

Review of Ocean Conditions May to October 2020

[Zulfikar Begg (SPC), John Marra (NOAA)
and Grant Smith (BoM)]

Sixth Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum

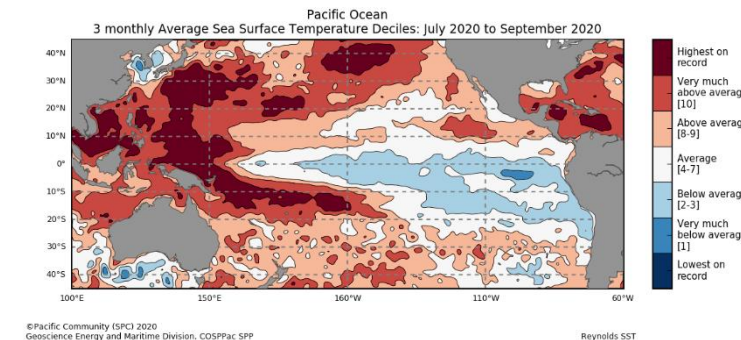
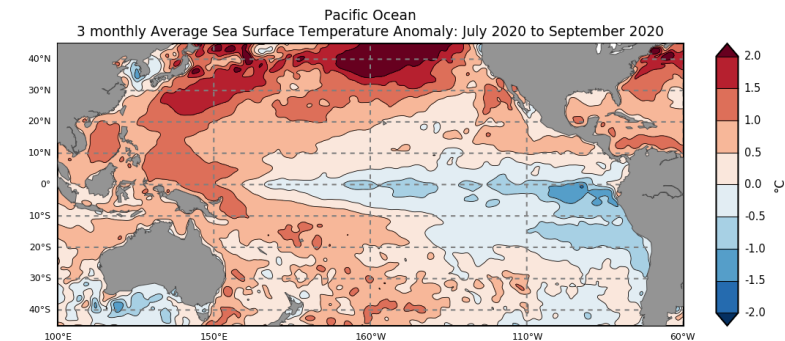
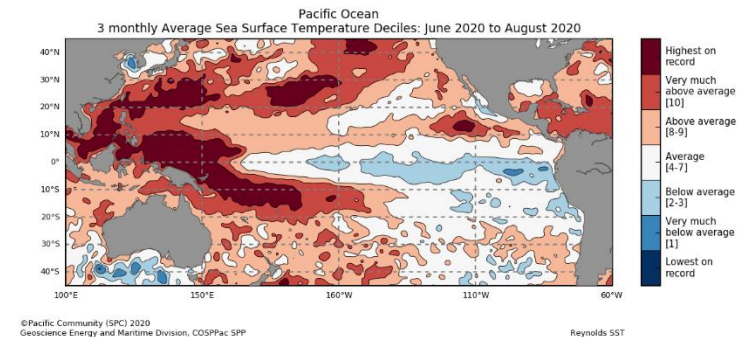
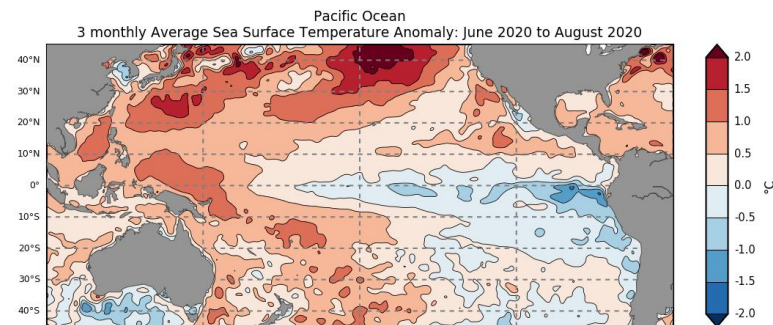
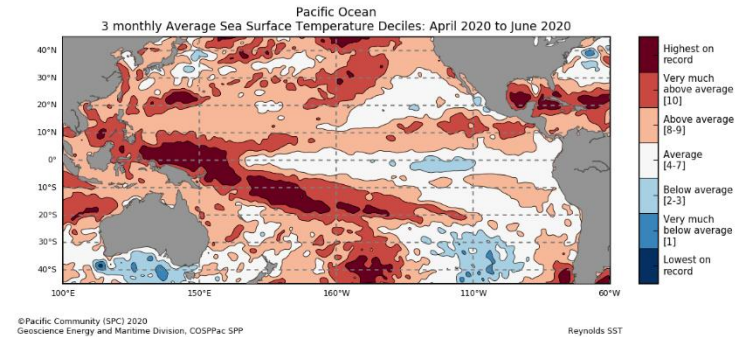
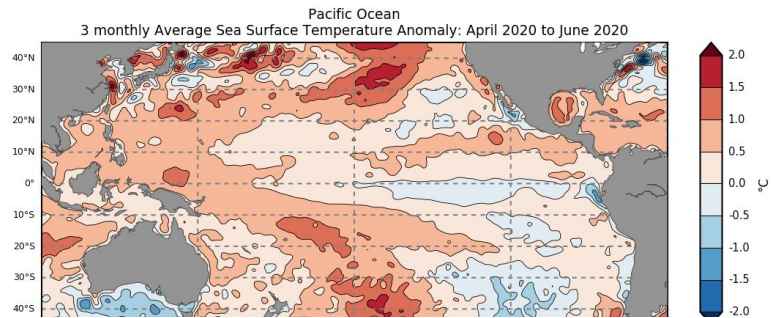
Summary Statement on the State of Climate from November 2019 to April 2020 and Climate Outlook for May to October 2020 for the Pacific Islands

