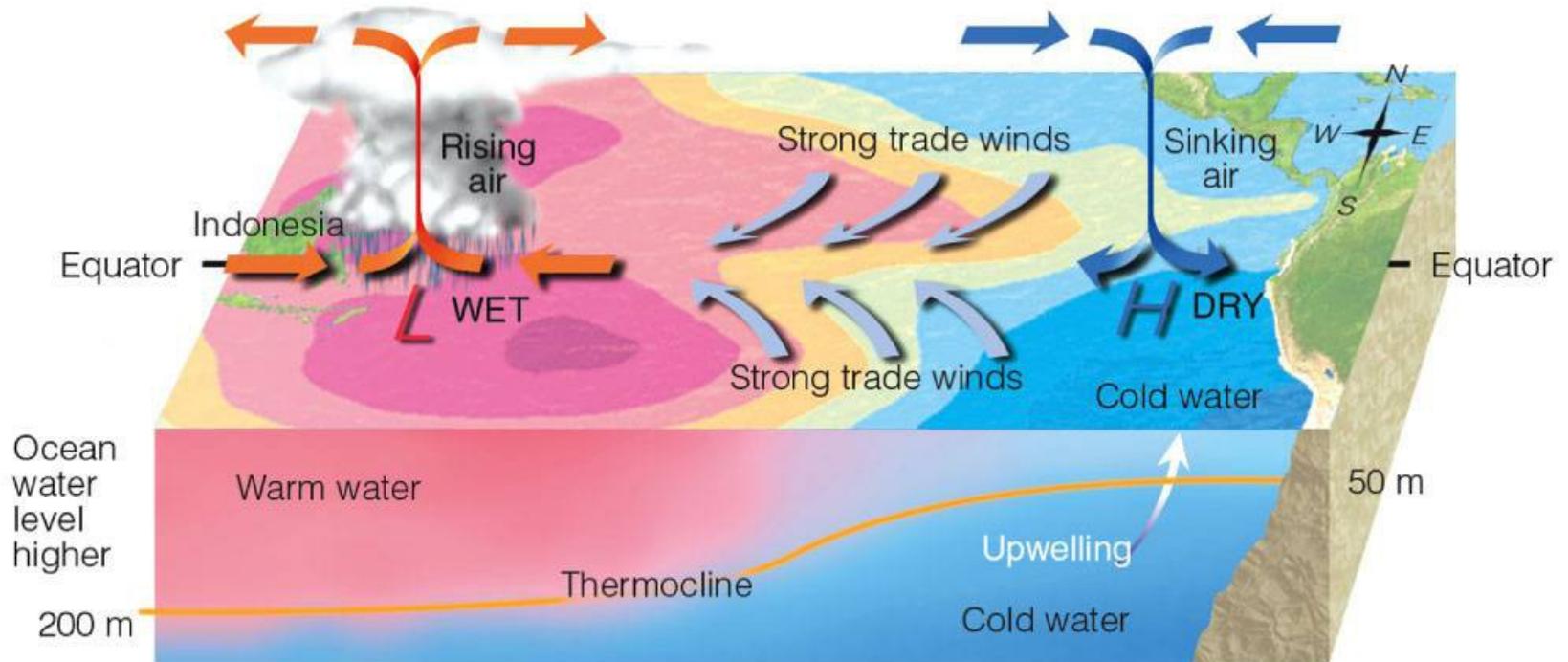


El Niño

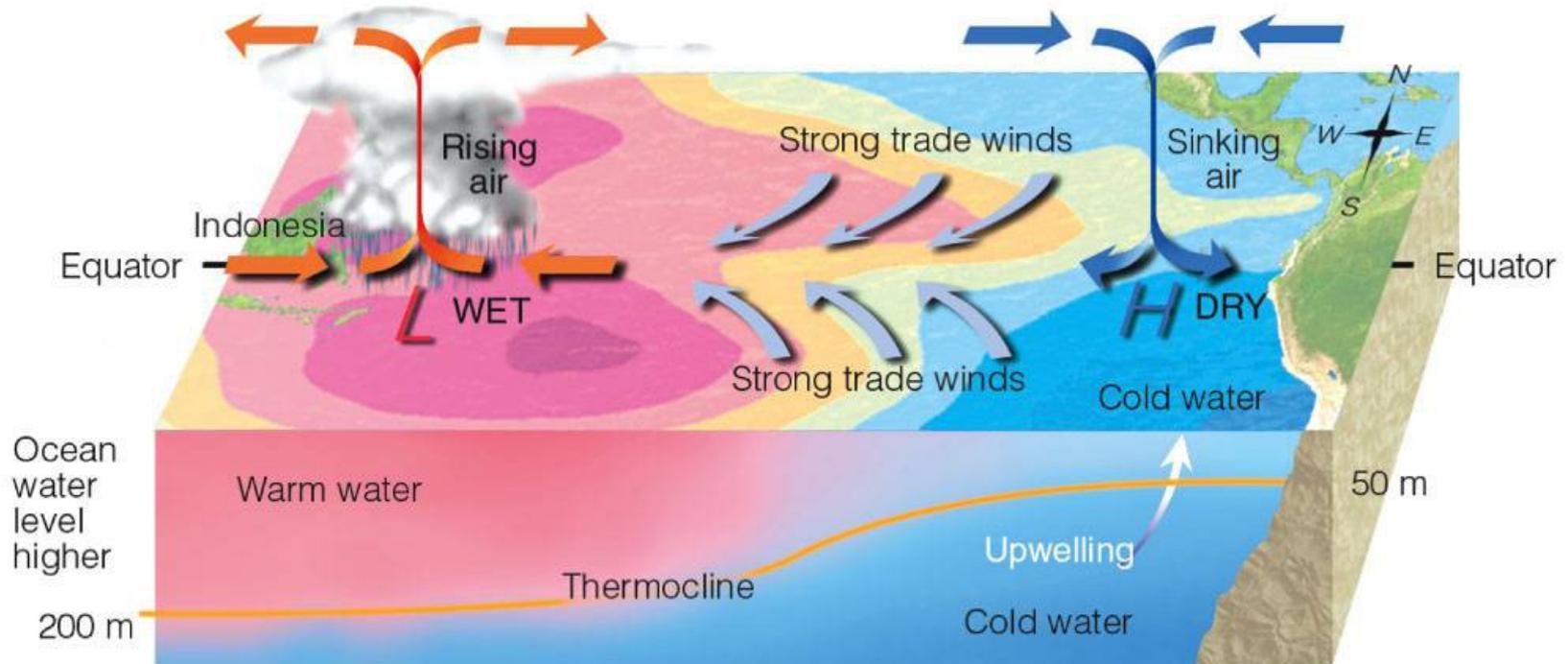
With images of Avila Beach after the
1983 El Niño event.

Normal:



