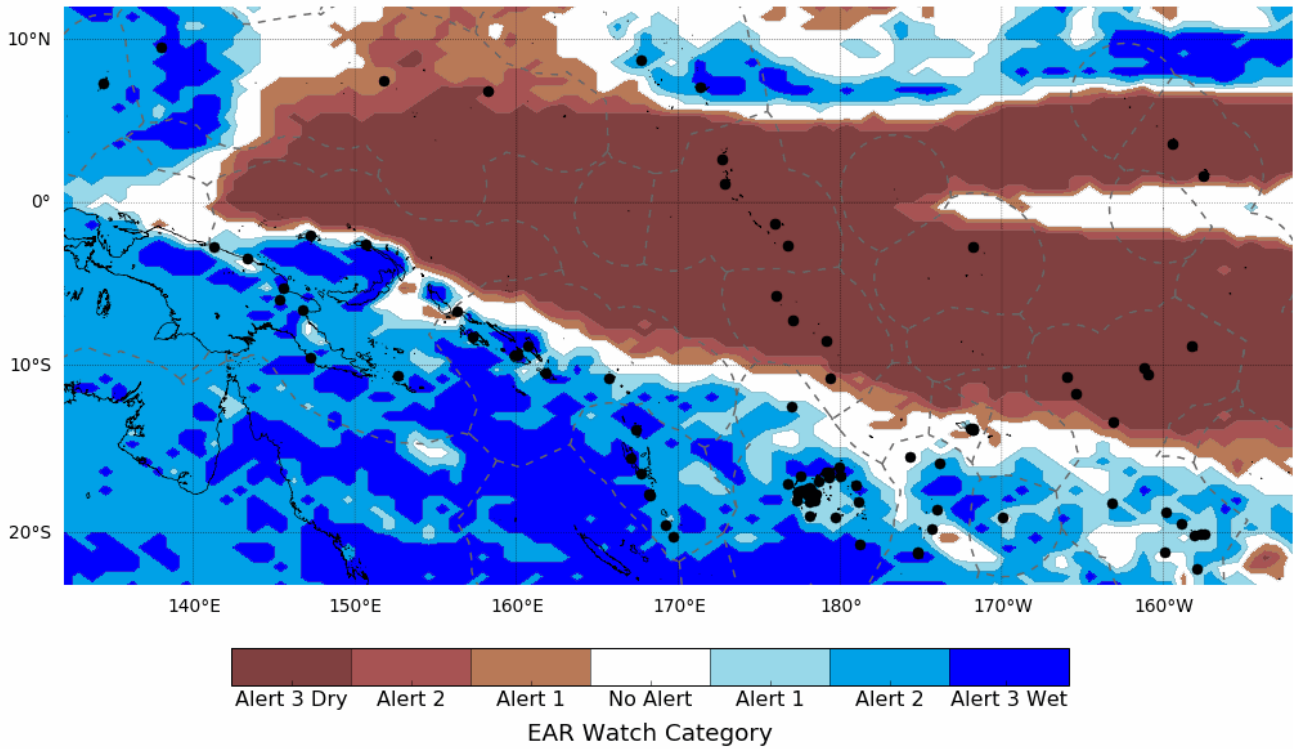




Climate and Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) Regional Early Action Rainfall Watch

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Watch: October – December 2021

