

the Outlook

The first winter type storm system of the season is currently moving into Central California with substantial rainfall as it slides to the south and east today. Cold air mass behind this system will bring cooler temperatures and very strong winds as it moves to the east later today. This system will impact Southern California today into Tuesday as it moves out of the region. Harvests in the Salinas Valley have been suspended today as up to an inch of rain has fallen overnight. Scattered showers and thunderstorms will continue as the system moves out over the next day or so.

This first storm system of the season looks to open up the track for more systems to follow the similar pattern. Forecasts expect the next system to impact the region next Monday. All signs point to a strong winter season with the influence of the El Nino on the west coast. The hope going forward is for some breaks in between these storm systems to allow for the areas to dry out before the next system and avoid potential flooding.

The bulk of the precipitation looks to remain north of the Yuma region with a chance of showers mainly to the north over the next couple of days. The main impact to these desert regions will be cooler temperatures (10-15 degrees below norms) and another round of very strong winds. At this point we will have to see how this strong system impacts the numerous regions currently in production as it swings though over the next couple of days.

