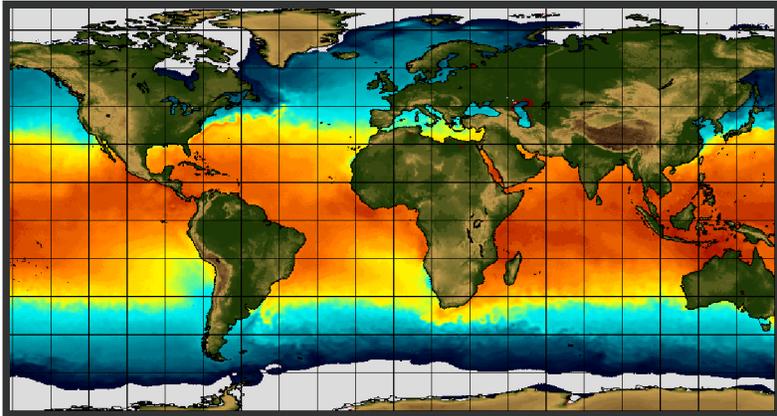




# monthly NEWSLETTER

December 2015

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE



## **STRONGEST EL NIÑO ON RECORD IS CAUSING ABNORMAL WEATHER THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES**

Based on a key measurement, this year's extreme El Niño has surpassed the 1997-1998 phenomenon, making it now the strongest ever recorded. That could mean abnormal weather for all of North America, including big snow in the Southwest, torrential rain in Southern California, and a drier-than-normal winter in the Northeast. Urban areas like Los Angeles are already prepping on how to handle the monster El Niño, with city agencies warning of flooding, mudslides, and lots of rain.

El Niño occurs when ocean water temperatures in the central Pacific Ocean become warmer than normal. While this may not sound like a big deal, it can have profound impacts on weather patterns around the world and it can create very severe weather.

The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) continually monitors the warmth of the water in the central Pacific as one major indicator of an El Niño's strength. In mid-November, the recorded temperature was the highest ever seen in the region.

The New Scientist reports that during 1997's El Niño, the central Pacific's temperature peaked at 36.86°F above average. This year, temperatures reached 36.86°F on November 4 and then rose to 37.58°F on November 18. As of December 2, the central Pacific was still at about 37.22°F above average.

According to Axel Timmerman at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, the temperatures in the central Pacific have the biggest impact on global weather during an El Niño year. Since 1950, there have been only two other El Niño winters of similar magnitude, one in 1982-1983 and another in 1997-1998. The 1997-1998 event caused flooding in the southeast, a severe ice storm in the northeast, \$550 million in rain and flood damages in California, and tornadoes in Florida. Overall, the last strong El Niño resulted in \$35 billion in damage and 23,000 deaths worldwide. And now this year's El Niño is stronger.

Will it result in billions of damage, like in 1997-1998? No one knows. In the United States, we usually feel El Niño's effects beginning in mid-December and peaking in January or February. Already this year, there has been more snow at California ski areas and very little snow in the Northeast or Midwest. That being said, most of California's precipitation has been from storms dropping down from the Gulf of Alaska, which is not an El Niño weather pattern. Whatever happens, here at Curbed we're on the El Niño-beat, so stay tuned.

Content from: [www.ski.curbed.com/archives/2015/12/el-nino-2015-strongest-on-record.php](http://www.ski.curbed.com/archives/2015/12/el-nino-2015-strongest-on-record.php)

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**



As the Holiday Season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and on those who have helped us shape our business.

We value our relationship with you and look forward to working with you in the years to come.

We wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with Peace and Prosperity

