



Hawai'i Ho'ohēkili

Skywarn Weather Spotter Newsletter
National Weather Service, Honolulu, HI



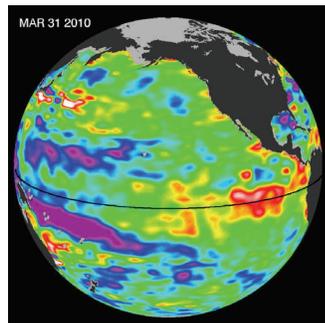
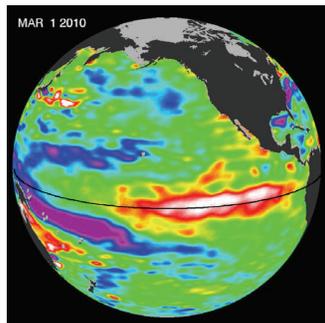
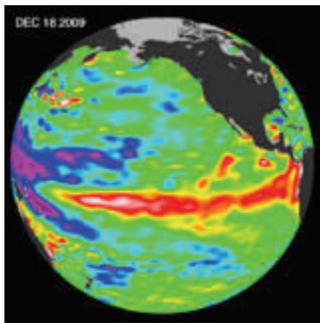
Dry Season Edition – Spring 2010

Spotter Newsletter Volume 2

EL Nino in the Central Pacific

According to the NOAA Climate Prediction Center, the Pacific Ocean sea surface temperature pattern remains at levels consistent with the current El Nino event—although it is continuing to cool in line with expectations. Tropical Pacific Ocean temperatures are expected to cool further over the coming months. Based on current observations and model forecasts—El Nino is expected to continue through this Spring and transition to neutral conditions by the summer. Drier than normal and slightly cooler conditions are expected over Hawaii for the rest of the spring and through July.

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These images are from the OSTM/Jason-2 satellite. Colors indicate sea surface height which correlates with heating and cooling of the ocean below. The images show the waters along the equatorial Pacific warming from DEC 18 to MAR 1 and then cooling through the month of March.

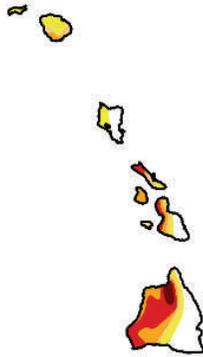
U.S. Drought Monitor Hawaii

April 20, 2010
Valid 7 a.m. EST

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	31.7	68.3	50.2	41.1	23.7	3.1
Last Week (04/13/2010 map)	31.7	68.3	50.2	41.1	23.7	3.1
3 Months Ago (01/26/2010 map)	0.7	99.3	56.9	36.9	9.8	0.0
Start of Calendar Year (01/05/2010 map)	31.1	68.9	53.8	36.9	6.4	0.0
Start of Water Year (10/06/2009 map)	18.8	81.2	51.4	32.8	6.7	0.0
One Year Ago (04/21/2009 map)	39.0	61.0	43.4	23.2	0.0	0.0

Intensity:

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



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

<http://drought.unl.edu/dm>

Released Thursday, April 22, 2010
Author: A. Artusa, CPC/NOAA

The National Weather Service is now Monitoring Twitter for Weather Reports

Effective April 15 2010, the NWS began monitoring the micro-blogging service Twitter for user-posts that contain significant weather information. Users can tweet weather events, such as surf reports or weather conditions, but we are most interested in significant events. If you would like to use this service to input weather reports please go to <http://www.weather.gov/stormreports> to get more information.

Significant Drought Remains over Leeward Big Island and Maui County

Persistent trade winds throughout March helped erase drought conditions over most windward areas of the state. Unfortunately, only limited amounts of rainfall occurred over the leeward sides of the larger islands, so significant drought persists. On the Big Island, exceptional conditions, or the D4 category on the US Drought Monitor, continues over the South Kohala District. Extreme drought, or D3 category, remains over most of the Kau, North Kona and South Kona Districts. In Maui County, extreme drought persists over the lower elevations of leeward Maui and over the western third of Molokai. Lanai remains under D2 conditions, which are categorized as severe drought. On Kauai, rainfall helped improve the drought picture over the windward slopes, going from severe drought to moderate drought, or the D1 category. Oahu is the only major island not impacted by drought.

Kevin Kodama, WFO Honolulu Hydrologist

Aloha Hawaii Weather Spotters!

You are receiving this newsletter because you are on our list of trained spotters. We will be issuing the newsletter twice a year, one for the wet season and another for the dry season. If you would like to be removed from our spotter list, or have new contact information, please contact our Spotter Coordinator, Ian Morrison, at ian.morrison@noaa.gov. Recently, we have been sending out a 'heads-up' email before potential hazardous weather events to our Spotters. **Please send your email information if you have not been receiving these messages and I will add you to the mailing list.** Weather Spotter Training Seminars will be offered across the state as scheduling allows. Announcements for the seminars will be placed on the front page of our website at www.weather.gov/hawaii



Waterspout in Kailua Bay, Big Island—December 20, 2010

STORM SPOTTERS HAVE THEIR EYES ON THE SKY

Skywarn facilitates NOAA's mission to protect lives and property in three ways: 1) Assists in present and future warning decisions 2) Confirms hazardous weather detected by NOAA radar and satellites and 3) Provides verification information after the storm has passed.

Hurricane Season is Fast Approaching

Hurricane season begins June 1st! It's time to start thinking about re-stocking your hurricane kit and making sure all of your emergency supplies are in working order. The Central Pacific Hurricane Center in Honolulu will issue their official 2010 Seasonal Outlook on May 19, 2010.



We are on the web at
www.weather.gov/hawaii

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Skywarn Weather Spotter Newsletter
National Weather Service, Honolulu, HI

2525 Correa Rd, Ste 250
Honolulu, HI 96822

Tel: 808 973 5286
E-mail: ian.morrison@noaa.gov