

Satellite sees post-Tropical Cyclone Lane fizzle in a blanket of low clouds

September 19 2012



On Sept. 19 at 11:45 a.m. EDT, GOES-15 captured an image of post-tropical Lane's remnants over 1,000 miles from Baja California, in an extensive field of stratocumulus clouds. Credit: NASA/NOAA GOES Project

Former Hurricane Lane has fizzled and its remnant circulation was spotted in a blanket of low clouds in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

NOAA's GOES-15 satellite sits in a fixed orbit over the western U.S. and captures continuous visible and [infrared imagery](#) of the western U.S. and the [Eastern Pacific Ocean](#). On Sept. 19 at 11:45 a.m. EDT, GOES-15 captured a visible image of post-tropical Lane's remnants that appear as a small circulation center. The center was located over 1,000 miles from Baja California in an extensive field of stratocumulus clouds.

Stratocumulus clouds are usually found below 8,000 feet (2,400 meters), and are shallow clouds that do not grow vertically because of stable, drier air above. The image was created by NASA's GOES Project, located at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

At 1500 UTC (11 a.m. EDT) on Wed. Sept. 19, 2012 post-tropical cyclone Lane had [maximum sustained winds](#) were near 35 mph (55 kph) and winds were weakening as a result of the low pressure area being over waters too cool to maintain it. Sea surface temperatures in the region where Lane's remnants were located are colder than 22 degrees Celsius (71.6 Fahrenheit). In order to maintain a tropical cyclone, [sea surface temperatures](#) of 26.6 Celsius (80 Fahrenheit) are needed.

Lane was centered about 1,380 miles west of Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, near 20.9 North latitude and 131.3 West longitude. The low was moving to the west near 5 knots, and the National Hurricane Center expects Lane's remnants to continue moving west.

Lane was a post-tropical remnant low pressure area on Sept. 19 and is expected to continue steadily weakening and should dissipate into a trough (elongated area) of low pressure on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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