



Hawai'i Volcanoes News Release

August 9, 2009

Park Acts to Protect Visitors and Staff as Tropical Storm Approaches

Due to the potential severe weather hazard posed by Tropical Storm Felicia, Hawai'i Volcanoes implemented the following closure on Sunday, August 09, 2009, until further notice:

- All backcountry trails and campsites within Hawai'i Volcanoes are closed

The Tropical Storm Watch issued for Hawai'i Island means that tropical storm effects of wind, surf, and rain may occur anytime within 48 hours.

"We are taking the necessary steps now to ensure that our visitors and employees stay safe," said Chief Ranger Talmadge Magno.

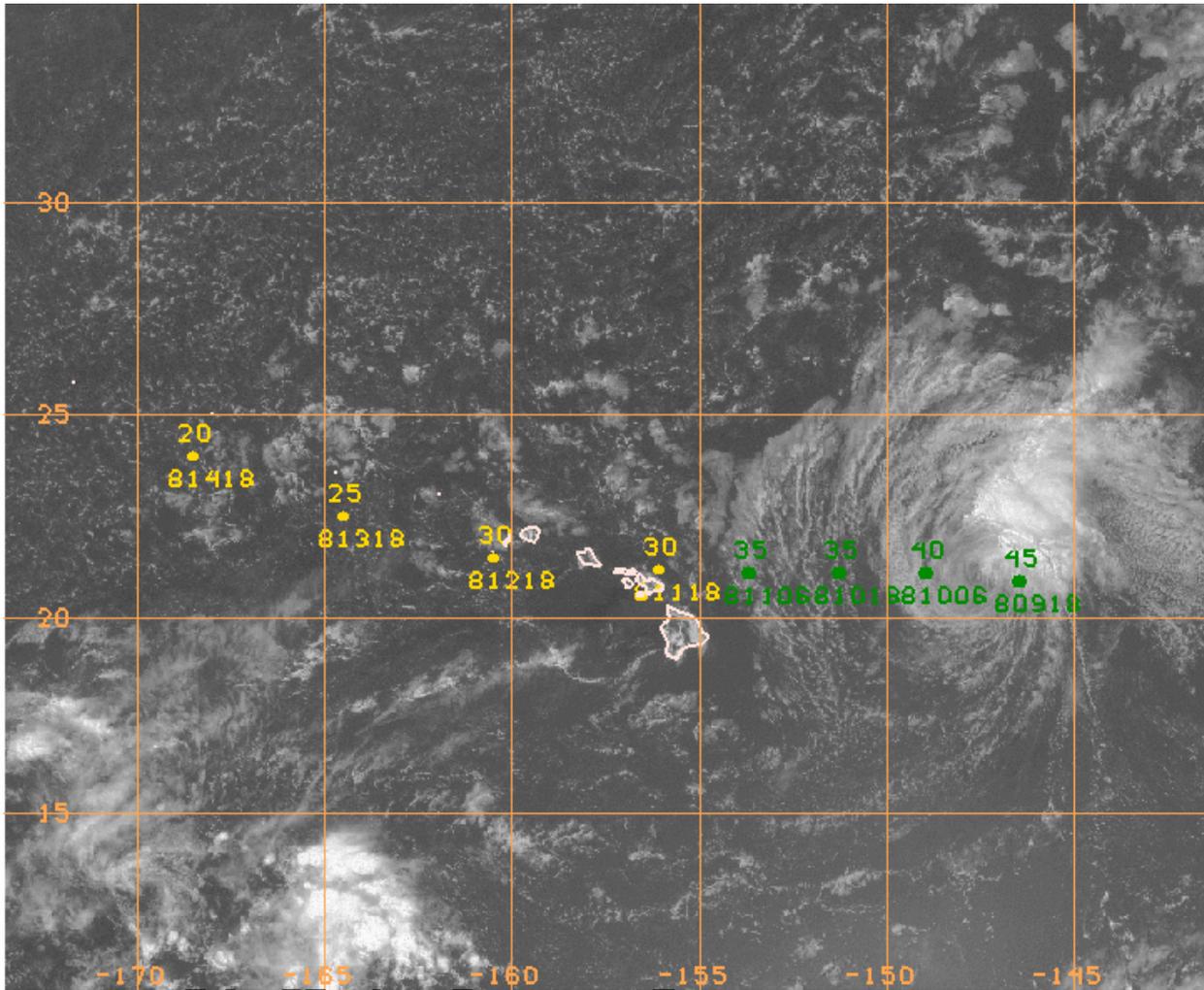
Hawai'i County Civil Defense reports that Felicia is now approximately 595 miles East of Hawai'i Island moving toward the West at 14 miles per hour. Maximum sustained winds are near 70 miles per hour with higher gusts.

On this track, Felicia is expected to be near or over the Hawaiian Islands by late Monday or early Tuesday. It's expected that strong winds, heavy rain, and high surf will develop as Felicia moves closer to the island.

Magno encourages everyone to stay informed of current weather conditions and plan accordingly.

"The park will continue to monitor Tropical Storm Felicia and if weather conditions intensify, there could be more closures," added Magno.

For information and updates on Tropical Storm Felicia, go to the Central Pacific Hurricane website at <http://www.prh.noaa.gov/hnl/cphc/>



T.S. FELICIA Forecast Track

Hurricane **Tropical Storm** **Tropical Depression**

Issued by CPHC at 2100 UTC SUN AUG 09 2009

Satellite Image taken at 2300 UTC 08/09/09

Max winds in knots (top) / MonthDayHour in UTC (bottom)

