

2300 UTC 16 August 2017 Forecast Discussion

Summary

The BSISO index is currently Phase 2, and the MJO has a weak signature. As a result, there is currently mostly suppressed convection, no active TCs, and weak surface currents. However, there is some persistent organized convection ESE of Manilla moving away from Luzon that is forcing some isolated showers in the forecast domain with its outflow, and the sea-breeze will provide diurnal convection as it moves offshore.

Day One (24 hr) Outlook: Generally weak surface currents and suppressed convection aside from sea breeze and topographically forced thunderstorms. NO TC DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED.

Day Two (48 hr) Outlook: Generally weak surface currents and suppressed convection aside from sea breeze and topographically forced thunderstorms. NO TC DEVELOPMENT IS EXPECTED.

Extended Outlook: Both the 12Z GFS and ECMWF show a TC near the northern edge of Luzon on 12Z Aug 22, but confidence is low at this time. However, environmental conditions are generally favorable for development should it occur, as there is still low vertical wind shear, generally high TPW, and warm SSTs.

Discussion

TCs: Currently, there are no active or developing TCs in the forecast area. NRL has removed the index tag from yesterday's convection, and there are no TCs forecast to develop in the next 48 hours. However, both the 12Z GFS and ECMWF show a potential TC near the northern edge of Luzon at 12Z on Tue, Aug 22 (Figure 2). While confidence is currently low in the TC forming, it will continue to be monitored. The potential TCs mentioned in yesterday's discussion are no longer forming in the 12Z GFS.

Convection: Organized convection is currently located WSWk of Manilla, and is moving WNW away from Luzon (Figure 1, 4). It is not expected to impact operations directly, but outflow from it is colliding with the now weak sea-breeze and enhancing some isolated convection that is west of central Luzon. The bulk of convection in the forecast domain was strongest around 10-15Z as the sea-breeze came offshore, and the sea-breeze is expected to be the dominate forcing of convection in the 0-48 hr timeframe.

MJO/BSISO: The BSISO index is still generally Phase 2, and the MJO signature is still weak. Both the BOM and the ECMWF show that the BSISO 1 might change to Phase 3 within the 0-4 day time frame (Figure 3), but the CWB actually shows retrograding to Phase 1 instead.

SSTs: SSTs are generally above 30°C except along the coast, and are forecast to continue being warm in the absence of strong convection-induced upwelling.

Surface Currents: Surface currents are still weak at 0.25 cm/s or less for most of the domain, and are not expected to increase in the 0-48 hr timeframe (Figure 5). The fastest current in the forecast domain in the 00Z COAMPS is in Lingayen Bay at 1 cm/s at 48 hr.

FORECASTERS:
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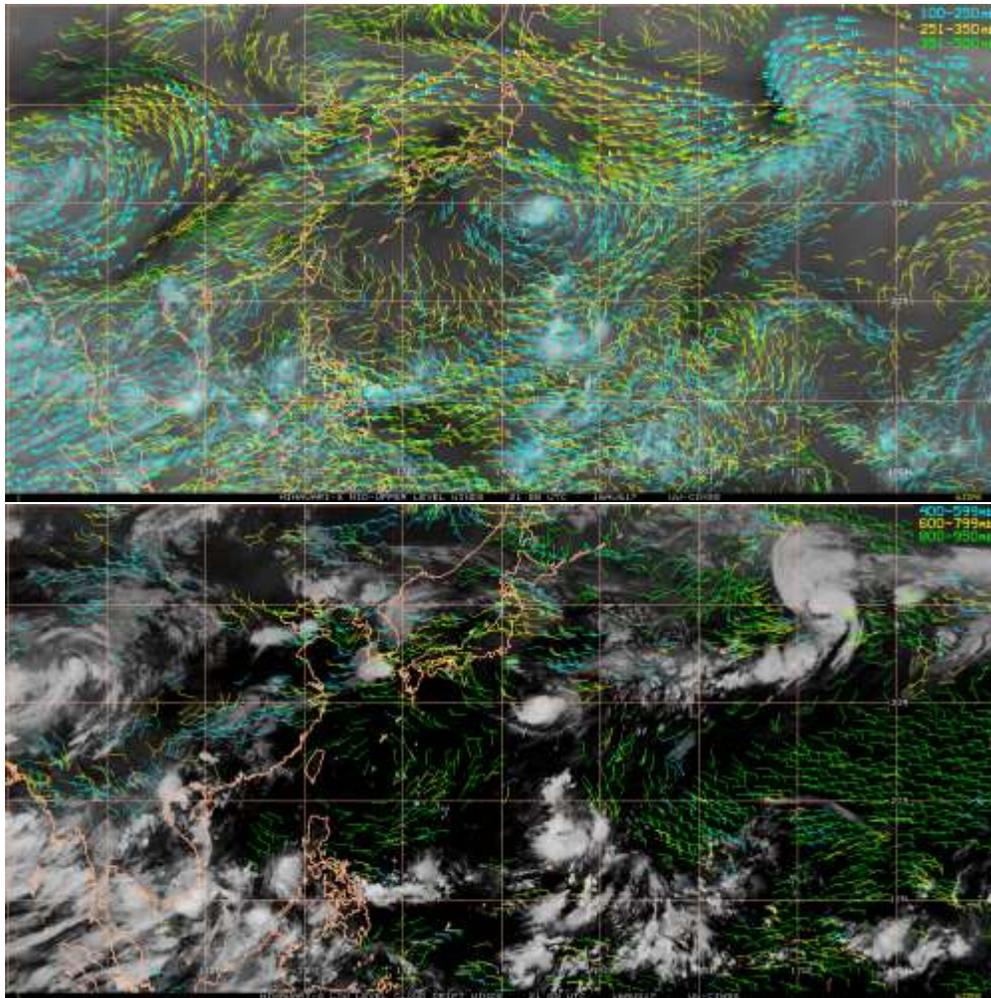


