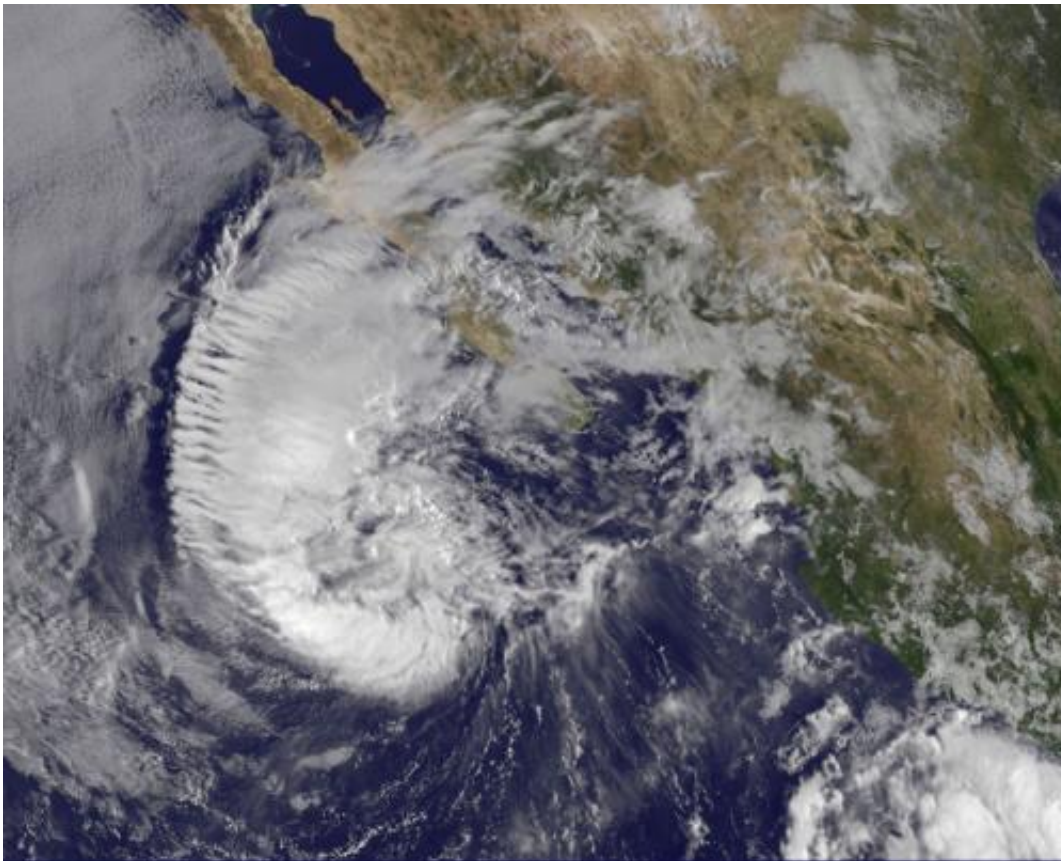


# Satellite sees Miriam weaken to a tropical storm

September 26 2012

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This visible image of Tropical Storm Miriam was captured by NOAA's GOES-15 satellite on Sept. 26, 2012 at 10:45 a.m. EDT off the coast of Baja California. The strongest thunderstorms were in a large band of thunderstorms north and northwest of the center. Credit: Credit: NASA GOES Project

Once a powerful hurricane, Miriam is now a tropical storm off the coast

of Baja California, Mexico. Tropical Storm Miriam was seen in the Eastern Pacific Ocean by NOAA's GOES-15 satellite, and the visible image revealed that the strongest part of the storm was north and west of the center.

NOAA's GOES-15 satellite sits in a fixed position over the western U.S. that allows it to monitor the [Eastern Pacific Ocean](#) and it captured a [visible image](#) of Tropical Storm Miriam on Sept. 26, 2012 at 10:45 a.m. EDT off the coast of Baja California. The image, created by NASA's GOES Project at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. showed that the strongest thunderstorms were north and northwest of the center in a large band, wrapping around the storm's center.

[Wind shear](#) is taking its toll on Miriam. The National Hurricane Center noted there is an increasing "separation between the low- to mid-level centers of the storm (think of the storm as having multiple layers) due to 20-25 knots of southwesterly shear associated with a shortwave trough (elongated area of low pressure) rotating around the northwestern side of the storm.

At 11 a.m. EDT on Sept. 26, Tropical Storm Miriam had [maximum sustained winds](#) near 65 mph (100 kph), dropping from 70 mph (100 kmh) just six hours before. It was located about 425 miles (680 km) west-southwest of the southern tip of Baja California Miriam was moving slowly at 6 mph (9 kmh) to the north-northwest and away from the coast. Miriam's minimum central pressure was near 992 millibars.

A Miriam continues to pull away from Baja California, rough ocean swells will keep affecting the south and west coasts today, Sept. 26, and tomorrow, Sept. 27. By Sept. 28, Friday, the ocean swells will gradually begin to subside.

Miriam is moving into a region where wind shear is forecast to increase

and [sea surface temperatures](#) will fall. Those are two factors that will contribute to the weakening of the [tropical storm](#) over the next several days.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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