

DISCOVER-AQ Outlook for Tuesday, July 5, 2011

A tough forecast today. The frontal system that pushed south of the study region will be moving back north during the day on Wednesday. The day may begin with minimal cloud, especially over the northern part of the study region. However, clouds will be on the increase from south to north as the day goes by. This is the consensus formed by the NAM, NAM-MOS, and GEM (Canadian model), with the GFS as the outlier, keeping the skies clearer. Therefore, conditions have been judged to be quite uncertain for flights tomorrow. The only way flights could be conducted would be with another early departure. Thursday conditions are also very uncertain cloud-wise as the frontal system remains relatively stationary. These uncertainties, along with logistical concerns, have led to decisions not to fly on Wed. and Thurs. Looking farther into the future, the GFS model tends to build a strong ridge over the central and eastern US starting on Saturday and continuing into much of next week. This is the more classical summertime pattern. The frontal systems that have been making forecasts difficult will be largely confined to Canada, and the chances for stagnation conditions over the study region increase.