A CLEAR SKY IS EXPECTED.

FOR THE REST OF SOUTHERN NEVADA...NORTHWEST ARIZONA...AND SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA...SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST WINDS ARE EXPECTED THROUGH TONIGHT WITH GUSTS OF 20-25 KTS FROM LATE THIS MORNING INTO THIS EVENING UNDER A CLEAR SKY. KBIH SHOULD SEE TYPICAL DOWNVALLEY WINDS AT NIGHT AND UPVALLEY WINDS IN THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

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.VEF WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...

NV...NONE.

AZ...NONE.

CA...NONE.

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UPDATE...SALMEN

PREV DISCUSSION...HARRISON/STACHELSKI

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