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PAT CALDWELL

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Monday is FREE for all, and we offer Wednesday & Friday updates for Premium Members, just 5.00 a month (about a buck a week).

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SwellCaldWell Updated 3 PM Friday, October 3, 2025

DATE	SWELL HGT	SWELL DIR	SWELL PER	SURF H1/3	SURF H1/10	TREND	PROB	WIND SPD	WIND DIR	TREND
1 PM	2.5	NW	11	3	5	SAME		10-15	E	UP
10/03	1.8	SSW	16	3	5	UP				
SAT	2	NNW	9	1	2	DOWN	LOW	11-16	E	SAME
10/04	3	NNW	14	4	6	UP	LOW			
	2	SSW	15	3	5	SAME	LOW			
SUN	7	NNW	12	8	12	SAME	LOW	12-17	NE	UP
10/05	2	NNE	13	2	4	UP	LOW			
	1.8	SW	13	2	4	DOWN	LOW			
MON	4	NNW	11	6	8	DOWN	LOW	4-8	NNE	DOWN
10/06	3	NW	16	5	7	UP	LOW			
	2	NNE	11	2	3	DOWN	LOW			
	1.5	SW	16	2	4	UP	LOW			

TUE	3	NNW	10	3	4	DOWN	LOW	2-6	LV	SAME
10/07	3	NW	14	4	6	DOWN	LOW			
	3	NNW	9	1	3	SAME	LOW			
	1.5	SW	14	2	3	DOWN	LOW			
WED	2	NW	11	1	3	DOWN	LOW	2-6	LV	SAME
10/08	5	NNE	9	4	6	UP	LOW			
	1.2	SSW	16	2	4	UP	LOW			

Table Definitions given after Discussion

Summary

Solid Sunday with otherwise mix of mostly below average events.

Discussion

Midday Friday 10/03, northern shores have breakers below the calendar day average from 300-330 degrees of 10-14s intervals. This event is expected to drop Saturday as a new event slowly builds from NNW.

On this day, 10/03, in the historical H1/10 visual surf observation Goddard-Caldwell database (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/metadata/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/gov.noaa.nodc%3A0001754/html>) (starting 9/1968) for the north shore of Oahu, the average is 4.0 Hs, (8' peak face, Oahu Surf Climatology (http://ilikai.soest.hawaii.edu/HILO/climo/oahu_surf_climatlogy.html)) and the largest surf on this date was 12 Hs (sets 24' peak face top spots) in 2003 from NNW under LV winds.

Moon's view-

- System within Date Line to NNW of Hawaii to crank up surf late Saturday into Monday. NWPAC source to piggy-back Monday with long-period NW swell. Nearby low N of islands could make short-period N surf Wednesday.

Remnant tropical NWPAC cyclone Neoguri 9/26-29

- Backstory:
 - The typhoon began tracking NE Friday 9/26 from location between Japan and the Date Line. It increased in strength 9/27. The track was perpendicular to the great circle rays to Hawaii, meaning no captured fetch, which reduces surf potential. The strongest winds above gales were over a very small area.
 - The system was about 2000 nm away Sunday near 40N, 170E. The portion aimed at Hawaii continued to be over a small fetch area.
 - The system turned more ENE 9/29, crossing the Date Line near 48N with a compact area of gales.

- It deflated sub-gale late 9/29 into 9/30.
- Pulse status:
 - NOAA NW Hawaii buoy 51001 midday Friday 10/3 has been holding steady in the 8-12s band with low energy from 310-330 degrees.
- Prognosis:
 - Steady drop is predicted for Saturday with tiny to small breakers for the dawn favoring 320-330 degrees.

Low to track across the NWPAC 9/29-10/1, reaching NNW of Hawaii 10/2-3

- It formed 9/29 east of Hokkaido, Japan. While west of the Date Line 9/29-30, the portion pointed toward Hawaii over the 305-320 degree band was only near gales. Long travel distance means only small surf out of this direction from this remote source on Sunday.
- The low pattern elongated N to S as it crossed the Date Line Wednesday 10/1. Highest seas were pointed at targets just W of Hawaii.
- The system occluded on Thursday near 40N, 162W (1000 nm NNW of Hawaii), which coincided with the deepest pressure and a stall in the track. Near gales set up over a large area, still aimed highest just W of Hawaii. JASON validated seas 16-18' in area about 1000 nm away Thursday night.
- Strong breezes to near gales nosed to within 700 nm by early Friday with direct aim. JASON measured seas 10-12'.
- Models show the stalled system favoring mostly strong breezes still aimed at Hawaii mid Friday into Friday night. It should weaken further Saturday.
- Local surf prognosis:
 - Wave Watch III with GFS input brings in teasers < 1' deep water swell from 320 degrees at dawn with similar low magnitude to into the afternoon.
 - Steadier rise expected going into sundown Saturday.
 - Max of event is predicted for Sunday morning, dominant from 330 degrees, with spread 305-340 degrees. Little change on Sunday.
 - The event should fall to near average Monday morning from 320-340 degrees. Small levels could linger on Tuesday.

New NWPAC low 10/1-3

- The system formed 10/1 east of northern Japan. The system deepened to storm-force as the center tracked rapidly NE.
- The track was across the great circle rays, like the typhoon Neoguri source, but the latter was so compact, there was little fetch length and duration. This NWPAC midlatitude pattern at least was large, making a sufficient source area.
- ASCAT validated winds within severe gale to storm-force near the 310-315 degree band Thursday.
- The centered crossed into the Bering Sea west of the Date Line early Friday, as the source for Hawaii ended.
- Local surf prognosis:

- Long-period onset overnight Sunday night. Long travel distance means slow rise, with surf building Monday from 310-320 degrees.
- Max due overnight Monday with slow decline from 310-325 degrees on Tuesday. Fading Wednesday.

