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AFDVEF

AREA FORECAST DISCUSSION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE LAS VEGAS NV

907 AM PDT SUN JUN 1 2014

.SYNOPSIS...DRY AND VERY WARM CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED ONCE AGAIN TODAY ALONG WITH BREEZY CONDITIONS IN THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING. A DISTURBANCE WILL LIFT NORTHEAST ACROSS CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA ON MONDAY RESULTING IN GUSTY SOUTHWEST WINDS ACROSS THE AREA AND PERHAPS A STRAY **THUNDERSTORM** IN THE EASTERN SLOPES OF THE SOUTHERN SIERRA. ANOTHER SYSTEM PASSING ACROSS THE AREA WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY MAY BRING AN ISOLATED **THUNDERSTORM** TO THE HIGHER ELEVATIONS OF INYO COUNTY...OTHERWISE DRY CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED.

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.UPDATE...**SUNNY** SKIES AND RELATIVELY LIGHT WINDS ACROSS THE REGION THIS MORNING AND EXPECTED TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE DAY. NO UPDATES ANTICIPATED THIS MORNING. WILL LIKELY BE UPGRADING THE FIRE WEATHER **WATCH** FOR MONDAY TO A **RED FLAG WARNING** LATER TODAY. -HARRISON-

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.PREV DISCUSSION...

241 AM PDT SUN JUN 1 2014

.SHORT TERM...TODAY THROUGH TUESDAY NIGHT.

A SMALL DISTURBANCE NOTED IN WATER VAPOR IMAGERY AND IN THE MODEL 500 MB **VORTICITY** PROGS WAS PASSING ACROSS FAR SOUTHERN NEVADA THIS MORNING AND HELPING TO KICK UP THE WINDS IN THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE LAS VEGAS VALLEY MORE THAN WHAT GUIDANCE SUGGESTED. WIND GUSTS UP TO 39 MPH WERE CLOCKED AT MCCARRAN AIRPORT EARLIER THIS MORNING. THE PROGS SUGGEST THIS DISTURBANCE SHOULD **HEAD** EAST BY LATER THIS MORNING AND WEAKEN SO WINDS SHOULD DROP OFF IN THE VALLEY AROUND SUNRISE.

ONCE THIS FEATURE EXITS, RIDGING ALOFT SHOULD BUILD NORTH TODAY FROM MEXICO IN RESPONSE TO A DIGGING **TROUGH** ALOFT OFF THE COAST OF CALIFORNIA. THIS WILL KEEP OUR AREA IN A DRY SOUTHWEST **FLOW** AND ANOTHER VERY WARM AND **SUNNY** DAY IS EXPECTED. DESPITE FORECAST SOUNDINGS SHOWING THE LOW-LEVELS COOLING, I NUDGED UP **TEMPS** CLOSE TO YESTERDAY GIVEN THE HEIGHT RISES AND ENOUGH MIXING THIS AFTERNOON. WINDS SHOULD PICK UP IN FAVORED SPOTS THIS AFTERNOON AND EVENING WITH GUSTS OF 20-30 MPH POSSIBLE.

A BAND OF HIGH LEVEL **MOISTURE** ASSOCIATED WITH THE **JET STREAM** WAS EDGING INTO SOCAL AND ARIZONA THIS MORNING. THE 00Z **ECMWF** LATCHED ONTO THIS AND WE SHOULD SEE SOME **HIGH CLOUDS** DRIFT IN LATE THIS EVENING INTO TONIGHT FROM THE SOUTH. LOWS SHOULD BE CLOSE TO WHAT WE

HAVE SEEN IN RECENT NIGHTS.

ENERGY DROPPING DOWN FROM THE NORTH SHOULD HELP TO PULL A MID/UPPER LEVEL LOW OFF OF CALIFORNIA NORTHEAST ACROSS CALIFORNIA ON MONDAY AND ACROSS SOUTH-CENTRAL NEVADA MONDAY NIGHT. DESPITE STRONG DYNAMICS, THE **MOISTURE** WITH THIS SYSTEM LACKS. SOME HI-RESOLUTION MODELS SHOW A FEW 0.01 INCH AREAS OF **QPF** IN THE EASTERN SLOPES OF THE SOUTHERN SIERRA NEVADA BUT MOST GUIDANCE KEEPS THINGS DRY. GIVEN THE STRONG DYNAMICS, I HAVE KEPT IN A SLIGHT CHANCE FOR AFTERNOON AND EVENING THUNDERSTORMS. THE MAIN THREATS WILL BE GUSTY WINDS GIVEN THE DRY LOW-LEVELS AND POSSIBLY A **LIGHTNING** STRIKE OR TWO STARTING A **WILDFIRE**. **TEMPS** SHOULD BE A LITTLE WARMER, GIVEN MIXING INCREASES AND WARMING TAKES PLACE BELOW 500 MB. THE OTHER MAIN CONCERN WILL BE GUSTY WINDS ON THE SYNOPTIC SCALE AS THE APPROACHING SYSTEM HELPS WINDS TO PICK UP. I OPTED TO HOLD OFF ON A WIND **ADVISORY** FOR NW SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, ALTHOUGH STATISTICAL GUIDANCE OFF THE **GFS** SUGGESTS A CLOSE CALL FOR KEDW AND KDAG, AND IT LOOKS LIKE A SHORT WINDOW OF 3-5 HOURS OF LOW END **ADVISORY** LEVEL WINDS AT BEST. WINDS SHOULD DROP OFF MONDAY EVENING AS THE SYSTEM MOVES INLAND.

