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PAT CALDWELL

Mahalo for your support…

All New Premium SNN sign-ups get Pat's forecasts Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

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

In addition to ALL Pat's updates, you'll also get the SNN 10-day forecasts plus our Multi Surf Cams free from Cam Ads & plenty viewing.

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Drop in Today! Aloha. SNN

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SwellCaldWell Updated 2 PM Monday, November 24, 2025

DATE	SWELL HGT	SWELL DIR	SWELL PER	SURF H1/3	SURF H1/10	TREND	PROB	WIND SPD	WIND DIR	TREND
12 PM	3	NNW	13	4	6	DOWN		11-16	E	DOWN
11/24	6	ENE	6	2	4	DOWN				
TUE	2.5	NNW	11	3	4	DOWN	LOW	8-12	E	SAME
11/25	4.5	ENE	6	1	3	DOWN	LOW			
WED	7.5	NNW	17	15	20	UP	LOW	8-12	E	DOWN
11/26										
THU	9	NNW	15	15	20	DOWN	LOW	4-8	ESE	SAME
11/27										
FRI	6.5	NNW	14	10	14	DOWN	LOW	4-8	E	SAME
11/28										
SAT	3	NNW	11	4	6	DOWN	LOW	4-8	ESE	SAME
11/29	4.5	WNW	14	6	10	UP	LOW			

Table Definitions given after Discussion

Summary

Plenty on the plate coming up!

Discussion

Midday Monday 11/24, northern shores have declining breakers from 315-325 deg of 12-14s below average. Just some dregs leftover on Tuesday.

On this day, 11/24, 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 6.5 Hs, (13’ peak face, Oahu Surf Climatology (http://ilikai.soest.hawaii.edu/HILO/climo/oahu_surf_climatlogy.html)) and the largest surf on this date was 20 Hs (sets 40’ peak face top spots) in 1970.

Moon’s view-

- Recent pattern of NW/NNW events to give way to more WNW/NW this weekend into early next week.

Kamchatka to east of Date Line low 11/18-20

- Backstory:
    - 969 mb low formed SE of Kamchatka 11/18 about 2600 nm away from Hawaii.

    - It stayed stronger than expected as it crossed the Date Line Wednesday PM with aim of severe gales at Hawaii over the 315-330 degree band with seas >25'.
    - Aim more NE of Hawaii Thursday 11/20 with closest reach of near gales about 1000 nm away Thursday night.
- Pulse status:
    - NOAA NW Hawaii buoy 51001 midday 11/24 shows this event dropping like a lead balloon.
    - PacIOOS/CDIP Waimea buoy showed moderate swell for dawn but a steady decline to midday 11/24.
- Local surf prognosis:
    - Most likely tiny Tuesday from 315-330 degrees.

Storm-force Kamchatka to east of Date Line pattern 11/21-24

- The new low deepened to 968 mb near 50N, 170E (2400 nm away) late Saturday.
- The pattern occluded on Sunday approaching the Date Line. A broad, slow-moving cyclonic gyre fills the central NPAC Monday.
- It should remain an active source into Tuesday before fading.
- ASCAT satellite validated severe gales with pockets to storm force south of the Aleutians west of the Date Line late Saturday to late Sunday. JASON measured seas within 30-35' under these winds.
- Once east of the Date Line Monday, aim higher NE of Hawaii.
- This should be a long-lived event.
- Local surf prognosis:
    - Long-period onset near dawn Wednesday, though Wave Watch III with GFS input does not show breakers reaching average until late morning from 320-335 degrees. It should be well elevated before sundown.
    - Max of event pre-dawn T-day, holding elevated above average into Friday 11/28 morning with dropping trend from the same direction.
    - Heights should fall to small levels for Saturday morning.

First, weaker low in a series west of Date Line 11/25-26

- Models show a marginal gale forming with an eastward track west of Date Line 11/25 to near Date Line by 11/26 as it fades.
- It could deliver a moderate event from 300-315 degrees building mid Saturday 11/29. Next low behind it winter-caliber, on its heels.

Midday Monday 11/24, the east side has breakers from 60-90 degrees below the east side average. Heights should remain low on Tuesday.

Windward wind-head concerns —

- Weak surface high pressure N of state through the period with E trades within gentle to moderate.

East side surfer interests—

- East side minimum other than refraction Country swell late 11/26 into dawn 11/28.

Midday Monday 11/24, southern shores breakers have breakers at a seasonal minimum with pinch of remnant E trade wind swell and pinch of SSE swell. Heights should be lower on Tuesday.

On this day, 11/24, 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 1.8 Hs, (~4' peak face) and the largest surf on this date was 4 Hs (8' peak face) in 1982. Surf was 8 Hs on 11/23/1982, from Hurricane Iwa.

Moon's view:

Austral spring leaning summer not conducive to S swell in Hawaii.

