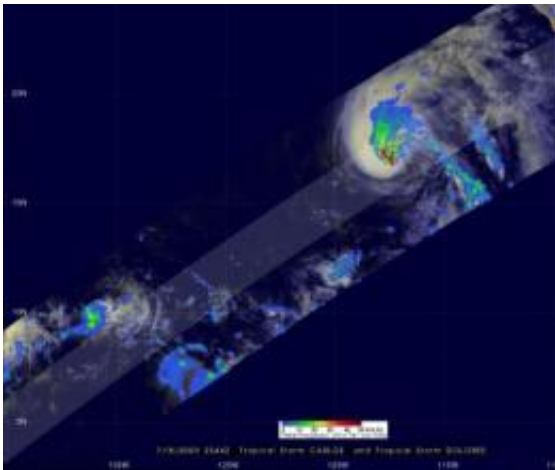


A NASA 2-for-1: Carlos and Dolores in 1 satellite image

July 17 2009



The TRMM satellite captured the fading rainfall in Tropical Storms Carlos (lower left) and Dolores (upper right) on July 15. The center of Carlos is false-colored green and light blue. Dolores' center has heavier rain as seen in red. Credit: NASA/SSAI, Hal Pierce

It's not too often that two tropical cyclones are close enough to each other to be within a satellite's view as it tracks far above the Earth, but it happened this week with Carlos and Dolores in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

The Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) [satellite](#), which is managed by [NASA](#) and JAXA, the Japanese Space Agency captured a two-for-one image of both tropical cyclones in one satellite image!

The image was created using data from the TRMM satellite as it saw both [tropical storm](#) Carlos (on the left) and Dolores on July 15, 2009 at 7:44 p.m. (2344 UTC).

TRMM images from TRMM's Precipitation Radar instrument show the horizontal pattern of rain intensity within storms. The false-colored areas in yellow and green indicate rainfall between 20 and 40 millimeters (.78 to 1.57 inches) per hour. The false-colored red area indicates moderate [rainfall](#) over 50 mm/hour or ~2 inches per hour.

It was a rare "photo opportunity," because less than 24 hours later, by 5 p.m. EDT on July 16, Carlos had weakened into a remnant low pressure area and appeared as a "poorly-defined low-level swirl in the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (known as the ITCZ). The remnant that was Carlos will continue moving westward and fade away later today, July 17. Meanwhile, Dolores had also already faded to a tropical depression and will be a memory later today as well.

Source: JPL/NASA ([news](#) : [web](#))

Citation: A NASA 2-for-1: Carlos and Dolores in 1 satellite image (2009, July 17) retrieved 18 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-07-nasa-for-carlos-dolores-satellite.html>

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