Key Messages:

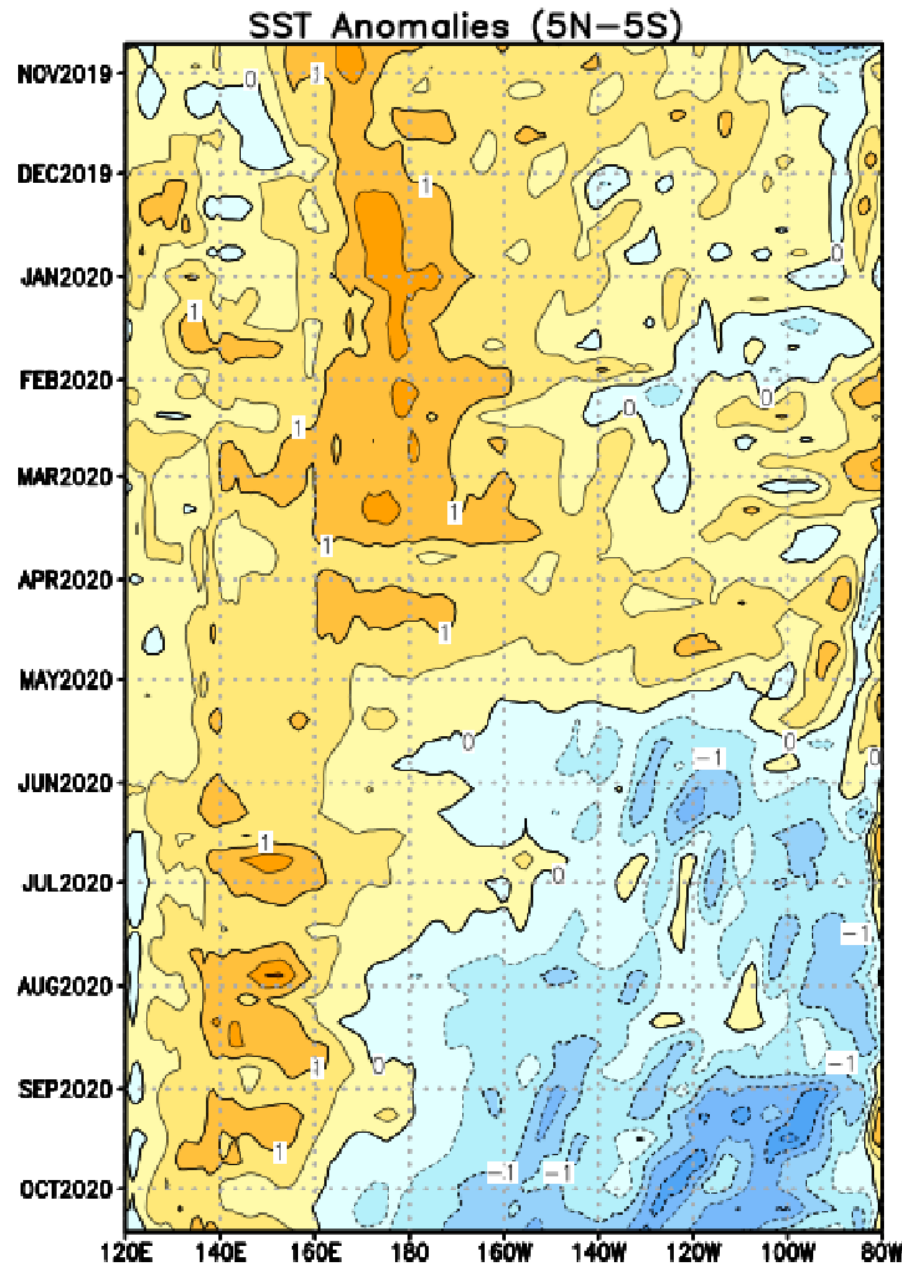
Outlooks for May to October 2020

- Neutral El Niño-Southern Oscillation state predicted to continue through mid-2020.
- Average to above average tropical cyclone activity favoured in the western north Pacific over 2020.
- Below average rainfall favoured for Nauru, below average to average rainfall for the Northern Mariana Islands, Niue and Pitcairn and average rainfall for American Samoa for May to July. There is little model agreement elsewhere for the next three to six months.
- Above average air temperatures favoured for most of the western Pacific Islands over the coming three months.
- Elevated ocean heat stress favoured over the next four months across a large portion of the western and central South Pacific. Noteworthy is projected heating north of Papua New Guinea (PNG) and the western Solomon Islands.
- Along the equator, sea levels are favoured to be above average in the west and below average in the east over the next six months. Higher than average sea levels are favoured for many islands in the tropical western Pacific.