(a) Non-El Niño conditions

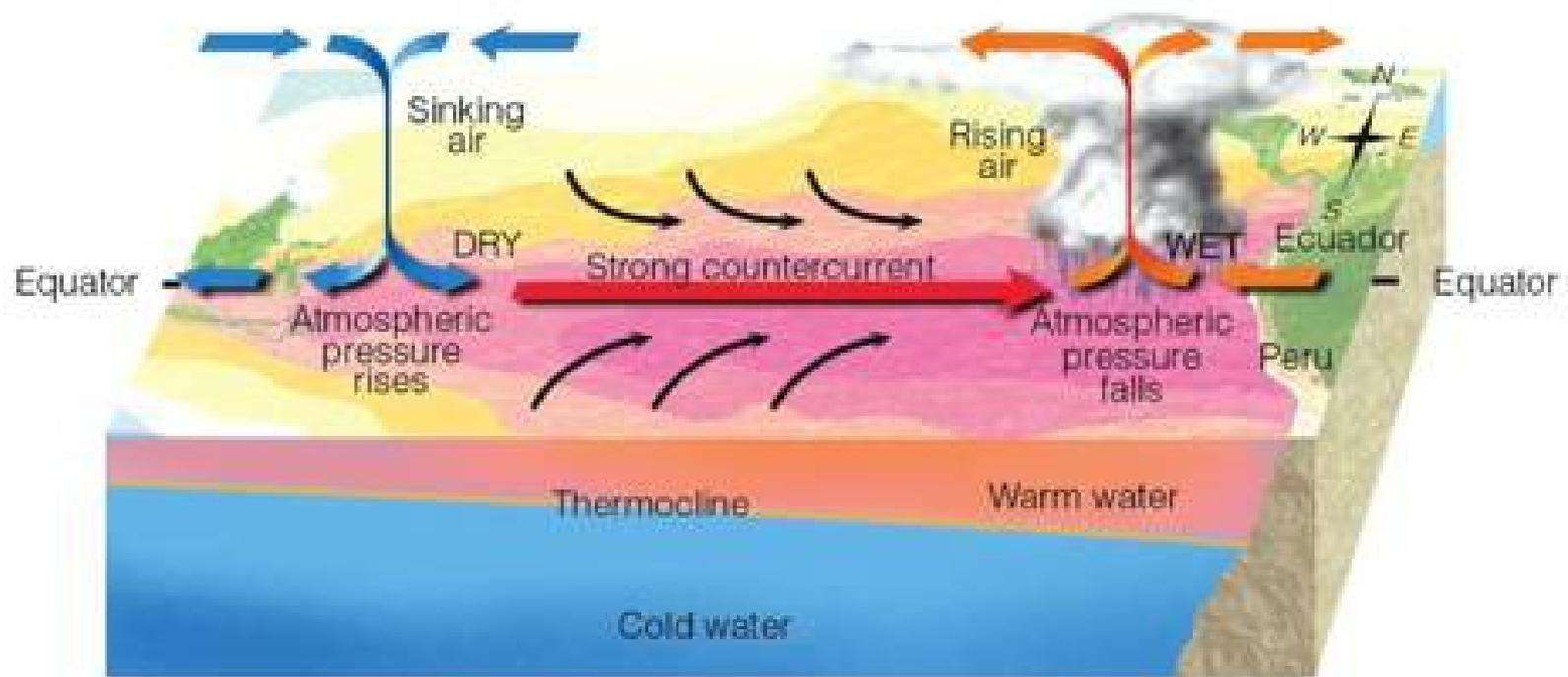
Trade winds keep warm water along coasts of Asia & Australia.
