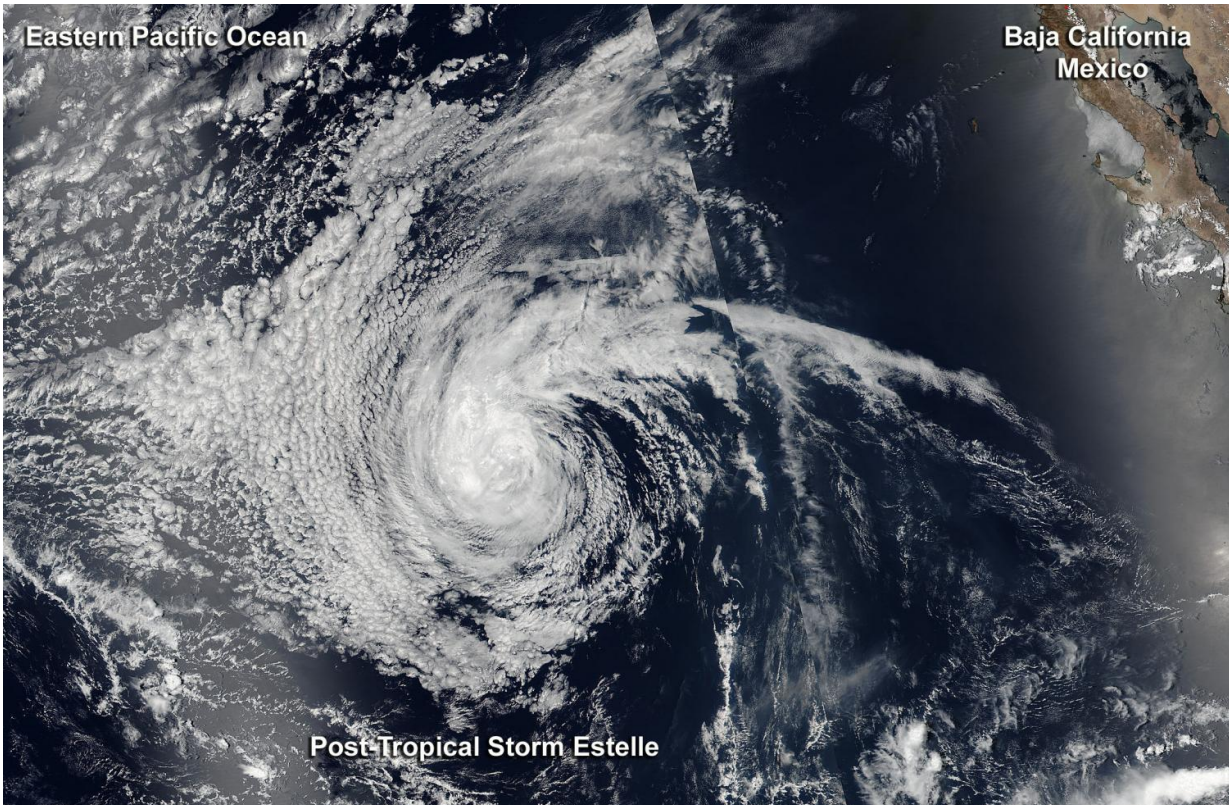


NASA catches Estelle becoming post-tropical

July 23 2016



On July 22 at 0000 UTC (July 21 at 8 p.m. EDT) the VIIRS instrument aboard NASA-NOAA-DOD's Suomi NPP satellite captured this visible light image of Tropical Storm Estelle in the eastern Pacific Ocean. Credit: NOAA/NASA Goddard Rapid Response Team

The Suomi NPP satellite passed over Tropical Storm Estelle as it was transitioning to a post-tropical storm in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

On July 22 at 0000 UTC (July 21 at 8 p.m. EDT) the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument aboard the NASA-NOAA Suomi NPP satellite captured a visible light image of Tropical Storm Estelle. Estelle was still a [tropical storm](#) at the time of the image, but was devoid of strong convection (rising air that condenses into clouds and thunderstorms that make up a tropical cyclone). The VIIRS image showed clouds wrapping into the northwestern quadrant of the low level center of circulation. National Hurricane Center forecaster Aviles said "The circulation, however, is still vigorous."

VIIRS collects visible and infrared imagery and global observations of land, atmosphere, cryosphere and oceans.

By 11 a.m. EDT, Forecaster Brennan at the National Hurricane Center noted that Estelle had been lacking any deep convection for about 15 hours and was then designated as a post-tropical cyclone.

At 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC) on July 22 the National Hurricane Center issued their last public advisory on Estelle. At that time the center of Post-Tropical Cyclone Estelle was located near 21.8 north latitude and 133.5 west longitude. That's about 1,505 miles (2,425 km) west of the southern tip of Baja California.

The post-tropical cyclone is moving toward the west-northwest near 16 mph (26 kph) and this general motion is expected to continue for the next couple of days. Maximum sustained winds are near 40 mph (65 kph). Gradual weakening is forecast during the next 48 hours. Estelle should gradually spin down over the next couple of days as it moves over cool waters and dissipate in 48 to 72 hours.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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