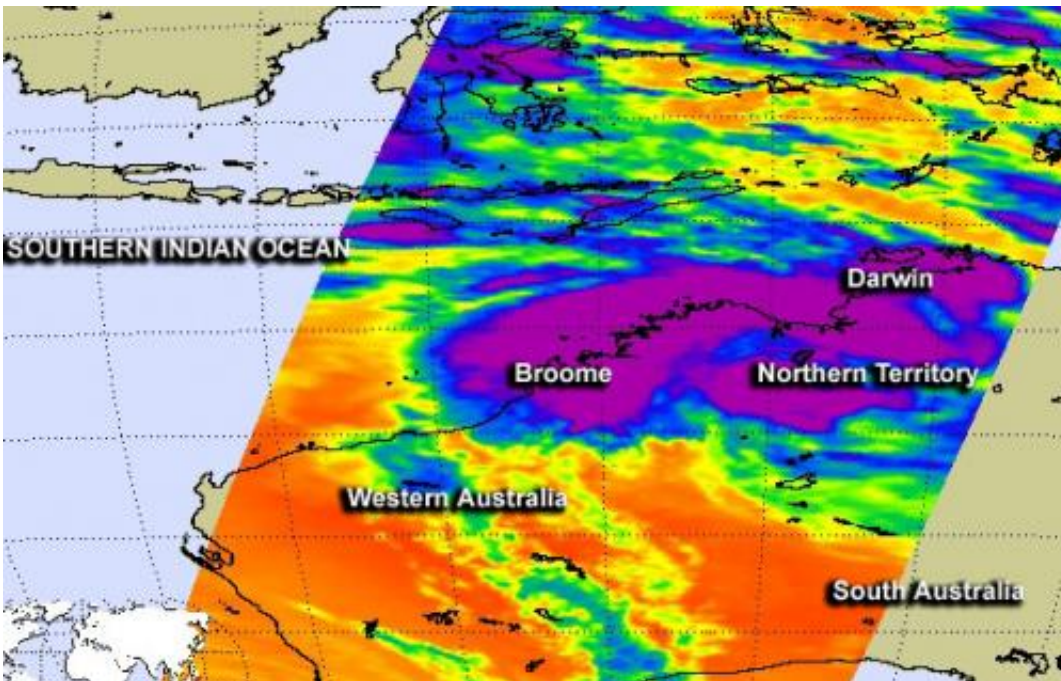


# NASA satellite imagery shows some punch left in System 94S

January 16 2014, by Rob Gutro



NASA's Aqua satellite passed over System 94S on Jan. 15 at 11:59 a.m. EST and saw a band of powerful thunderstorms (purple) northwest of the center of the broad circulation center entering the Timor Sea from Northern Territory, Australia. Credit: NASA JPL, Ed Olsen

The tropical low pressure area known as System 94S still has some punch in it as the low-level center of circulation continues to track over Western Australia and the Northern Territory. NASA's Aqua satellite showed that thunderstorms in the low had the potential for heavy rain as

it continues to track over land, and heavy rainfall warnings are in effect in the Northern Territory.

NASA's Aqua satellite passed over System 94S on January 15 at 11:59 a.m. EST and the Atmospheric Infrared Sounder instrument saw a band of powerful thunderstorms northwest of the center of the broad circulation center entering the Timor Sea from Northern Territory, Australia. Some of the [thunderstorms](#) were very high, and cloud top temperatures colder than -63F/-52C. Those temperatures are conducive to a NASA study that indicates the potential for those storms to have [heavy rainfall](#) rates.

On January 16 at 08:30 UTC/3:30 a.m. EST/6 p.m. Darwin local time, System 94S was centered about 370 nautical miles east of Broome, Australia near 18.6 south and 128.6 east. System 94S continues to track to the west and computer models indicate that it may re-emerge in the waters of the Southern Indian Ocean in the next 4 to 5 days.

The Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology or ABM for the Northern Territory issued a Severe Weather Warning for heavy rainfall and flash flooding on January 16 as the low continued to move slowly west. The warning was for residents in the Victoria River and northwest Alice Springs Districts and it was issued at 10:29 p.m. CST/local time.

At 1200 UTC/7 a.m. EST/9:30 p.m. CST/Darwin local time, System 94S was centered near latitude 19.5 south and longitude 128.7 east about 99.4 miles/160 kilometers west northwest of Rabbit Flat. The ABM forecasts the low to move south along the western border of the Northern Territory.

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center or JTWC reported that animated multispectral satellite imagery and the radar loop from Halls Creek, Australia, showed a defined circulation center with several bands of

convection wrapping around the center (which is still over land).  
Maximum sustained surface winds were estimated as high as 20 knots.

Currently, the JTWC gives this system a low chance for development into a tropical cyclone over the next day or two.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: NASA satellite imagery shows some punch left in System 94S (2014, January 16)  
retrieved 26 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-01-nasa-satellite-imagery-left-94s.html>

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