



Hawai'i Ho'ohekili

Skywarn Weather Spotter Newsletter
National Weather Service, Honolulu, HI



Dry Season Edition, 2014

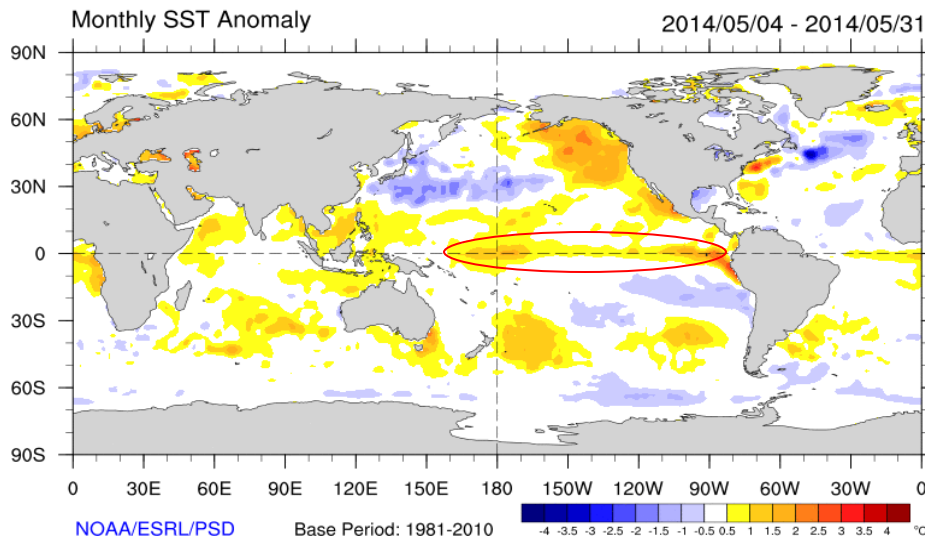
Issued — June 2014

Spotter Newsletter Volume 9

Inside this edition: El Nino possible this summer and fall. Drought conditions alleviated! The Central Pacific Hurricane Season has begun. And more!!!

El Nino Watch!

ENSO neutral conditions persist, but indicators are pointing toward an El Nino event later this year. Sea surface temperatures (SST) are above average across the equatorial Pacific (see fig) - with continued warming El Nino is likely to form. Climate models predict above normal temperatures for Hawaii through the rest of 2014. Above median precipitation amounts are favored for Hawaii through the summer with lower amounts expected for the fall and winter.

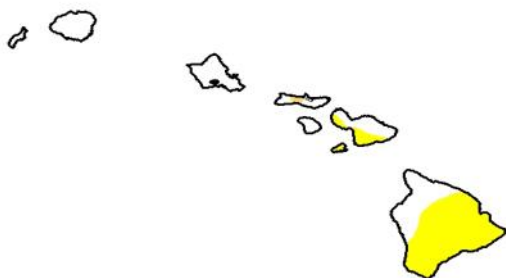


Severe Drought ends across Hawaii!!

— Kevin Kodama, Service Hydrologist

The last areas of severe drought, or the D2 category, was finally eased to moderate drought, D1, for the Kualapuu reservoir in West Molokai. This downgrade ended D2 conditions that had lasted in various locations across the islands since 2008!!

U.S. Drought Monitor Hawaii



June 3, 2014
(Released Thursday, Jun. 5, 2014)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	49.77	50.23	0.53	0.00	0.00	0.00
Last Week 5/27/2014	50.80	49.20	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 3/29/2014	43.39	56.61	12.84	0.51	0.42	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 1/1/2014	26.97	73.03	49.62	18.86	3.12	0.00
Start of Water Year 1/1/2013	9.77	90.23	63.34	20.08	3.95	0.00
One Year Ago 6/2/2013	55.72	44.28	32.68	7.76	0.65	0.00

Intensity:
 D0 Abnormally Dry D3 Extreme Drought
 D1 Moderate Drought D4 Exceptional Drought
 D2 Severe Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:
Richard Tinker
CPC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP



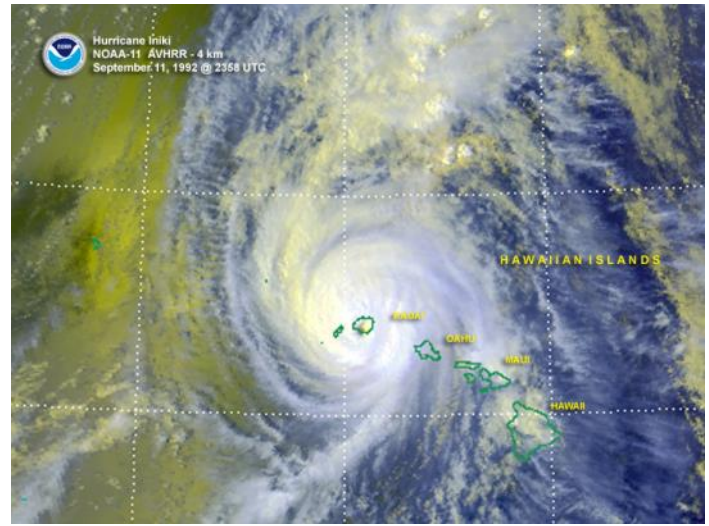
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

It's Hurricane Season in the Central Pacific!!

