

POST TROPICAL CYCLONE REPORT

Storm Name Hurricane Lala

NWS Office Honolulu

Begin/End Date 08/14/2026 - 08/16/2026

Fatalities [2] - Direct
[1] - Indirect

Tornadoes 0

Event Summary

Lala made a direct hit as a Category 1 hurricane over the Big Island with the eyewall passing near South Point, Hawaii, around 4 pm HST on Aug 15th. Around this time, an observation near South Point at 550 feet measured a sustained wind of 51 mph and a gust of 71 mph. Subsequent data from the WSR-88D radar at South Point indicated estimated winds of 80 to 85 knots around or just under 5000 feet. These radar-estimated winds corresponded to approximately 70 knots at the surface. Lala's impacts on the islands included catastrophic flooding over the Kau District of the Big Island, considerable flooding over Oahu and Maui, damaging winds across the state, and warning-level surf along the exposed east-facing shores of the Big Island, Maui County and Oahu.

Rainfall

Outer rainbands associated with Lala began producing heavy rainfall over windward Big Island during the day Saturday Aug 15th with rates of 1 to 2 inches per hour. Intense rainbands associated with the eyewall of Lala produced extreme rainfall rates during the evening of Saturday, August 15th through most of Sunday, August 16th. The highest rainfall totals were observed over the southeast slopes of the Big Island in the Kau District with some locations receiving over 30 inches. The high rainfall amounts were achieved in short time, and as an unfortunate result, massive flood waves surged through Naalehu and Pahala, effectively cutting off the towns, sweeping homes off of their foundations, and destroyed bridges, roads, and other vital infrastructure. Two direct casualties were reported in Naalehu as a result of the floodwaters. Many other valuable community assets such as schools and the Naalehu cemetery received damage. The heavy rainfall associated with Lala spread to the rest of the islands late Saturday August 15th through Sunday August 16th. Rainfall associated with the outer bands of Lala moved over Maui County and Oahu with rainfall rates around 1 to 2 inches per hour. Most of the heavy rainfall observed over Maui County and Oahu was over the windward portions and several roads were closed due to flooding. These roads included North Kihei Road on Maui and the H1 freeway on Oahu.

Winds

Winds associated with Lala began increasing on the Big Island during the evening of Friday August 14th and peaked during the afternoon August 15th as the eyewall passed near South Point. Winds associated with Lala spread to the rest of the islands late Saturday August 15th through Sunday August 16th. The winds left widespread impacts across the state, with many reports of blown roofs, downed utility poles, and fallen trees. Around 200,000 customers lost power due to the storm, with thousands waiting for days or longer for power restoration.

Surf

Surf along east facing shores quickly climbed through the early morning hours on Saturday, with a peak occurring around mid morning. The PacIOOS nearshore waverider buoy at Hilo measured peak total significant wave heights near 18 feet with peak wave periods ranging from 10-12 seconds. A High Surf Warning was issued for east facing shores with peak surf heights up to 20 feet.

NOTE: It is unlikely that the point-based observations provided in this report sampled the peak values for the event.

Highest 10 Land Winds (kts)*

Station	State	Type	Sustained
Hawaii 202602	HI	HECO	59
Hawaii 202602	HI	HECO	58
HELCO Ala Kahua Dr	HI	HECO	50
Ilio 1	HI	RAWS	49
MECO Kealahou Ridge	HI	HECO	49
HELCO Lalamilo Wells	HI	HECO	49
HELCO Kohala Mountain Rd	HI	HECO	49
HELCO Waikoloa Rd 2	HI	HECO	48
Oahu 202605	HI	HECO	48
KAMUELA	HI	NCAWOS	47