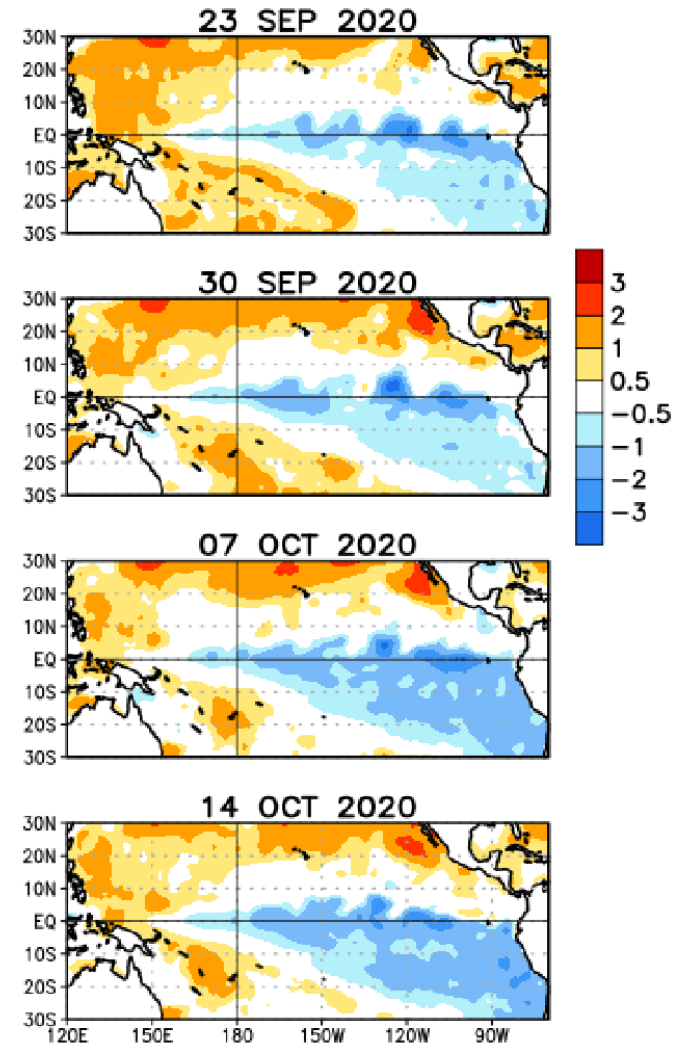
Sea surface temperature



Sea surface temperature

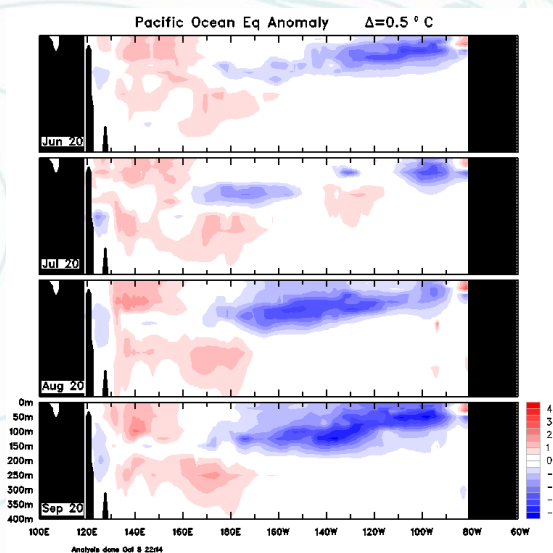
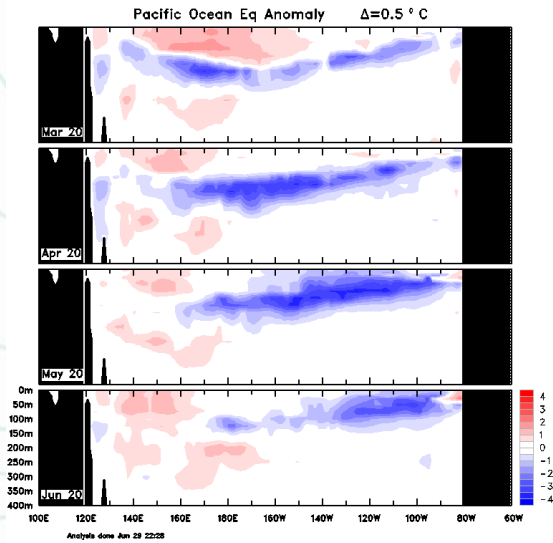


Weekly SST Anomalies (DEG C)