Figure 1. Current 21Z Aug 16 upper-level (top) and lower-level (bottom) winds. [1]

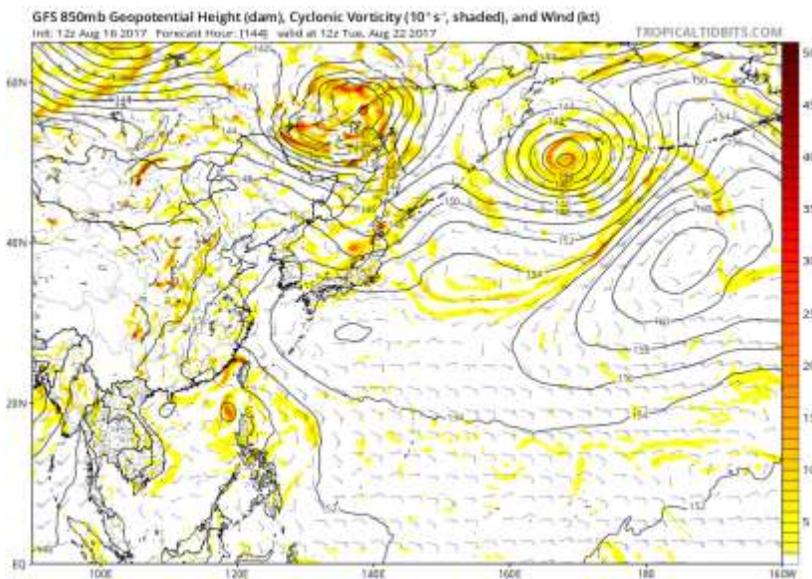
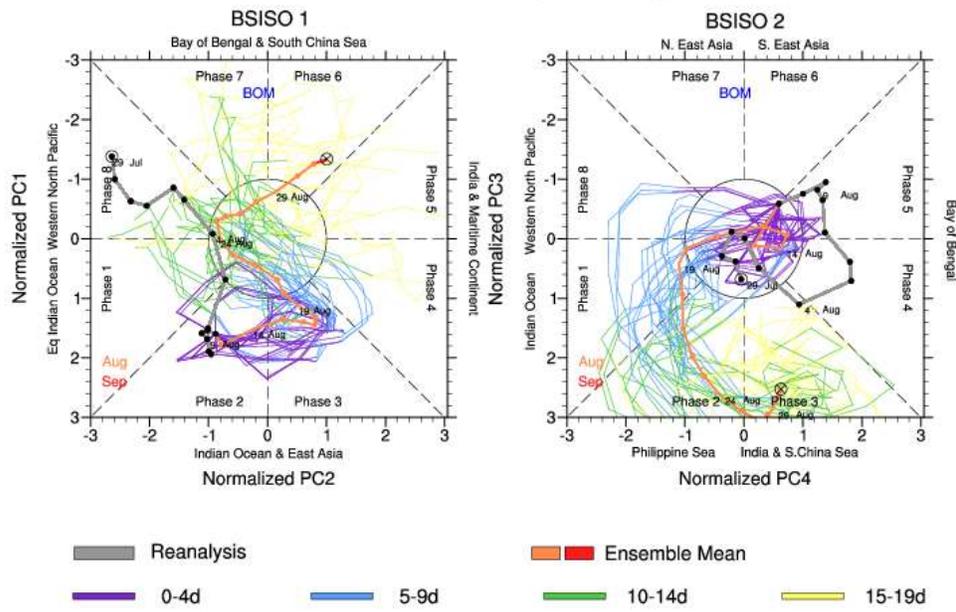


Figure 2. 12Z Aug 16 GFS forecast valid at 12Z Aug 22 showing a potential TC near Luzon. [2]

BSISO Forecast for 13Aug2017-1Sep2017



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Figure 3. The BOM forecast for the BSISO valid for 13 Aug 2017 – 1 Sep 2017. [3]