Into the long range, let's see what Wooly Worm (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zzZitoUBuCE) is up. There's Wooly at the lunch table. Wow, what a bruised-up apple, you been playing baseball with that thing? Bruised, that could be the clue. May be some bruising surf here Sunday 11/30. Models over the last few days been trending higher surf potential from within 295-320 (WNW/NW) degrees well into the XL bracket. Peak expected Sunday remaining above average into Monday more NW/NNW.

The next SwellCaldWell forecast will be issued Wednesday, November 26.

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

Summary (click below for details of each)

North shore, month of Oct 2025: Sucky Sept gave way to Rocktober, with some solid surf, pinch over the average for large days, nsstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/nsstat10.txt).

South shore, month of Oct 2025: More like Nope-tober for south side, ssstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/ssstat10.txt). For the 2025 season,smstat03_10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/smstat03_10.txt), March to Sept, then Oct, below average, though smoking August tilted the larger size brackets near average for the season overall,

Wind-heads: Oct 2025: Near average, steady fresh+ trades week 2 and 3, wwstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/wwstat10.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: nsstat09 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/nsstat09.txt)

October: nsstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/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)

South Shore Oahu (1972-present):

January: ssstat01 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/ssstat01.txt)

February: ssstat02 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/ssstat02.txt)

March: ssstat03 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ssstat03.txt)

April: ssstat04 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/ssstat04.txt)

May: ssstat05 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/ssstat05.txt)

June:ssstat06 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/ssstat06.txt)

July: ssstat07 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/ssstat07.txt)

August: ssstat08 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/ssstat08.txt)

*Picts surf forecaster validation duties Big Wednesday 8/18/21


(photos Shredsniper.com, Mike Carroll)

September: ssstat09 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ssstat09.txt)

October: ssstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/ssstat10.txt)

November: ssstat11 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/ssstat11.txt)

December: ssstat12 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/ssstat12.txt)

Wind (1988-present, PC's best guess):

January: wwstat01 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/wwstat01.txt)

February: wwstat02 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/wwstat02.txt)

March: wwstat03 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/wwstat03.txt)

April: wwstat04 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/wwstat04.txt)

May: wwstat05 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/wwstat05.txt)

June: wwstat06 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/wwstat06.txt)

July: wwstat07 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/wwstat07.txt)

August: wwstat08 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/wwstat08.txt)

September: wwstat09 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/wwstat09.txt)

October: wwstat10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/wwstat10.txt)

November: wwstat11 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/wwstat11.txt)

December: wwstat12 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/wwstat12.txt)

Seasonal Stats

North Shore Oahu, 1968/69-2023/24; (full season, September to June): nmstat09_06 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/nmstat09_06.txt)

North Shore Oahu, 2024/25 last year season (Sept-June): nmstat09_06 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/nmstat09_06.txt)

South Shore Oahu, 1972-2024 (full season, March thru November): smstat03_11 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/smstat03_11.txt)

South Shore Oahu, 2025 season (March to Oct): smstat03_10 (https://www.surfnewsnetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/smstat03_10.txt)

Helpful links,

Oahu Surf Climatology (http://uhslc.soest.hawaii.edu/outreach/climo/oahu_surf_climatlogy.html)

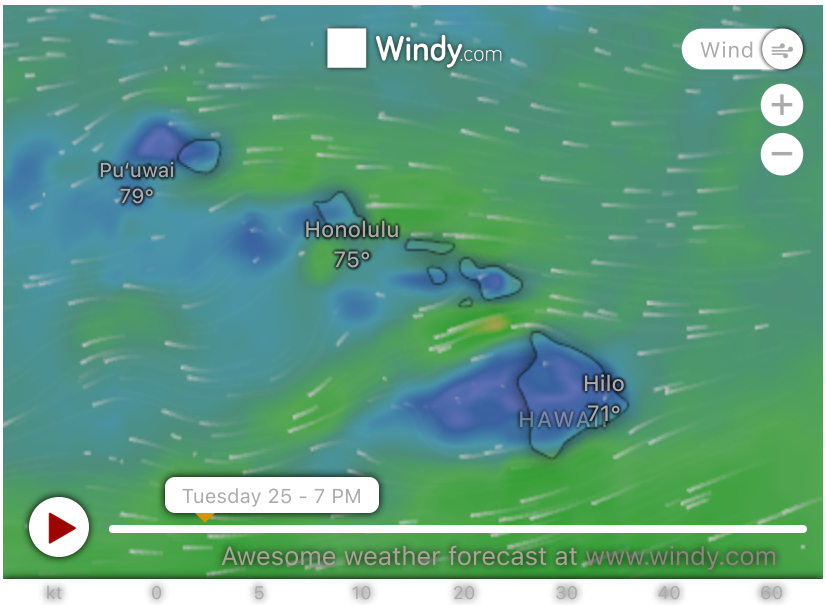
Island Shadows (http://ilikai.soest.hawaii.edu/HILO/shadow.html)