Nearby low to N of island 10/5-8

- The remnant occluded low near 40N, 160W 10/3 is modelled to shift to near 30N, 150W by 10/5 as it stalls once again.
- At the surface a weak area of low pressure is shown from near the islands to near 30N N to NE of Hawaii.
- On the other side of the low to the NNW to NNE, a strong surface high pressure to 1036mb is predicted to stall.
- This pressure pattern would place a large area of strong breezes (22-27 knots) aimed highest toward the western Hawaiian Islands and further west.
- This could give some small to potentially near average surf from 355-010 degrees starting 10/8.
- Stay tuned for refinements.

Midday Friday 10/03, the east side has breakers at the low-end. Saturday surf should remain low.

Windward wind-head concerns —

- Low N of Hawaii is weakening and allowing trades to nose back into the islands by midday Friday 10/3, as seen in the local wind reports.
- Models expected a maximum of local wind Sunday though barely out of the moderate bracket.
- Still mostly straight from east on Saturday, but Sunday shows ENE dawn and NE by midday.
- Nearby local low to weaken winds from NNE Monday.
- Light and variable winds expected Tuesday into Wednesday.

East side surfer interests—

- Surf should remain at low-end levels from 50-90 degrees through the period.
- Aforementioned NNW swell 10/5-6 to bring surf to select N-exposures on east side.
- New N suggested for Wednesday.

Midday Friday 10/03, southern shores have breakers near the calendar average from 208-220 degrees of 14-20s intervals. Saturday about the same.

On this day, 10/03, in the historical H1/10 visual surf observation Goddard-Caldwell database (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/metadata/geoportal/rest/metadata/item/gov.noaa.nodc%3A0001754/html>) (starting 1972) for the south shore of Oahu, the average is 2.5 Hs, (~5' peak face) and the largest surf on this date was 6 Hs (12' peak face) in 1997 from S under 15 knot ENE winds.

Moon's view:

The Southern Ocean SW of Tasmania to the southern Tasman Sea was active 9/23-29. A New Zealand source set up 10/1-2.

Large low SW to SE of Tasmania 9/23-25

- Backstory:
 - Massive area of severe gales and seas >30' set up as the system moved east within 45-60S within the Southern Ocean south of Australia. It weakened once SE of Tasmania.
- Pulse status:
 - NOAA southern Hawaii buoy 51002 midday 10/3 shows the 16-18s energy already subsiding as dominant energy favors 13-15s.
- Prognosis:
 - It was a broad source, so likely linger about the same Saturday from 208-220 degrees. The long travel distance and island shadowing makes for longer lulls. It should drop on Sunday.

2nd Tasmania low 9/27-28

- This low was in the Tasman Sea to E to NE of Tasmania starting 9/27. This source was closer to Hawaii than the above source, but had a smaller source region.
- Background event due locally 10/6 from 208-220 degrees. Peak suggested for 10/7.

New Zealand source 10/1-3

- A broad area of low pressure set up an ideal fetch aimed at Hawaii, with the only missing ingredient being magnitude. It was mostly near gales with some small pockets to moderate gales.
- This should take over as the dominant background surf starting Wednesday 10/8 from 185-200 degrees. It will likely peak 10/9 and drop 10/10.

Into the long range, let's see what Wooly Worm (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzZitoUBuCE>) is up. Pau hana Friday, time for happy hour at Rat Worm's Sports Bar. There's Wooly walking into the bar, followed by little Bert Boweevel. That must be the clue. There is a weaker source 10/3-4 following the NWPAC low of 10/1-3. Winds are mostly near gale, with only low-end, shorter-period surf due locally centered on 10/10. Models show a front backed by near gales nosing to about 1500 nm away near the Date Line N of 35N by late Tuesday 10/9, that could give a notch bigger event for weekend of 10/11. Short-lived gales in the Tasman Sea 10/3 could turn dominant background surf to 208-220 degrees for the weekend of 10/11.

The next SwellCaldWell forecast will be issued Monday, October 6.

Climatology update (Oct 3, 2025) to include through Sept 2025:

Summary (click below for details of each)

North shore, month of Sept 2025: No ummmffff, but beggars cant be choosy, some decent small to medium relative to Sept, nsstat09 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/nsstat09.txt>).

South shore, month of Sept 2025: Decent, a pinch over average most size categories, ssstat09 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ssstat09.txt>). For the 2025 season, smstat03_09 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/smstat03_09.txt), March to Sept, below average, though smoking August tilted the larger size brackets near average, given the slow spell March to July.

Wind-heads: Sept 2025: Near average, wwstat09 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/wwstat09.txt>). (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/wwstat05.txt>)

Climate Fun 1.

Monthly Stats

North Shore Oahu (1968-present):

January: nsstat01 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/nsstat01.txt>)

February: nsstat02 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/nsstat02.txt>)

March: nsstat03 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/nsstat03.txt>)

April: nsstat04 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/nsstat04.txt>)

May: nsstat05 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/nsstat05.txt>)

June: nsstat06 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/nsstat06.txt>)

July: nsstat07 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/nsstat07.txt>)

August: nsstat08 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/nsstat08.txt>)

September: (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/nsstat09.txt>)nsstat09 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/nsstat09.txt>)

October: nsstat10 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/nsstat10.txt>)

November: nsstat11 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/nsstat11.txt>)

December: nsstat12 (<https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/nsstat12.txt>)