

2000 UTC 15 August 2017 Forecast Discussion

Summary

At this time, there are only a few scattered showers present in the Philippines. Southeast of the Philippines there is an area of enhanced convection (Fig. 1) and increasing low level vorticity. NRL has placed on invest tag on this area of disorganized storms which is moving westward towards the Celebes Sea. Weak vertical wind shear exists in this region along with warm SSTs and high total precipitable water meaning a favorable environment. However this system has no low level circulation and is unlikely to develop in the next 48 hours. It has not been resolved in any of the forecast models and is not listed as an invest by JTWC.

Most BSISO and MJO models are continuing to show trends of convective suppression at this time with continuation over the next two weeks (Fig. 2). The GFS is the only model that is not in agreement and is predicting an active phase of the MJO in the next week. The GFS has also continued to hint at tropical cyclogenesis occurring around 1200 UTC 19 August west of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam tracking northwest towards the northern tip of the Philippines and into Taiwan. The confidence in this formation is trending upwards with the ECMWF now showing an elongated area of low pressure forming around the same time.

COAMPS 0000 UTC forecast is predicting weak surface currents along the west coast of the Philippines coupled with warm SSTs and 33-34 psu salinity. Surface winds are weak with isolated regions of winds above 15 kt outside of Manila Bay. Active precipitation is occurring west of 120E from 2100-0300 UTC 15-16 August (Fig. 3). Wind sea heights and significant wave heights are not available at this time, but are expected to be relatively calm in the absence of convection in the domain.

Day One (24 hours) Outlook:

Generally suppressed convection aside from sea breeze and topographically forced thunderstorms. NO TC DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED.

Day Two (48 hours) Outlook:

Generally suppressed convection aside from sea breeze and topographically forced thunderstorms. NO TC DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED.

Extended Outlook:

Current conditions near the Philippines remain favorable for TC intensification with low deep-layer vertical wind shear, warm SSTs and modest amounts of precipitable water. Possible TC development in the models appears approximately 4 days out in the GFS. NOAA Climate Prediction Center Outlook is predicting an increase in tropical cyclone activity in the region next week 23-29 August with higher than average rainfall (Fig. 4).

FORECASTERS

TRABING, DELAP, AND CHA

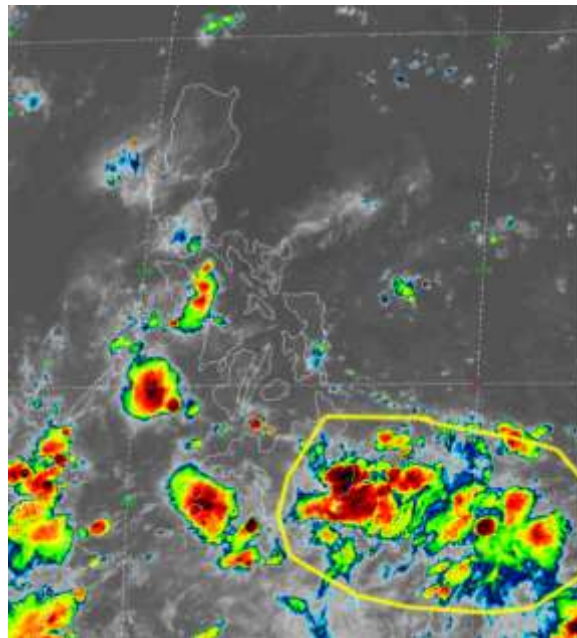


Figure 1: Himawari-8 infrared image with the circle highlighting the NRL labeled invest.

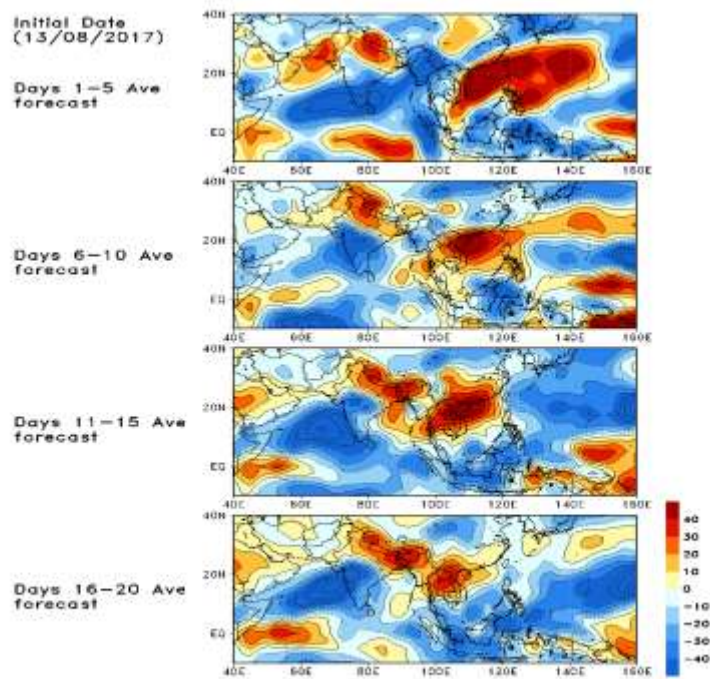


Figure 2: OLR anomaly forecast associated with BSISO and MJO.

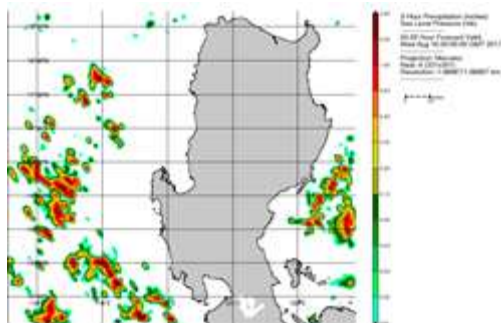


Figure 3: COAMPS 24-hour forecast for radar reflectivity.

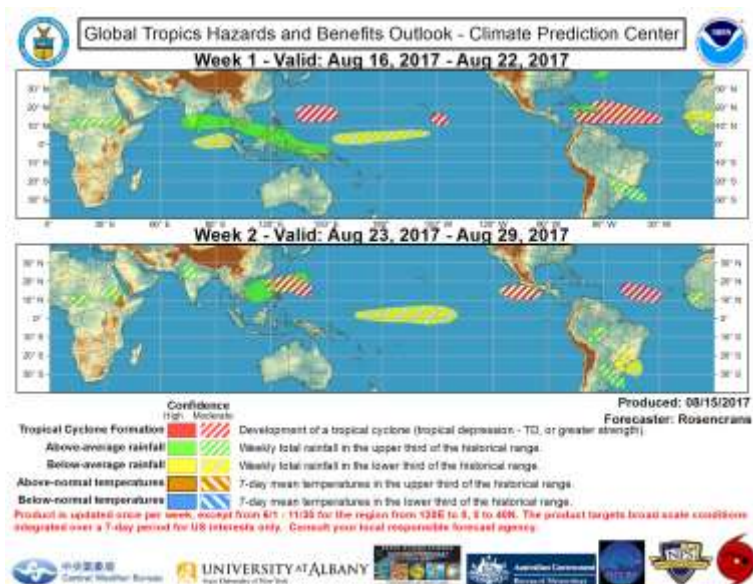


Figure 4: NOAA CPC tropical hazards highlighting increased tropical cyclogenesis in late August.