They receive much rain.



(a) Non-El Niño conditions

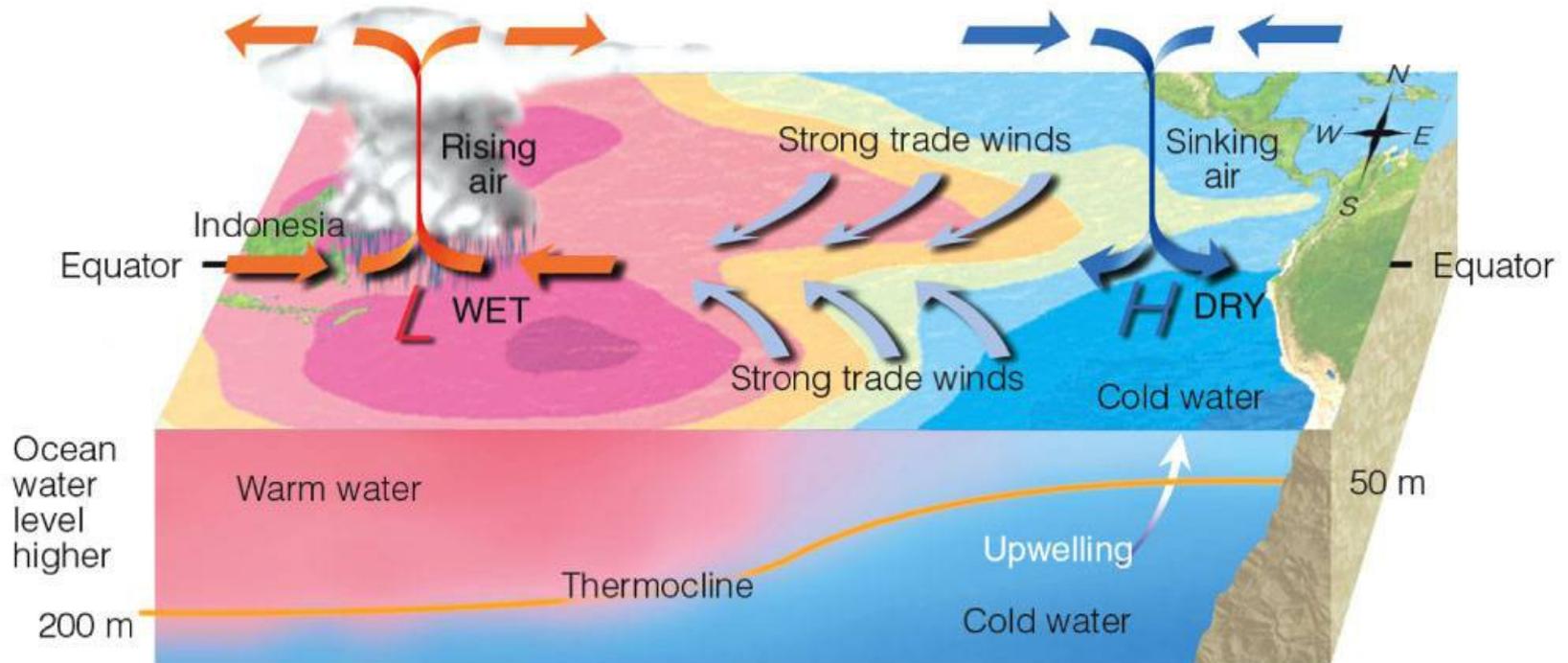
Trade winds weaken...