* Anemometer heights < 20 m

Highest 10 Land Gusts (kts)*

<i>Station</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Gust</i>
Mokolelau 1	HI	RAWS	80
Hawaii 202602	HI	HECO	79
Hawaii 202602	HI	HECO	79
Olowalu 1	HI	RAWS	77
HELCO Ala Kahua Dr	HI	HECO	74
Kohala Ranch	HI	RAWS	73
Lahainaluna 1	HI	RAWS	71
MECO Ukumehame Gulch	HI	HECO	71
Oahu 202605	HI	HECO	71
Oahu Forest NWR (USFWS)	HI	RAWS	70

* Anemometer heights < 20 m

Highest 10 Marine Winds (kts)*

<i>Station</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Sustained</i>
Kula	PWS	
1617433 - Kawaihae HI	NOS	44.0000
1615680 - Kahului Harbor HI	NOS	39.0000
SOUTHEAST HAWAII - 205 NM Southeast	NDBC	33.0000
SOUTHEAST HAWAII - 205 NM Southeast	NDBC	33.0000
1612480 - Mokuoloe HI	NOS	33.0000
1612401 - Pearl Harbor HI	NOS	31.0000

* Anemometer heights < 20 m

Highest 10 Marine Gusts (kts)*

<i>Station</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Gust</i>
Kula	PWS	97
1617433 - Kawaihae HI	NOS	62
1615680 - Kahului Harbor HI	NOS	48
SOUTHEAST HAWAII - 205 NM Southeast	NDBC	47
SOUTHEAST HAWAII - 205 NM Southeast	NDBC	47
1612480 - Mokuoloe HI	NOS	47
1612401 - Pearl Harbor HI	NOS	44

* Anemometer heights < 20 m

Highest 10 Rainfall Totals

<i>Station</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Inches</i>
Nene Cabin	HI	RAWS	37.01
VOLCANO 4.0 S	HI	CoCoRaHS	30.57
Hakalau	HI	RAWS	30.28
KEAAU 4.0 SSE	HI	CoCoRaHS	29.03
HAWAIIAN OCEAN VIEW 4.7 NNE	HI	CoCoRaHS	28.58
Hawaiian Ocean View 4.7 NNE	HI	CoCoRaHS	27.66
Kapapala Ranch (15003)	HI	HADS	26.60
Volcano 4.0 S	HI	CoCoRaHS	25.90
Saddle Quarry (USGS)	HI	HADS	25.48
Kapapala RAWS	HI	RAWS	25.45

Highest NOAA Tide Gage Observations

<i>Station</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Datum</i>	<i>Water Level (ft)</i>
Hilo, Hilo Bay, Kuhio Bay	HI	MHHW	0.68
Kahului Harbor	HI	MHHW	0.82
Hilo Bay, Kuhio Bay	HI	MHHW	0.79
Kawaihae	HI	MHHW	0.72
Nawiliwili	HI	MHHW	0.61
Honolulu	HI	MHHW	0.58
Mokuoloe	HI	MHHW	0.50
Pearl Harbor	HI	MHHW	0.50
Honolulu	HI	MHHW	0.58
Mokuoloe	HI	MHHW	0.50
Pearl Harbor	HI	MHHW	0.50

Lowest 10 Pressures (MSLP)

<i>Station</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Millibars</i>
SOUTHEAST HAWAII - 205 NM Southeast of Hilo, HI	HI	NDBC	994.1
Captain Cook	HI	CWOP	994.8
Aipalaoa	HI	UH	995.4
Keahuolu	HI	UH	996.3
Kawaihae	HI	UH	996.4
Kailua-Kona	HI	CWOP	996.8
Kona Hema	HI	UH	997.8
Kaluamakani	HI	UH	998.0
Kawaihae	HI	NDBC	998.0
KH6HHG Makawao	HI	CWOP	998.3

Report Last Updated on [MM/DD/YYYY]:

The following files have been updated: [Insert list of files/data that have been updated. For the initial issuance, all files should be listed.]

[Example: The following files have been updated: Wind and Pressure, Tornadoes, Impact Narratives.]

Remarks:

Rainfall data represents a 48 hour storm total collected between 2 am Saturday Aug 15th to 2 am Monday Aug 17th.