

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 7 May 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 23 May:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above-normal** are favoured in the following country EEZs: northern CNMI, central and eastern PNG, western and southern Solomon Is., Vanuatu, most of New Caledonia, most of Fiji, parts of southern Tonga. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in far northern CNMI, far eastern New Caledonia, far south-western Vanuatu and far southern Fiji. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for most of Yap State (FSM), most of Guam, central and southern CNMI, and parts of the Solomon Is. **Below-normal** sea level (<100 mm) is predicted for parts of Line Is. (Kiribati), small regions in the central and northern Cook Is., western Tokelau and far northern Wallis & Futuna. Elsewhere, sea levels are expected to be **near-normal**. Note that sea level anomalies from ACCESS-S2 do not include global but can include regional sea level trends.
- Tide calendars are available via <https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/>. Sea level and SST skill information can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Outlook, fortnight to 23 May:

- There is **increased risk** of tropical cyclone (TC) occurrence near the Philippines for the week 19-25 May according to both the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: most of Palau, western and southern FSM, southern Nauru, southern Gilbert Is. and southern Line Is. (Kiribati), most of PNG, Solomon Is., Vanuatu, north-eastern New Caledonia, most of Fiji and Tonga, small parts of Tuvalu, most of Wallis & Futuna, patches of A. Samoa, patches of Samoa, western Niue, northern Cooks Is., and central French Polynesia. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following country EEZs: CNMI, Guam, central RMI, parts of the northern Line Is. (Kiribati), parts of New Caledonia, patches of the southern Cook Islands and southern French Polynesia.
- Maximum and minimum air temperatures are considered **normal** in the following country EEZs: parts of PNG, Nauru, most of the Gilbert Is. and patches of the northern Line Is. (Kiribati), southern Cook Is., and southern French Polynesia. Elsewhere, there is a strong likelihood of **above-normal** temperatures.
- Remember to review rainfall and air temperature outlook skill information, which can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Influences:

- El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** and **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** are currently neutral. Additional information is available via the Southern Hemisphere Monitoring Update- <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>.
- Over the 30 days to 4 May, outgoing longwave radiation observations suggest the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** was weak, and the **South Pacific Convergence Zone** was located near its usual position for this time of the year, close to PNG and the Solomon Islands.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** to 4 May, has recently strengthened near Africa, however the ACCESS-S outlook suggests the strengthening is unlikely to last and the MJO signal will weaken over the coming days.

Outlooks: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](#)

Influences: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