The Central Pacific Hurricane Center announced that climate conditions

point to a near or above normal season with 4-7 tropical cyclones expected across the central Pacific (from 140W to the dateline). There is a 20% chance of a below normal season.

This outlook is based on upon expectations of El Nino forming later this year. El Nino decreases the vertical wind shear over the tropical central Pacific, favoring the development of more and stronger tropical cyclones.



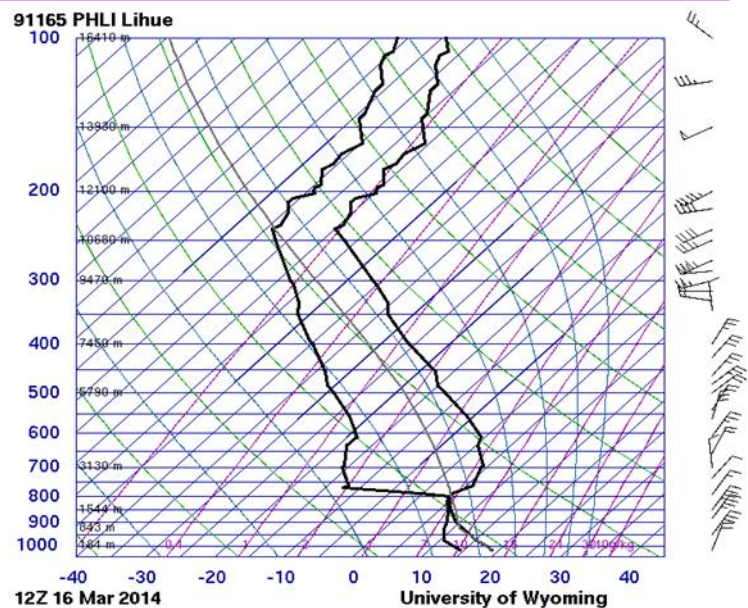
Statewind Strong Wind Event Summary – March 15-16, 2014

- Mike Cantin WCM

Synopsis:

Strong high pressure was centered north-northeast of the islands with a weak trough of low pressure parked just east of the state. The combination of these features generated a period a strong north to northeast winds that buffeted the state.

Building high pressure created low and strong inversions that further strengthened winds over and just to the lee of mountain areas. The pressure gradient between Lihue and Kona peaked at around 5.4mb on the morning on 5/16.



Products/Services Highlights:

A series of products were issued to highlight this event several days in advance. An SPS was issued to highlight the threat on Thursday, March 13th. A High wind watch was issued early in the morning of Friday, March 14th. A High Wind Warning was then issued during the early morning of Saturday, March 15th.

Additionally, a Gale Watch was issued for channel areas during the afternoon of March 13th, and was followed by a Gale Warning during the afternoon of March 14th.

The progression of products to alert the public ahead of this event was excellent. As the event drew closer and forecaster confidence grew, products of increasing certainty were issued. Wind damage was experienced across the state during the event with power outages, downed trees and utility poles, and roof damage.





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<https://www.facebook.com/US.NationalWeatherService.Honolulu.gov>

And on Twitter we can be found at

@NWSHonolulu

Posts do not always reflect the most current information. For current official info, visit:
<http://www.weather.gov/hawaii>.

Rainfall Record set at Lihue Airport

Today's rainfall total at Lihue Airport of **1.45"** (as of 4pm) beats the previous rainfall record for this day of **1.01"** set in 1962. Today is now the 3rd wettest day in June in Lihue, on record.

Shows, being pushed up by the southeast flow, trained up the eastern side of Kauai, producing locally heavy showers this morning/early afternoon (June 2nd).

Data USGS
Data LOBE/Columbia NSF/NOAA
Data SOST/JHM
Image © 2014 DigitalGlobe

Google earth

How to stay safe if caught in a Rip Current

- Stay Calm, this will help you conserve energy
- Don't fight the current
- Swim across the current, in a direction parallel to the shoreline
- When out of the current, swim at an angle away from the current towards the shore
- If you can't escape the current, try to float or tread water lightly. Rip current strength eventually weakens offshore. Swim diagonally back to shore.
- If at any time you feel you are unable to reach the shore, draw attention to yourself. Face the shore, wave your arms, and call for help.

Talk to the lifeguard if you are unsure about swimming conditions



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