EAR Watch Categorical forecast for
October 2021



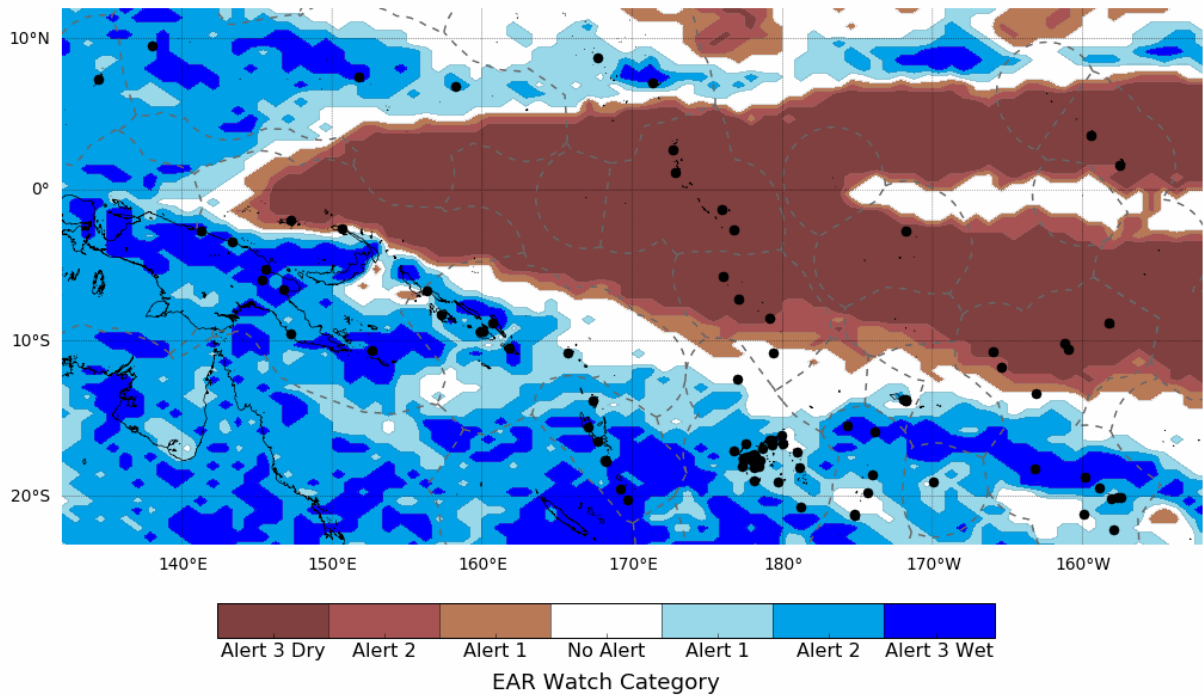
MODEL RUN: 01/09/2021
Base period: 1990-2012
Model: ACCESS-S1

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Shapefile data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marineregions.org/>.

The regional maps are available via http://access-s.clide.cloud/files/project/EAR_watch/pacificx/.

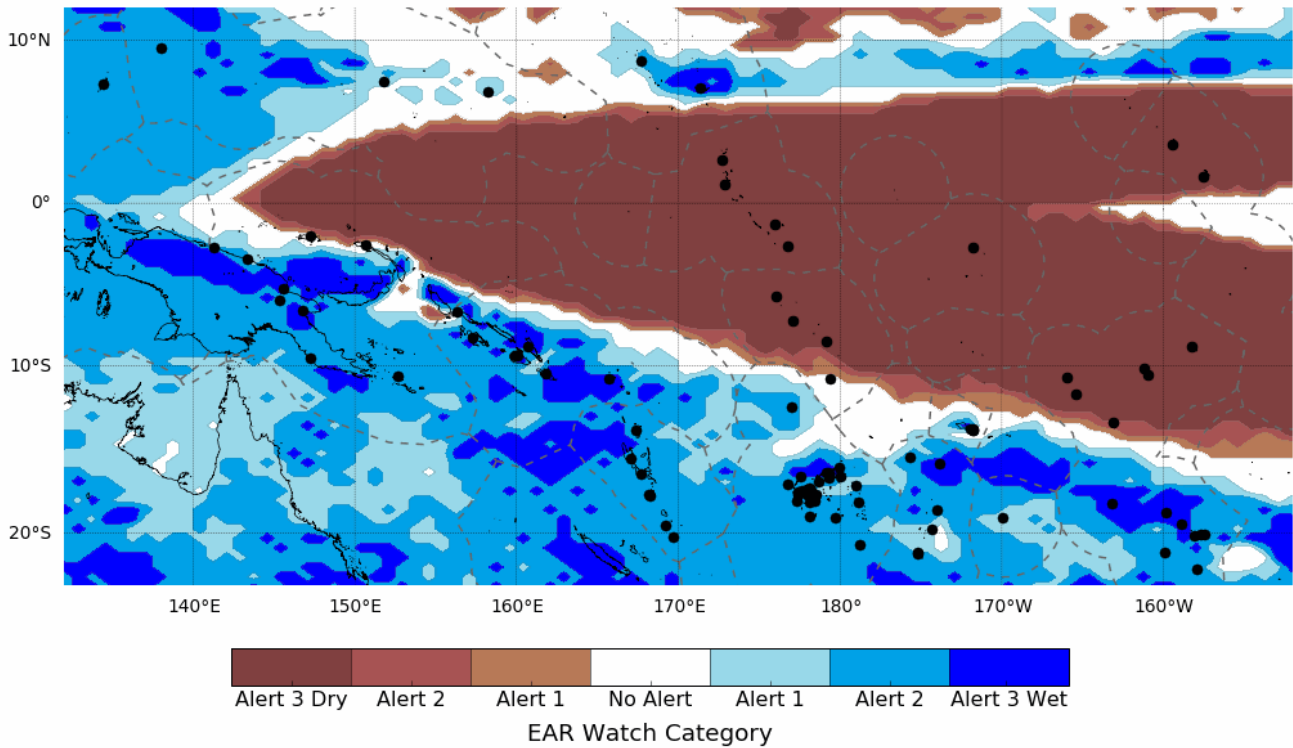
EAR Watch Categorical forecast for November 2021