FOR TUESDAY, WE REMAIN AHEAD OF THE BASE OF THE MID/**UPPER LEVEL** TROUGH, BUT THE **FLOW** ALOFT FLATTENS A BIT AND PLENTY OF DRY AIR IS SHOWN TO BE IN PLACE. GIVEN THIS, AND HOW **STABLE** IT IS SHOWN ON MODELS, I REMOVED ANY THUNDERSTORMS FROM THE FORECAST. **TEMPS** SHOULD STILL BE A FEW DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL AND FAVORED SPOTS WILL SEE WINDS PICK UP FROM THE SOUTH TO SOUTHWEST, BUT BELOW WHAT WE SEE ON MONDAY. CLEAR CONDITIONS ARE EXPECTED FOR TUESDAY NIGHT WITH LOWS SHOWN TO DROP A FEW DEGREES.

.LONG TERM...WEDNESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY.

THE MODELS CONTINUE TO SHOW A WEAK BROAD **TROUGH** OVER THE WEST COAST WEDNESDAY THROUGH FRIDAY WITH VARIOUS PIECES OF ENERGY MOVING WITHIN THE **FLOW**. ALTHOUGH **MOISTURE** IS LACKING WITH ANY OF THESE FEATURES THERE WILL BE ENOUGH **INSTABILITY** AND LOW LEVEL **CONVERGENCE** TO GENERATE A FEW CLOUDS OVER MAINLY NORTHERN INYO AND ESMERALDA COUNTIES. ITS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT A **THUNDERSTORM** OR TWO COULD DEVELOP...BUT CHANCES ARE RATHER LOW. CLOUD BASES ARE EXPECTED TO BE FAIRLY HIGH SO ANYTHING THAT DOES DEVELOP WOULD LIKELY BE DRY WITH GUSTY WINDS AND DRY **LIGHTNING** THE MAIN THREAT. TEMPERATURES THROUGH THE WEEK WILL REMAIN JUST A FEW DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL...BUT WITH THE PATTERN TRANSITIONING INTO A MORE RIDGING PATTERN BY THE WEEKEND WE COULD SEE TEMPERATURES JUMP A FEW DEGREES.
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.AVIATION...FOR MCCARRAN...WINDS MAY TRY TO TRANSITION TO THE EAST TO SOUTHEAST AT TIMES LATE THIS MORNING AND EARLY THIS AFTERNOON WHEN SPEEDS DROP BELOW 6 KTS, OTHERWISE WINDS SHOULD STAY SOUTH TO SOUTH-SOUTHWEST AT 6-12 **KTS** UNDER A CLEAR SKY.

FOR THE REST OF SOUTHERN NEVADA...NORTHWEST ARIZONA...AND SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA...WINDS SHOULD MAINLY FAVOR TYPICAL **DIURNAL** DIRECTIONAL TRENDS AT 6-12 **KTS** WITH FAVORED SPOTS SEEING GUSTS OF 20-25 **KTS** FROM THE SOUTH TO SOUTH-SOUTHWEST IN THE AFTERNOON AND EARLY EVENING SUCH AS THE OWENS VALLEY AND NW SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY. A CLEAR SKY IS EXPECTED.

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.FIRE WEATHER...WINDS ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE AHEAD OF A SYSTEM ON LATE MONDAY MORNING FROM THE SOUTHWEST. GUSTS OF 30-40 MPH ARE POSSIBLE AND GIVEN THE VERY LOW **HUMIDITY** AND DRY FUELS A FIRE WEATHER **WATCH** IS IN EFFECT FOR MOST OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, ALL OF NW ARIZONA AND THE COLORADO RIVER VALLEY OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY. WINDS SHOULD DECREASE MONDAY EVENING AS THE SYSTEM WORKS ACROSS SOUTHERN NEVADA. IN ADDITION, ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS ARE POSSIBLE IN THE AFTERNOON AND EVENING MONDAY AND AGAIN ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY IN THE EASTERN SLOPES OF THE SOUTHERN SIERRA NEVADA. THE MAIN CONCERN WILL BE FOR GUSTY WINDS NEAR ANY ACTIVITY, HOWEVER, STORMS WILL BE DRY IN NATURE AND THUS ANY **LIGHTNING** STRIKES NEED TO BE WATCHED FOR POTENTIAL **WILDFIRE** STARTS.

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.VEF WATCHES/WARNINGS/ADVISORIES...

NV...FIRE WEATHER **WATCH** FROM MONDAY MORNING THROUGH MONDAY EVENING FOR NVZ461>466.

AZ...FIRE WEATHER **WATCH** FROM MONDAY MORNING THROUGH MONDAY EVENING FOR AZZ101-102.

CA...FIRE WEATHER **WATCH** FROM MONDAY MORNING THROUGH MONDAY EVENING FOR CAZ229.

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SHORT TERM/AVIATION/FIRE WEATHER...STACHELSKI
LONG TERM...GORELOW

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