
Mauna Loa Solar Observatory Observer's Log

Tue Aug 18 17:01:11 GMT 2026

Year:26 Doy:230

Observer: mcotter

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 17:02:45 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-08-18 16:59:00

Temperature : 47.35 deg F

Dew Point : 35.46 deg F

Pressure : 681.05 mbar

Wind Speed : 4.92 mph

Wind Direction : 195.0 deg

Skies: Patches of Cirrus clouds scattered across various areas of the sky, but mostly to the north and east. The sky overhead appears clear.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 17:13:50 GMT 2026

Kcor:

There are patches of Cirrus clouds in the sky where the Sun is currently located. No observations can be done at this time. Towards zenith the sky appears clear, so I will try observing again as the Sun gets higher in the sky.

____end____

** GENERAL PROBLEM REPORTED BY mcotter ** : Tue Aug 18 17:50:45 GMT 2026

When moving the orange dome ladder this morning I noticed a small puddle of water beneath where the ladder was parked. Standing back and looking at the southeast area of the dome wall there were signs indicating that the water may have run down that area of the wall from the dome sill.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 18:19:22 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-08-18 18:11:00

Temperature : 55.8 deg F

Dew Point : 34.43 deg F

Pressure : 681.5 mbar

Wind Speed : 4.47 mph

Wind Direction : 13.5 deg

Skies: The Sun has passed through the area of the sky that has the long wisps of Cirrus clouds, but it is now in an area where there appears to be a layer of Cirrostratus clouds. The sky appears bright and has a thin translucent covering of Cirrostratus clouds making the sky too bright to observe through. This may burn off as the Sun gets higher in the sky.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 18:21:20 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The sky has a thin translucent layer of Cirrostratus clouds in the viewing area making it too bright to observe at this time. I will try again as the Sun gets higher in the sky.

____end____

KCOR COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 19:00:30 GMT 2026

Kcor:

The sky is quite bright and there is now a rainbow halo around the Sun.

The sky remains much too bright to observe at this time.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 20:43:55 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-08-18 20:38:00

Temperature : 60.48 deg F

Dew Point : 38.1 deg F

Pressure : 682.07 mbar

Wind Speed : 6.71 mph

Wind Direction : 34.3 deg

Skies: A large patch of Altocumulus clouds have formed over the observatory and additional Orographic clouds are coming up over the summit of Maunaloa to the south.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 20:46:56 GMT 2026

Skies: The Altocumulus clouds that have formed over the observatory are increasing and are becoming lenticular in shape.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 21:31:18 GMT 2026

MLO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-08-18 21:17:00

Temperature : 60.85 deg F

Dew Point : 43.43 deg F

Pressure : 681.99 mbar

Wind Speed : 16.33 mph

Wind Direction : 27.2 deg

Skies: There are now quite a lot of Orographic clouds coming up over the top of Maunaloa to the south and also now coming up from the west. The lenticular clouds have dissipated, there is now a translucent layer of Cirrostratus clouds completely covering the entire sky. Large wisps of Cirrus clouds still remain in many parts of the sky.

Based on existing sky conditions, it is doubtful that observations will be made today.

____end____

Weather COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 21:46:13 GMT 2026

MLSO Current Weather

Timestamp (UTC): 2026-08-18 21:41:00

Temperature : 60.39 deg F

Dew Point : 42.61 deg F

Pressure : 681.93 mbar

Wind Speed : 10.07 mph

Wind Direction : 25.6 deg

Skies: Large bands of high altitude Cirrus clouds have moved in from the west. With the clouds that were already present have made the sky completely overcast.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 21:48:32 GMT 2026

Dome closed:

The dome windows and dome have been closed at this time due to poor sky conditions.

Before moving the dome orange ladder to its normal parking spot, I mopped the floor and cleaned up the water that was found earlier today.

____end____

GENERAL COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 22:53:57 GMT 2026

End Of Day:

Poor sky conditions persisted all day with clouds scattered at different elevations across all areas of the sky. In the late morning large bands of Cirrus clouds came in from the west, and along with the large amount of Orographic clouds coming up from lower elevations made the sky entirely overcast.

No data today.

____end____

Logger COMMENT BY mcotter: Tue Aug 18 22:54:07 GMT 2026

Log closed

ONSITE STAFF: mcotter

____end____