MODEL RUN: 01/09/2021
Base period: 1990-2012
Model: ACCESS-S1

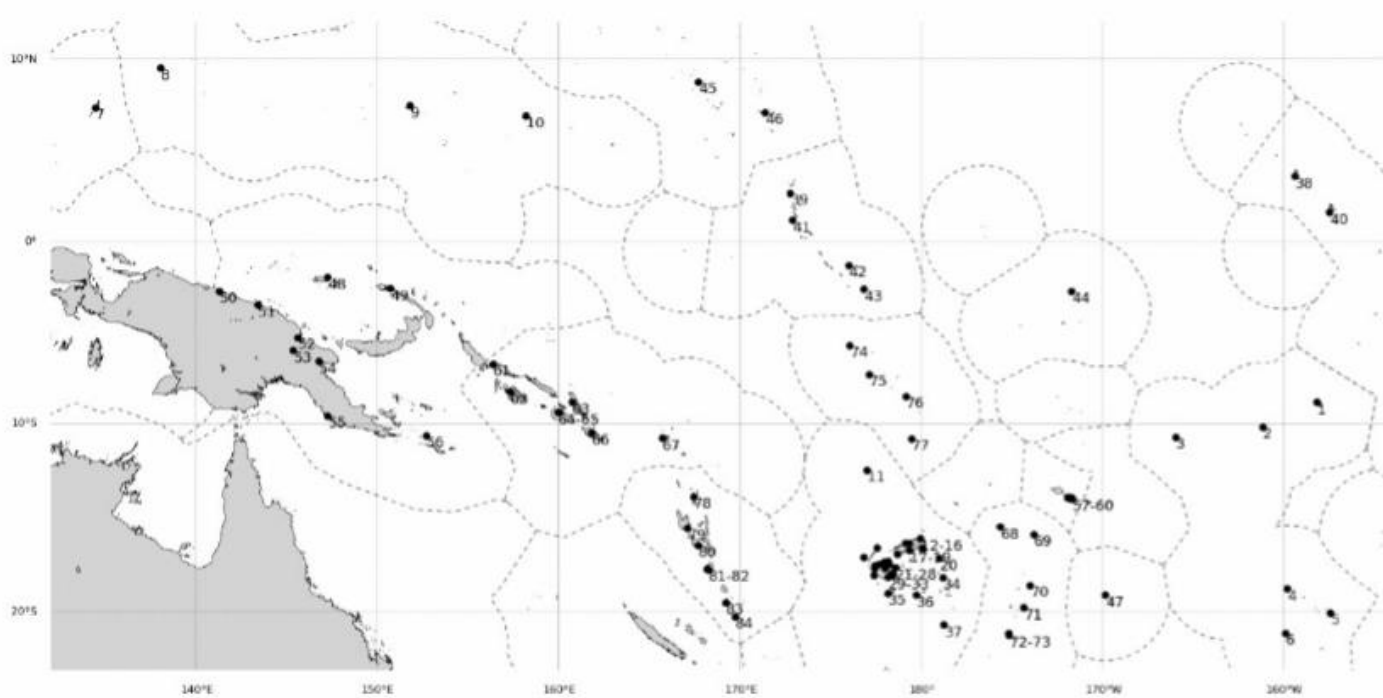
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Shapefile data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>.

EAR Watch Categorical forecast for October to December 2021



MODEL RUN: 01/09/2021
Base period: 1990-2012
Model: ACCESS-S1

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Shapefile data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>.



1. Penrhyn, 2. Rakahanga, 3. Pukapuka, 4. Aitutaki, 5. Mauke, 6. Rarotonga, 7. Koror, 8. Yap, 9. Chuuk, 10. Pohnpei, 11. Rotuma, 12. Udu Point, 13. Labasa, 14. Seqaqa, 15. Yasawai, 16. Matei, 17. Savusavu, 18. Nabuwalu, 19. Viwa, 20. Vanuabalavu, 21. Pengmil, 22. Yawara, 23. Dobulevu, 24. Rarawai, 25. Lautmil, 26. R.K.S. Lodon, 27. Nadi, 28. Monasevu, 29. Neusori, 30. Koronia, 31. Naccolovu, 32. Lautala, 33. Tokotoko, 34. Lakeba, 35. Vunisea, 36. Matsuki, 37. Ono-Lau, 38. Tabuaeran, 39. Butaritari, 40. Kiririmiti, 41. Tarawa, 42. Jiru, 43. Arorae, 44. Kanton, 45. Kwajalein, 46. Majuro, 47. Alofi, 48. Momote, 49. Kavieng, 50. Vanimo, 51. Wewak, 52. Madang, 53. Goroka, 54. Nadzab, 55. Port Moresby, 56. Misima, 57. Aseu, 58. Apie, 59. Nofanua, 60. Afiamalu, 61. Taro Island, 62. Munda, 63. Auki, 64. Henderson, 65. Honiara, 66. Kira Kira, 67. Santa Cruz, 68. Niuafoou, 69. Niuaotouapu, 70. Vavea, 71. Heapei, 72. Nuku'alofa, 73. Fua'amotu, 74. Numea, 75. Nui, 76. Funafuti, 77. Niulakita, 78. Sola, 79. Pekoe, 80. Lamap, 81. Bauerfield, 82. Port Vila, 83. White Grass, 84. Aneityum.