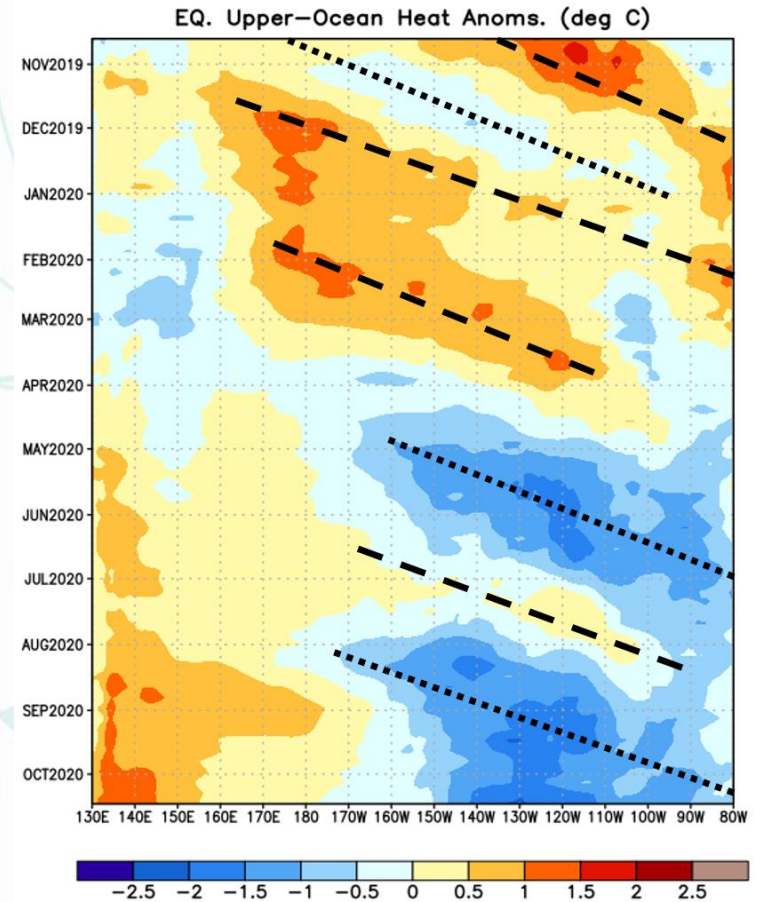


Source:NOAA

Sub-surface temperature

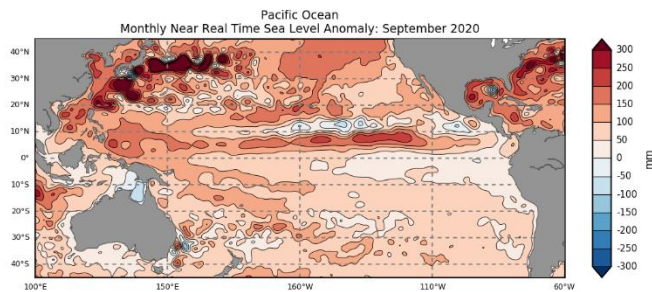
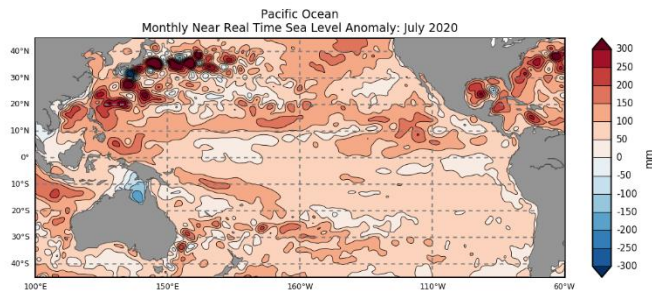
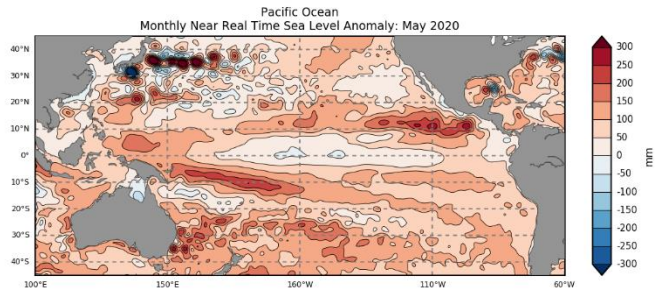