Warm water moves to Americas
producing storms and rain.
Asia/Australia is left dry in drought.



(b) El Niño Conditions

When the trade winds pick up, the normal is returned.



(a) Non-El Niño conditions

Huge storms in Americas during the el nino condition produce destruction.

The next images are of the Avila Beach pier after the 1983 el nino. The end was never rebuilt.

Avila Beach pier, 1983

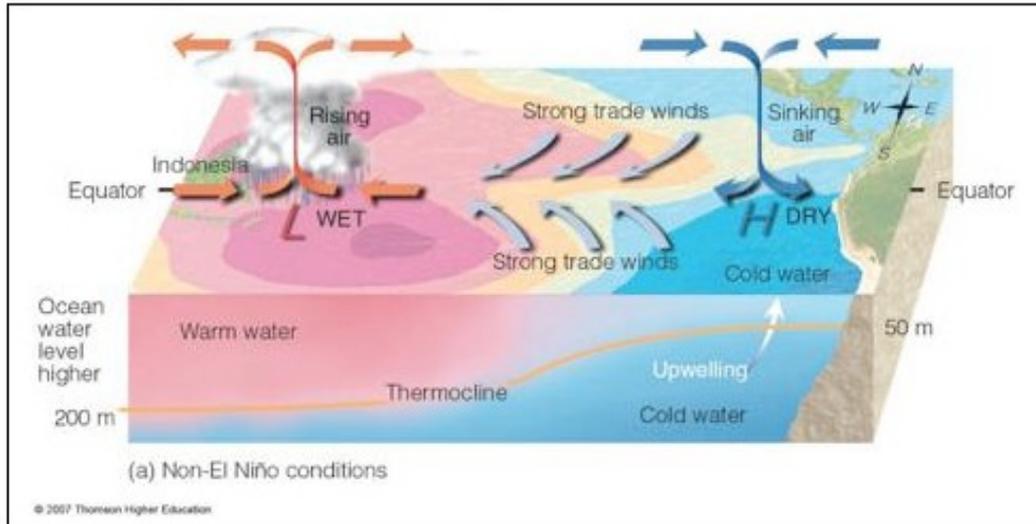


Avila Beach pier, 1983



Review

NOTE...Normal year trade winds keep warm water over in Asia & Australia part of the Pacific. Upwellings in the Americas provide an abundance of fish. Asia/Australia are used to monsoon rains.



In an el Niño year, the trade winds die down and don't pick up again allowing the warm water to flow across the Pacific basin to the Americas. This suppresses the upwelling and fish / birds die. Storm clouds produce torrential rains and waves are large as the influx of water arrives at the shore. On the other side of the Pacific, Asia and Australia don't receive monsoonal rains and drought sets in. El Niño was named by the Peruvians because it came in December like the baby Jesus (el Niño).

