

Weather and Climate Summary and Forecast Harvest 2015

Gregory V. Jones
Southern Oregon University
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Mid-month update on conditions and forecast. The first half of September has been mixed, showing early fall signs of a change in the flow of the atmosphere from dominant ridging to troughs and low pressure systems moving into the western US. Cooler than normal conditions west wide during the first seven days of the month gave way to warmer than normal conditions the next seven days.

The recent cold front has brought temperatures down again with increased chance for precipitation, although not much in this system. Next wave comes into the west on Wednesday with continued cooler than normal conditions and a much greater chance of rainfall from central California north to the Puget Sound. Rainfall amounts could be impressive (0.5-1.5") at the coast and into the coastal mountains over most the western US. Rainfall amounts inland will be less, but cool conditions likely to bring snow at higher elevations throughout the northern Sierra Nevadas and the Cascades.

Most models are pointing to a building ridge into the weekend and through early next week. Ridge strength and warming to seasonal or slightly above normal temperatures is most likely from California into northern Oregon giving way to cooler and cloudy conditions into western Washington and Canada. Any rainfall through the middle of next week will follow this same pattern. While days will likely warm to above average over the short term, cooler nighttime temperatures are here to stay.

The CPC outlook for the western US over the rest of September is pointing to a continued presence of the trough in the Gulf of Alaska. The trough position is likely to keep areas from northern Oregon into western Washington and Canada cooler than normal with a greater chance of precipitation during at least the next 14 days. Southern Oregon into California are likely to be mixed with near normal temperatures and the potential for some rain that diminishes as you head further south.

Updates will come as our fall continues to unfold.

Gregory V. Jones, PhD
Environmental Science and Policy
Southern Oregon University
1250 Siskiyou Blvd
Ashland, OR 97520
541-552-6758
gjones@sou.edu