Source:BoM



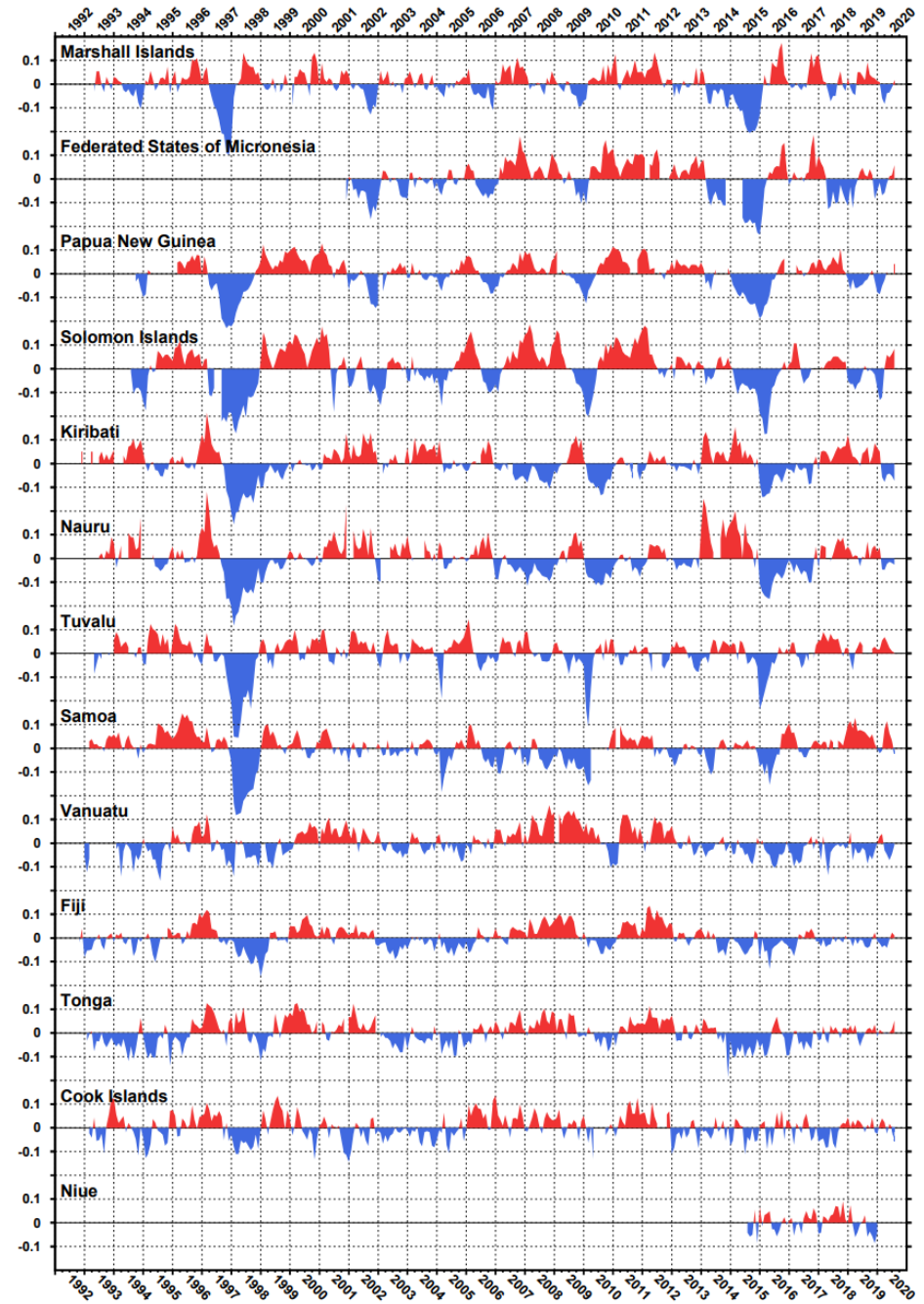
Source:NOAA

Sea level

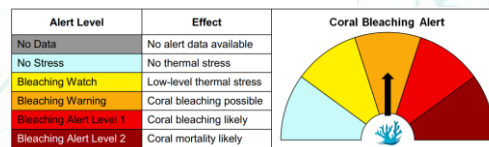
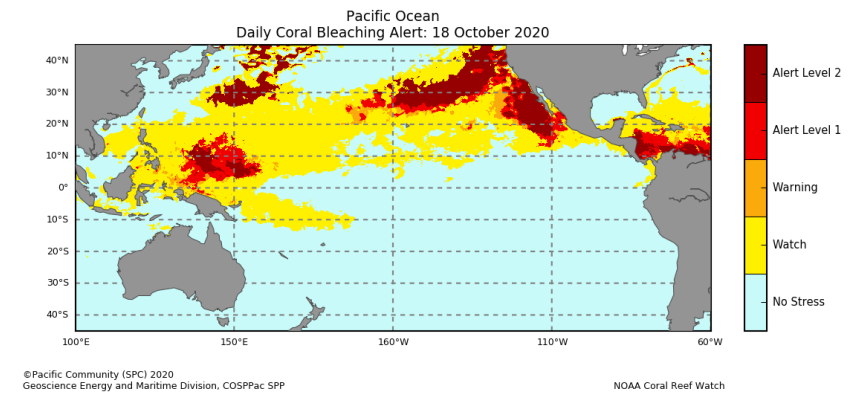
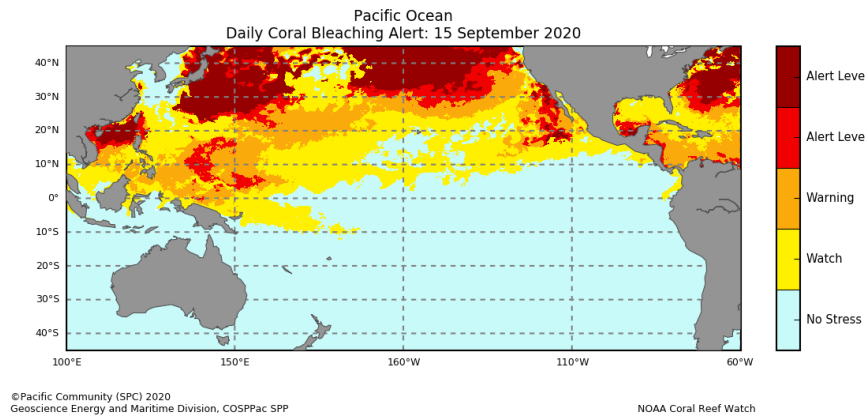
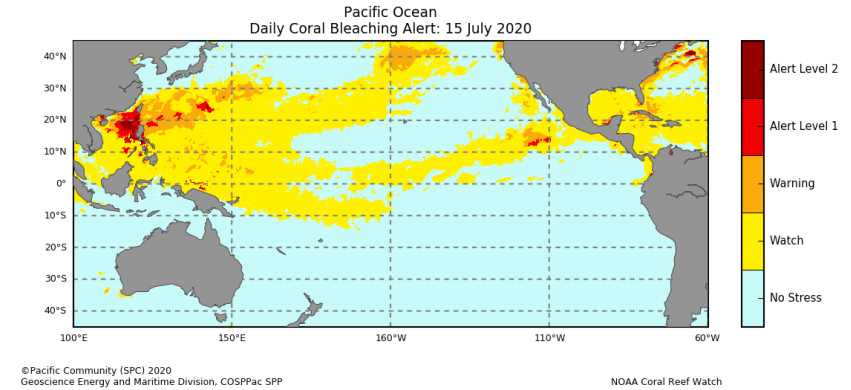
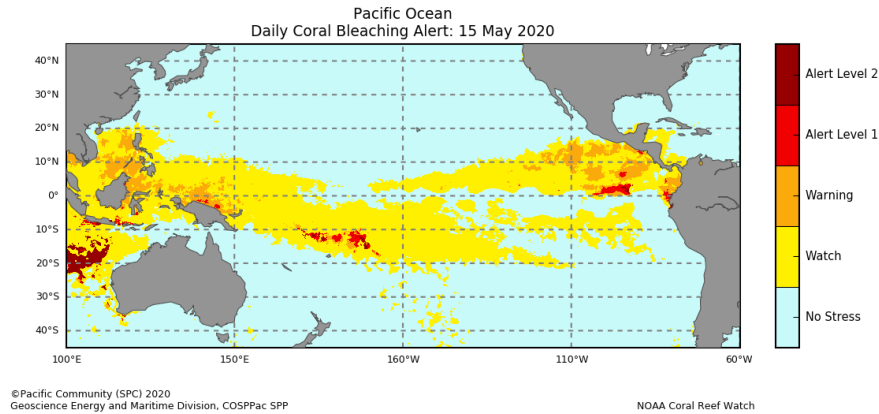


