



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



November 1998

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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HAWAII

HIZ002>005

Kauai Windward - Kauai Leeward - Kauai Mountains - Oahu South Shore

01	0000HST	0	0	Drought
30	2359HST			

Rainfall amounts were a mixed bag throughout the state. Individuals in some areas may have felt like the enhanced rainfall expected during a La Nina episode was here. Others, especially in the leeward areas of the islands of Maui and Hawaii, continued to see below normal precipitation.

Large scale trade winds continued to play a dominant role in the weather over the Hawaiian Islands in the month of November. The trades were light during the first week of the month but were fairly typical stronger trades for the rest of November.

An upper level trough to the west of the state, however, produced relatively unstable conditions and enhanced shower activity over the islands. Normally, the month of November marks the start of the cool season, with the island chain experiencing the passage of several cold fronts or shear lines. Subtropical cyclones, or kona storms, can also develop west of the isles to generate prolonged periods of heavy rain. During November 1998, only one shear line (the remnant of a cold front) was able to reach the island chain. A band of showers ahead of the shear line produced heavy rain for a brief period along the north sections of windward Oahu. The shear line stalled over the island of Kauai and the Kauai Channel on 11 November before lifting out toward the northeast. Fragments of this shear line, and subsequent remains of shear lines embedded within the trade flow, impacted the islands from the east and northeast over the period from 12 to 20 November. This caused enhanced trade showers, mainly over the windward sections of the isles. In addition to the upper trough mentioned above, other upper air troughs from the east helped enhance shower activity, especially over the islands of Maui and Hawaii during the month.

Below are rainfall statistics for selected locations from around the state. The first column is the rainfall for the month of November. The second has the 30-year average for each location, while the third column is the percent of average rainfall for the month of November.

	November 98	Avg.	% Avg.
Oahu			
Honolulu	0.85	3.0	35
Manoa Arbor.	17.42	13.5	129
Hawaii Kai	1.20	3.0	40
Ahuimanu	M	9.9	M
Waianae	0.46	2.0	23
Waialua	1.78	4.2	42
Maui			
Kahului	1.94	2.6	75
Hana	3.13	8.7	36
Kihei	0.00	1.5	0
Lahainaluna	0.36	2.0	18
Wailuku	1.80	2.9	62
Island of Hawaii			
Hilo	15.57	14.5	107
Pahala	1.48	5.5	27
Honaunau (Capt. Cook)	1.51	3.6	42
Kamuela (Upper)	6.91	5.3	130
Kamuela	3.54	5.8	61
Laupahoehoe	14.94	13.6	110
Molokai			
Kaunakakai	0.58	1.6	36



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HAWAII

HIZ001>006

Niihau - Kauai Windward - Kauai Leeward - Kauai Mountains - Oahu South Shore - Waianae Coast

08	1800HST				0	2			High Surf
13	0600HST								

Storm low far northwest of Hawaii generated surf of 10 to 20 feet along north and west shores of all the islands. All north shore beaches were closed on 11 Nov, and all but Waimea were closed on 12 Nov, due to the high surf. More than 20 surfers and other beachgoers had been rescued by lifeguards before beaches were closed on the 11th. Two people were slightly injured on Oahu's north shore due to high surf on the 8th.

Maui County
3 NW Wailuku

17	1430HST				0	0			Urban/Sml Stream Fld
	2030HST								

Firefighters rescued five hikers who had been stranded in the mountains above Waihee after heavy rain raised stream waters. No injuries were reported.

HIZ001>006

Niihau - Kauai Windward - Kauai Leeward - Kauai Mountains - Oahu South Shore - Waianae Coast

26	0900HST				0	0			High Surf
27	0600HST								

Storm low far north of the state near the Aleutian Islands generated surf of 8 to 15 feet along the north shores of all the Hawaiian islands.

HIZ001>006

Niihau - Kauai Windward - Kauai Leeward - Kauai Mountains - Oahu South Shore - Waianae Coast

30	1000HST				0	0			High Surf
	1800HST								

Storm low far northwest of the island chain produced surf of 6 to 10 feet along the north and west shores of all the isles.

HIZ003

Kauai Leeward

30	2000HST				0	0			High Wind (52)
	2359HST								

West to northwest winds of 50 to 60 mph occurred near the summit of Haleakala.