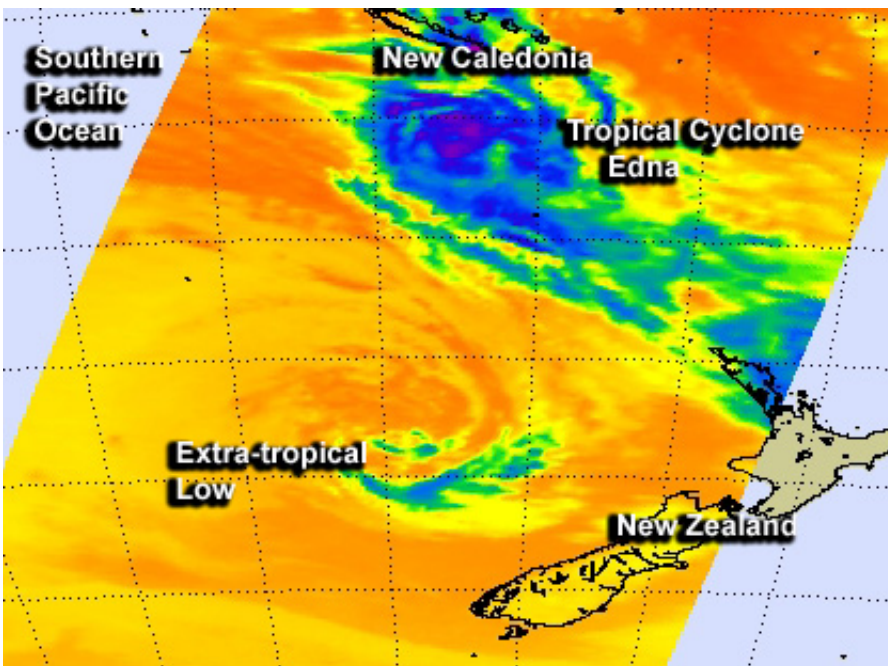


NASA sees Tropical Cyclone Edna affecting new Caledonia

February 5 2014, by Rob Gutro



NASA's Aqua satellite spotted two storms in the Southern Pacific Ocean on Feb. 5 as Tropical Cyclone Edna brushes by New Caledonia and an extra-tropical storm lingers west of New Zealand. Credit: NASA JPL, Ed Olsen

NASA's Aqua satellite spotted two storms in one image in the Southern Pacific Ocean as Tropical Cyclone Edna brushes by New Caledonia and an extra-tropical storm lingers west of New Zealand.

New Caledonia warnings were still in effect on February 5 as Edna

continues moving along the southwestern part of the island. An Amber Alert was in effect for the whole southern province as well as the community of Canala and a Yellow Alert was in effect for the rest of the territory.

NASA's Aqua satellite passed over the area of the Southern Pacific Ocean where Tropical Cyclone Edna was positioned, about 89 nautical miles west of New Caledonia. It was centered near 22.1 south and 164.5 east and moving south-southeast at 20 knots. Edna's maximum sustained winds were near 50 knots and tropical [storm](#) force winds were affecting New Caledonia. Edna was also generating wave heights to 19 feet as it continued to move parallel to New Caledonia today, February 5.

AIRS and multispectral data showed that the convection (rising air that forms the thunderstorms that make up the tropical cyclone) have begun to break up on the southern side of the storm where [wind shear](#) is increasing.

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center expects Edna to maintain intensity as it moves southeast over the next couple of days. As Edna moves southeast it is expected to encounter cooler waters and stronger wind shear that are expected to weaken and dissipate the storm as it nears northern New Zealand.

An extra-tropical low pressure area located west of New Zealand also appeared in the AIRS imagery. AIRS data showed that the strongest storms associated with it were southeast of the center. The low is expected to move to the north and the west and away from New Zealand, according to the New Zealand Met Service or NZMS. NZMS noted that high pressure located to the southeast of New Zealand is expected to push the extra-tropical low away.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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