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AVISO SeaWiFS/Quacs SLA



Coral bleaching



Case Study-Palau



Eveline van der Steeg

@EvelinevdSteeg



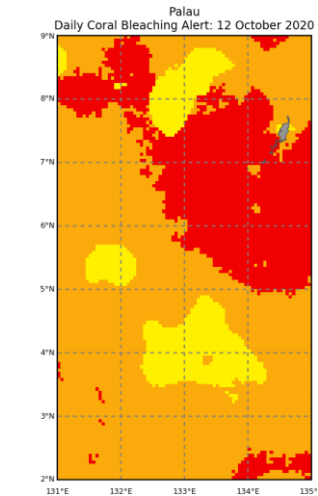
Coral reefs in Palau are starting to bleach as we reach 5 DHW. Fingers crossed it will cool down over the next weeks! [#CoralBleaching](#) [@Coralassist_Lab](#) [@ecology_ncl](#) [pic.twitter.com/vo3SRg7Wcx](#)

6:55 PM - 25 Sep 2020 from Palau



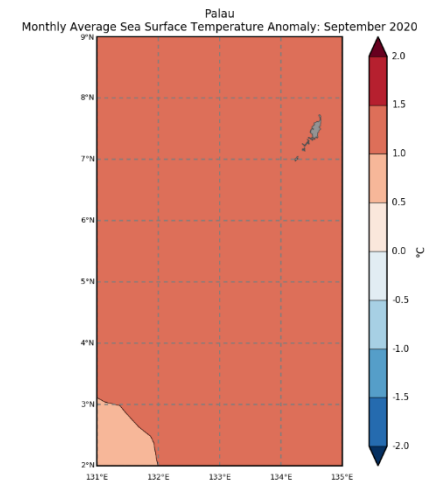
Twitter

By: Eveline van der Steeg @EvelinevdSteeg



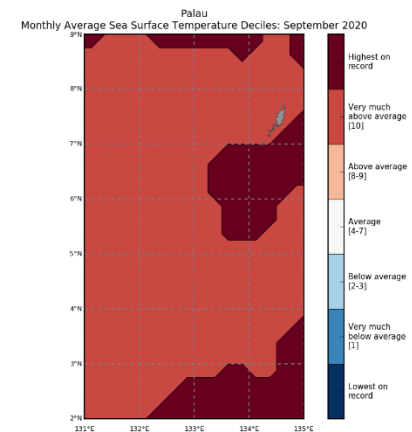
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NOAA Coral Reef Watch



