

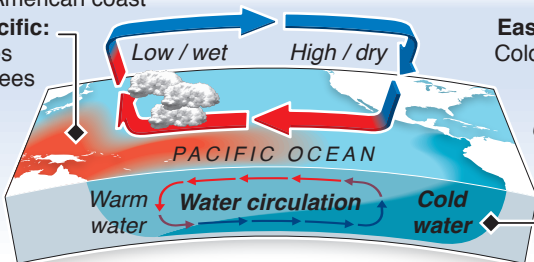
Fears growing for strong El Niño

Rising Pacific Ocean sea temperatures and rapidly eastward-moving warm waters are raising concerns that a new El Niño weather event is forming this year, and could be the strongest for several decades

NORMAL CONDITIONS: Trade winds push warm surface water westward away from South American coast

Western Pacific:

Sea becomes several degrees warmer and one metre higher than on east side



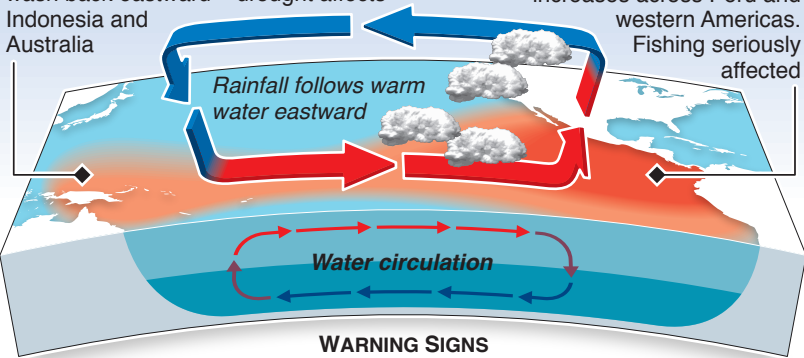
Eastern Pacific:

Cold nutrient-rich water from **Humboldt Current** rises to replace surface water

EL NIÑO

Western Pacific: Trade winds weaken every two to seven years, allowing warm waters to wash back eastward – drought affects Indonesia and Australia

Eastern Pacific: Warm water halts upwelling. Rainfall increases across Peru and western Americas. Fishing seriously affected



WARNING SIGNS

Anomalies in sea surface temperature (Apr 6-May 3, 2014)

