Weather discussion for Monday, February 13, 2012
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Overview: An upper high is evolving over the Costa Rican area, covering much of the study region. Convection is present along the monsoon trough although not as prevalent as it was late last week. On Wednesday strong northerly, cross-equatorial flow in upper levels moves into areas west of 105W.

There seems to be no organized areas of convection. Most likely places for rain will be over the warmer waters near COCOS (probably as narrow, shallow bands of showers) and along the equator to 1N west of 90 W. Like today, the anvils should be relatively low (FL280 to FL330).

Research flight 12 from MROC is planned for Tuesday the 14th.
Convection is present immediately to the west of the Galapagos this morning.

The most convection is found west of 105W. Animations show that the convection is moving very little.

Also of note are the small convective lines near RADIM. These are shallow and narrow but may be precipitating heavily.
Gap wind flow continues across the Liberia region and in Panama.

Some cool water is still located along the equator (about 2 C less than in surrounding latitudes).

Not very much convergence along the monsoon trough. West surface winds are found west of the Galapagos and are part of a southern hemisphere circulation.
42-h WRF forecast of precip, valid 18z Tuesday.

Weak convective rain is forecast near COCOS and RADIM. Heavier rain is found at about 1N, 97W.

Surprisingly, heavy rain is forecast near 11N, 92W. We’ll see if that verifies.

Strongest storms will be west of 105W.
Low clouds are expected west of the Galapagos, consistent with the rain forecast. Small areas of cloud are near COCOS.
200 mb WRF streamline chart

A high is centered over MROC. Southerly anvil flow will be found west of about 92W. Elsewhere, weak westerly moving anvils can be expected.