Summary:

Scattered convection expected for the next 24h with cloudy weather likely in the 24-48h forecast period as Sally Ride approaches Keelung. Wind is expected to be 15kt with 20kt gust. Significant wave heights forecast to remain between 3-5ft for the next 24h. JTWC has put a watch on Invest 91W that is now located near 12.0°N 153.0°E. Models show agreement that it will close off in the 24h forecast period and intensify to a TS beyond the 24h forecast period. It’s expected to have northwest track and recurve far east from Taiwan, but there’s appreciable uncertainty in track and intensity forecast at the moment. BSISO has significant intensity in Phase 2 (over the Indian Ocean and East Asia) moving into Phase 1 by the end of the week. MJO is in Phase 3 (over Indian Ocean) moving into Phase 4.

Day One (24 hr) Outlook:
Wind is expected to be 15kt from NE having 20kt gust near Keelung by Sep 26 12Z. Mostly clear sky with some scattered convection forecasted in the transit from the current location to Keelung. Significant wave heights upto 6 ft near Yonaguni island and 3-5 ft near Taiwan.

Day Two (48 hr) Outlook:
Cloudy weather is expected over Taiwan and its surrounding waters within the 24-48 hr forecast period. Significant wave heights of 3-5 ft in the 48 hr forecast period. Global models show the wind varying between 15-25 kt from NE around Northern Taiwan at 12Z Sep 27.

Extended Outlook:
Invest 91W possibly went through genesis and intensified into a tropical storm intensity. The system would move NW toward Taiwan but curve NE toward Japan before making landfall to Taiwan. The system may induce indirect rainfall and winds over Taiwan.

Discussion

TCs:
Currently JTWC has put a watch on Invest 91W near 12.0°N 153.0°E. The system is currently in the high shear environment, but will be moving Northwest into the low shear environment in the next 24-48h and develop close circulation in the next 24h. Invest 91W is forecast to intensify and have northwest track, but it is too far out to forecast further track and intensity with certainty. It is not expected to impact the ship and its track back to Taiwan.
Convection:
Scattered convection expected for the next 24h with cloudy weather likely in the 24-48h forecast period as Sally Ride approaches Keelung.

MJO/BSISO:
BSISO has significant magnitude in Phase 2 (over the Indian Ocean and East Asia) moving into Phase 1 by the end of the week. MJO is in Phase 3 (over Indian Ocean) moving into Phase 4.

* COAMPS model run had a problem so 12z is not available, so this info is based on Sept 25 00z run.

SSTs:
SSTs remain 28-29 °C in the area of operation.

Currents and Wave Heights:
The WW3 suggests low wave heights of 3-6ft in the next 48h. COAMPS product shows 6-7 ft near Yonaguni island but decrease near Taiwan. Currents having 2-3 kts with NW direction.

CAMP2Ex:
Sally Ride is done with operation and going back to Keelung.

FORECASTERS: COLE, PANASAWATWONG and NAM
Fig. 1. JTWC TC outlook valid at 1715Z Sep 25.
Fig. 2. GFS 6-hr averaged precip initialized on 25Sep12Z. From top to bottom, left to right, the figures valid for 12Z Sep 26, 27, 28, and 29.
Fig. 3. GFS 850 mb vorticity and wind field and mean sea-level pressure initialized on 25Sep12Z. From top to bottom, left to right, the figures valid for 12Z Sep 26, 27, 28, and 29.
Fig. 4. GFS mean sea level pressure and 10-m winds (top row), and WW3 significant wave heights (bottom row) initialized on 25Sep12Z, valid for 26Sep12Z (left column) and 27Sep12Z (right column).