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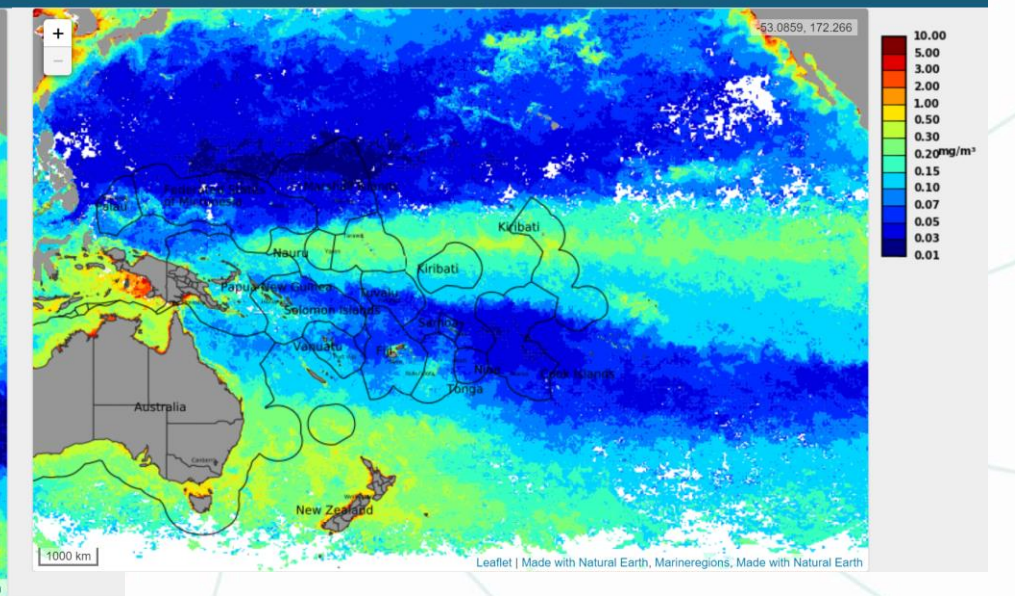
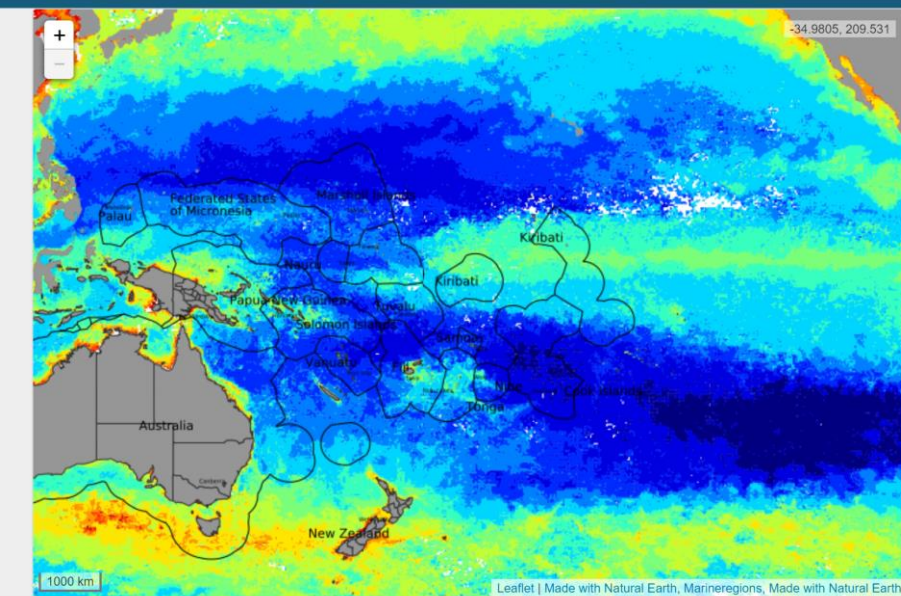
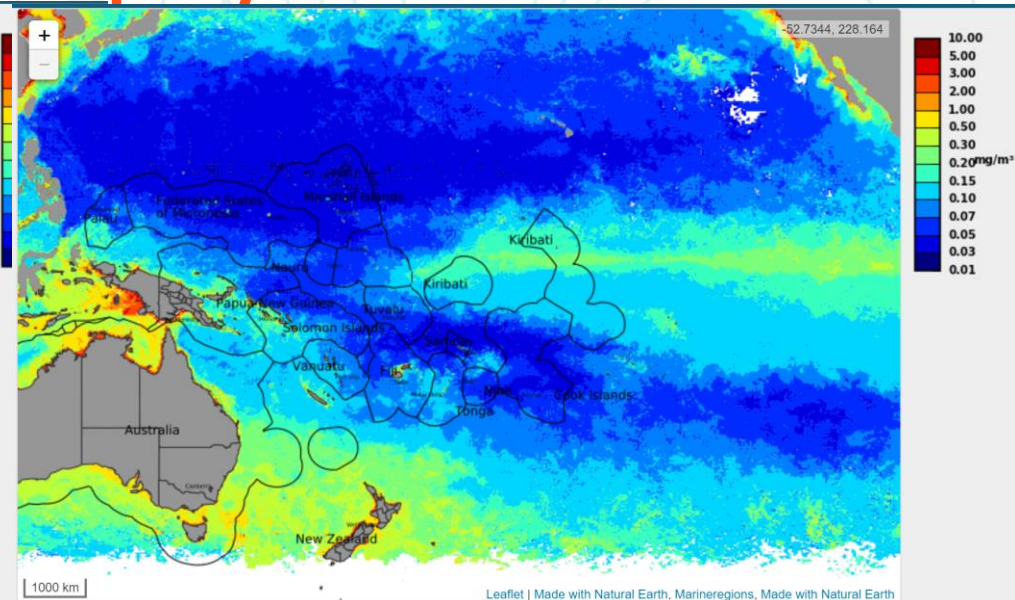
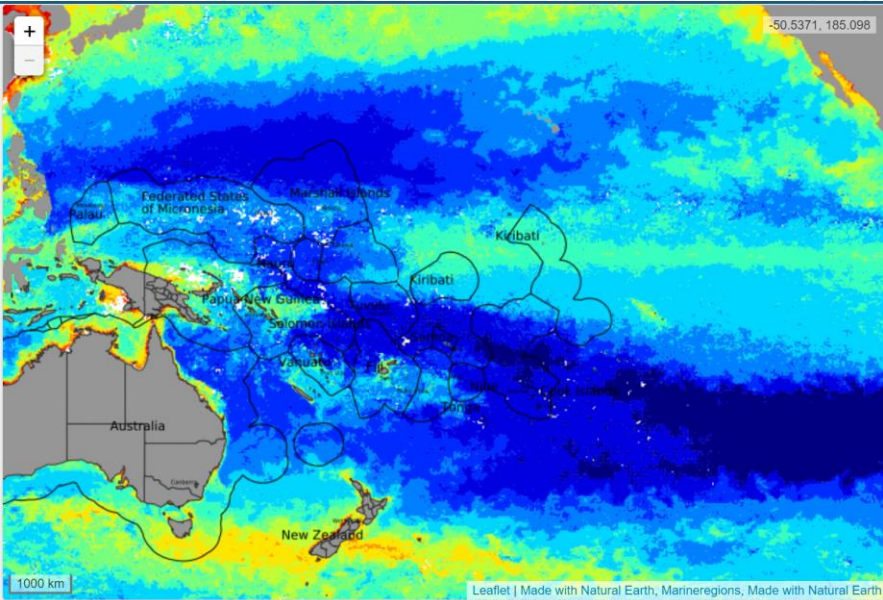
Reynolds SST