Educational outreach: Waves 101– Why Surf Varies Time/Place (http://uhslc.soest.hawaii.edu/outreach/vary/why_surf_varies.html)

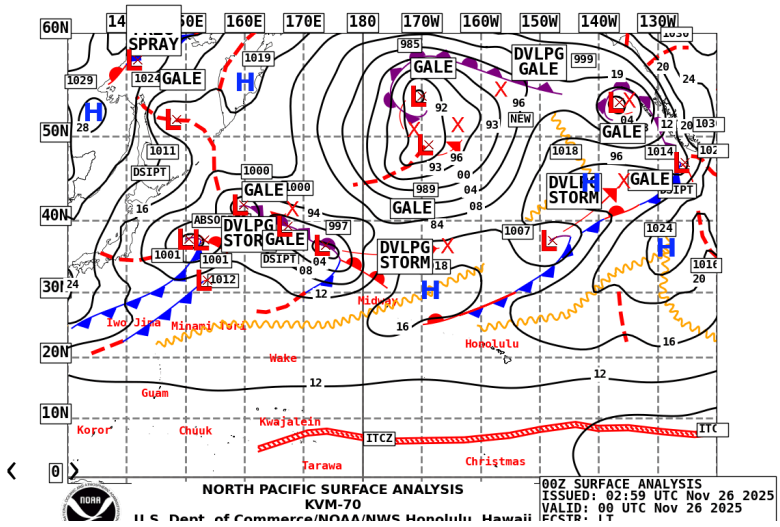
Table Definitions

DATE	Represents daylight hours in zones of high refraction (biggest surf spots for given incident swell direction, period and height). First row(s) in table refers to observations from buoys (swell) and cams (breakers) made for the time when the SwellCaldWell forecast was updated. Other rows refer to forecast for spell (~30-60 min) within daylight when arrival of maximum wave energy, or **active envelopes**, occur. This forecast tends to bias high for safety (and easier to ride a bigger board if surf is smaller than expected, than to ride a shorter board when bigger). Even under “steady” swell, heights vary spell to spell through a day.

SWELL HGT	Deep water swell (H1/3) height (feet) corresponding to a nominal (~3 mile) location offshore of Oahu seaward of the coastal shelf for the given incident swell direction. Deep water swell height from each unique wave-generating source is obtained by summing up all energy for wave periods > 10 seconds, which removes the wind swell. H1/3 is the average of the highest 1/3rd of all waves coming in for the targeted high energy envelope spell from this defined source. Wind swell are defined for wave periods <= 10 seconds.
SWELL DIR	Deep water swell direction (from) centered on 16 point compass bands.
SWELL PER	Deep water swell period (seconds).
SURF H1/3	Breaker H1/3 (defined above) height (feet, peak face) during most active envelopes. H1/3 sets arrive about every 3 minutes with large variance.
SURF H1/10	Average of highest 1/10th of all breakers (feet, peak face) during active envelopes; H1/10 sets arrive about every 10 minutes with large variance.
PEAK FACE	Trough to crest height (feet) on shoreward side of breaker at moment and location along wave front of maximum cresting,
Ocn H1/100 Cleanup or Sneaker set	Waves arrive within a range of sizes. Surf zone enthusiasts emphasize the smaller percent of larger waves when communicating a report in an X to Y occasional Z format. The X to Y range is nominally H1/3 to H1/10. The Z, or sneaker or cleanup sets, are the H1/100, which is about 1.3 times the H1/10 (eg., H1/10=10' gives H1/100=13'). H1/100th sets arrive on average every 90 minutes with large variance. Thus your typical 2 hour session is bound to see at least one cleanup set.
TREND	Breaker height (wind speed) tendency during daylight
WIND SPD	Wind speed (knots) for nominal coastal location on the windward side relative to prevailing large scale wind (ie, east side under trades or S or W side under konas),
WIND DIR	Wind direction (from) centered on 16 point compass bands. LV refers to light and variable.



SURFACE CHART



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LINKS

Surfrider Oahu (http://oahu.surfrider.org)
Maui Ola Foundation (https://mauliola.org)
Pacific Tsunami (http://www.tsunami.org/faq.html)
Sustainable Coastlines HI (http://sustainablecoastlineshawaii.org/)
Surfing the Nations (http://surfingthenations.com/)
Defend Oahu (http://www.defendoahucoalition.org/)
Access Surf Hawaii (http://www.accessurf.org/)
WSL (https://www.worldsurfleague.com)
Rise Above Plastic (http://www.riseaboveplastics.org/)
Water Quality (Clean Water Branch) (https://eha-cloud.doh.hawaii.gov/cwb/#!/viewer)