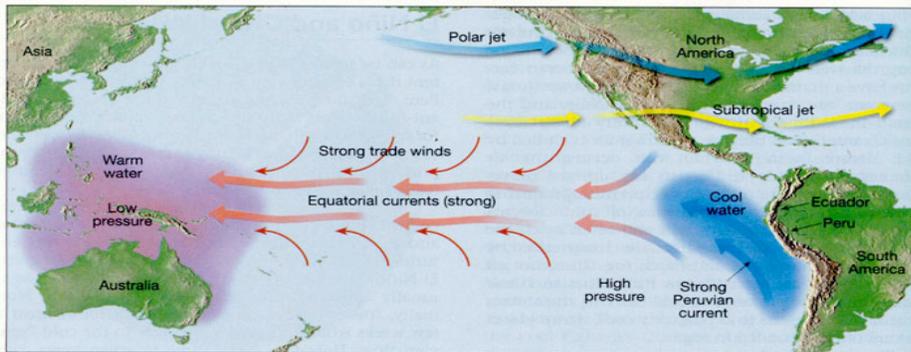


ENSO Graphics

Sea Surface Temperatures & Currents in the Equatorial Pacific

Neutral Condition / La Nina Condition

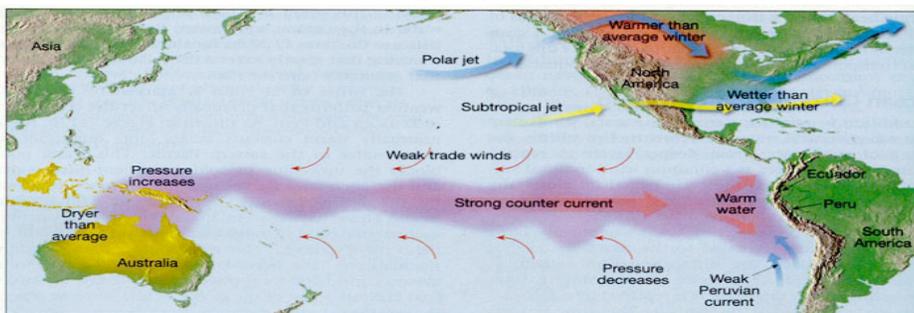


Normally, the trade winds and strong equatorial currents flow toward the west.

At the same time, an intense Peruvian current causes upwelling of cold water along the west coast of South America.

During La Niña, trade winds increase, & more cold water upwelling occurs in eastern Pacific, off the Coast of Peru, spreading westward, as well as N & S of Equator.

El Nino Condition



Upon the advent of an ENSO event, the pressure over the eastern and western Pacific flip-flops. This causes the trade winds to diminish, leading to an eastward movement of warm water along the equator. As a result, the surface waters of the central and eastern Pacific warm, with far-reaching consequences to weather patterns.

Average Winter Jet Stream Position during El Niño & La Niña