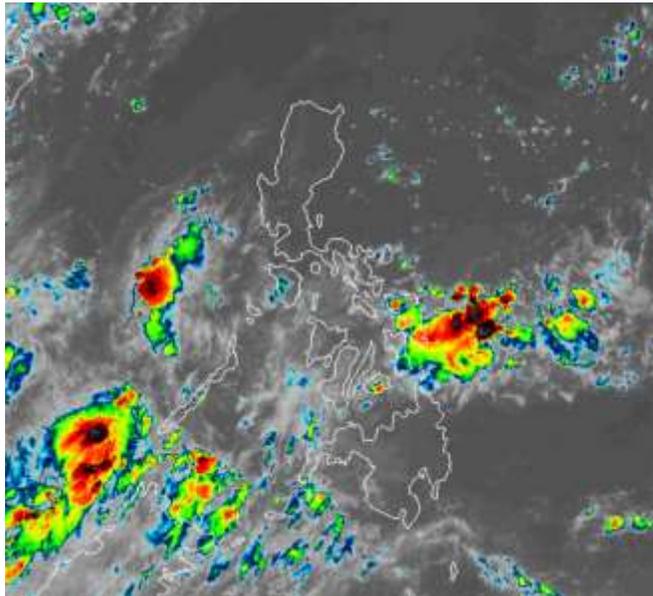


Figure 4. 11.6 μm IR imagery at 23:30:00 UTC showing the persistent convection WSW of Manilla and isolated showers to its north. [4]

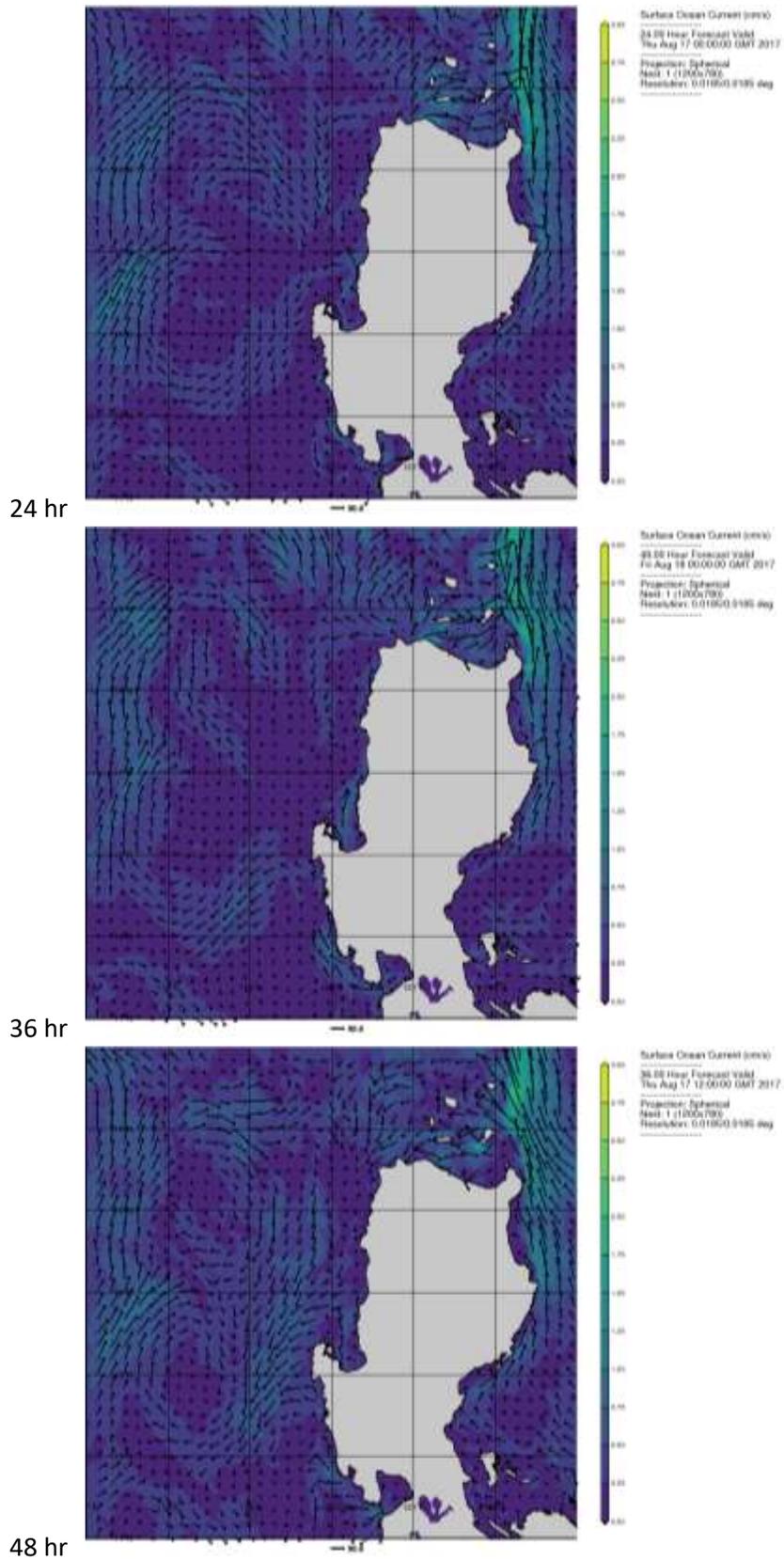


Figure 5. 00Z COAMPS surface currents for 24 hr (top), 36 hr (middle), and 48 hr (bottom).