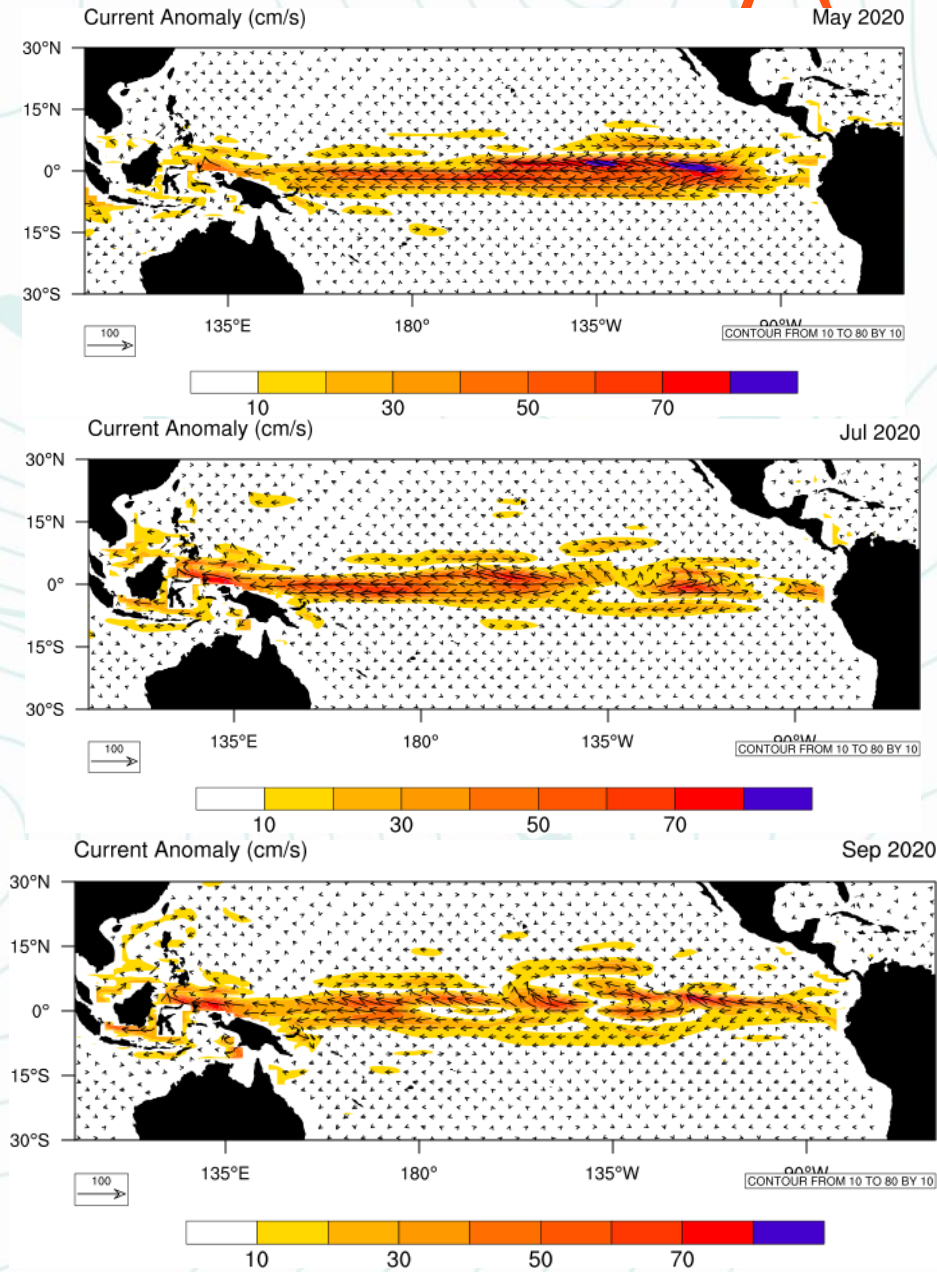
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Reynolds SST

Chlorophyll



Current Anomaly (cm/s)



The background features a complex pattern of thin, teal-colored wavy lines that resemble topographical contour lines or fluid flow paths. These lines are interspersed with small, solid teal circles and triangles, some of which are positioned along the lines, suggesting a vector field or a series of data points. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a light teal color palette.

Thank you/vinaka