Rating Scale: Below Normal and Above Normal

Forecast Confidence	Tercile Forecast Probabilities (%)				
	39-44	45-50	51-54	55-59	60+
Low					
Low-Medium					
Medium					
Medium-High					
High					
Very High					

Forecast Confidence	Tercile Forecast Probabilities (%)				
	39-44	45-50	51-54	55-59	60+
Low					
Low-Medium					
Medium					
Medium-High					
High					
Very High					

E.g. If a region has a forecast probability for **above normal** rainfall of **45%** [17/38/45 – below normal/normal/above normal] with a **Medium-High** Confidence, it would give a **Mid-Blue** Alert Rating. Similarly if a region has a forecast probability for **below normal** rainfall of **45%** [45/38/17 – below normal/normal/above normal] with a **Medium-High** Confidence, it would give a **Mid-Brown** Alert Rating.

Rainfall Status: as of 31 August 2021

Alert Level	3-month period
Seriously wet (90%)	Cook Islands (S)
Near or wetter than normal	FSM (K, P), PNG (M), Solomon Is. (W, E), Vanuatu (N), Fiji (R), Tuvalu (S), Niue
Warning (25%)	Palau, PNG (Is., S), Solomon Is. (C), Kiribati (W, E), Fiji (C, E, N), Tuvalu (N) Cook Islands (N)
Seriously dry (10%)	FSM (C), Fiji (W), Samoa
Severely dry (5%)	FSM (C), Marshall Is., Vanuatu (S)
Status not available	PNG (H), Kiribati (C)

List of Divisions:

Cook Is. (Northern – N)	FSM (Kosrae – K)	PNG (Highlands – H)
Cook Is. (Southern – S)	Kiribati (Western Is. – W)	Samoa
Fiji (Western Division – W)	Kiribati (Central Is. – C)	Solomon Is. (Western Region – W)
Fiji (Central Division – C)	Kiribati (Eastern Is. – E)	Solomon Is. (Central Region – C)
Fiji (Eastern Division – E)	Marshall Is.	Solomon Is. (Eastern Region – E)
Fiji (Northern Division – N)	Niue	Tuvalu (Northern Region – N)
Fiji (Rotuma – R)	Palau	Tuvalu (Southern Region – S)
FSM (Yap – Y)	PNG (Momase Region – M)	Vanuatu (Northern Region – N)
FSM (Chuuk – C)	PNG (New Guinea Is. – Is.)	Vanuatu (Southern Region – S)
FSM (Pohnpei – P)	PNG (Southern Region – S)	

Three-month total rainfall is typically used for monitoring grasslands, shallow rooted plants and small water body (e.g. small water tanks, streams) moisture deficits. Allow for uncertainty associated with island size, topography, geology and soil type.

Rainfall Status

- Estimates of moisture/water stress are based on recent rainfall compared with historical observations using the Percentile (Decile) Index. A division is listed once at the highest station alert within that division.

Seasonal Rainfall Watch

- Information provided gives an indication of predicted total rainfall over the next three months, not how intense the rain may be in any one event, nor how it may vary from month to month.
- Information provided has been given on a divisional scale as Pacific Island Countries can experience a high range of rainfall variability within country. It is possible to have forecasts which simultaneously favour above and below normal rainfall in different parts of the one country.
- Starting at 39%, the alert levels indicate increasing chances of either below or above normal rainfall, as defined below. A measure of confidence, based on historical model performance, also plays a role in the rating level.
- The alerts are based on the highest station probabilities within a country or division.
- Definitions: "Below Normal Rainfall" = rainfall total below the 33rd percentile for that location and season;
"Above Normal Rainfall" = rainfall total above the 67th percentile for that location and season.
- Local Met Services should be contacted for detailed information and outlooks. This product is not to be distributed to the public or other organisations.



Australian Government
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