

# A satellite view: Former Hurricane Cristina now a ghost of its former self

June 16 2014, by Rob Gutro

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NOAA's GOES-West satellite captured this infrared image of Cristina as a remnant low pressure area on June 16 at 9:15 a.m. EDT. Credit: NASA/NOAA GOES Project

An infrared image from NOAA's GOES-West satellite showed what appeared to be a ghostly ring of clouds and no convection in former Hurricane Cristina on Monday, June 16 as the system weakened to a remnant low pressure area.

Convection is rising air that forms the thunderstorms that make up a tropical cyclone and when there is none, there are no [thunderstorms](#) to keep it going. That's exactly what happened to Cristina in the Eastern Pacific Ocean on Sunday, June 15.

At 11 a.m. EDT (8 a.m. PDT) on Sunday, June 15, Cristina had weakened to a tropical depression near latitude 20.1 north and longitude 113.3 west, about 290 miles (470 km) southwest of the southern tip of Baja California. At that time the depression was moving toward the west-northwest near 6 mph (9 kph) and Cristina's maximum sustained winds had decreased to near 35 mph (55 kph). Forecaster Brennan at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) noted that "Cristina continues to lack any deep convection, which is not surprising given the hostile environment of strong shear, cool waters and dry air."

That hostile environment took its toll on Cristina early on June 16 when the NHC declared Cristina a remnant low pressure area. At 09:07 UTC (5:07 a.m. EDT), the post-tropical remnant low pressure area formerly known as Cristina was centered near 21 north latitude and 115 west longitude. The remnant low had maximum sustained winds near 20 to 25 knots (23 to ~29 [mph](#)/37 to ~46 kph) and was generating seas to 8 feet (2.4 meters). As Cristina's remnants continue to dissipate, NHC forecasters expect wave heights to decrease.



This visible image from NASA's Terra satellite shows Hurricane Cristina when she was a major hurricane in the Eastern Pacific on June 12, 2014 at 17:45 UTC. Credit: NASA Goddard MODIS Rapid Response Team

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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