

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 23 July 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 8 August:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above-normal** are favoured in the following country Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZs): Palau, southwest FSM, northern RMI, PNG, Solomon Is., Vanuatu, New Caledonia, southern Fiji, and patches of eastern French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is.. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in most of PNG, southwest Solomon Islands, and northwest and southeast New Caledonia. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, the **above-normal** sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for most of Palau, parts of western FSM, a small patch of CNMI, parts of southern New Caledonia, and southern Tonga. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are predicted for small patches in central Tonga, central Niue, southern Cook Islands, and southern French Polynesia. 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 8 August:

- For the weeks of 27 July – 09 August, the risk of tropical cyclone occurrence is significantly increased for the region over Palau, western FSM, Guam and CNMI, extending west and north to include Japan, Taiwan and China, according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: CNMI, northern RMI, southern PNG mainland and parts of PNG Is., southern Solomon Is., most of New Caledonia, eastern central Cook Is., central and southern French Polynesia, and western Pitcairn Is. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: Guam Palau, most of FSM, central RMI, most of Nauru, Kiribati (most of Gilbert, northern Phoenix and central and southern Line Is). far northern and eastern PNG, most of Solomon Is., northeast Vanuatu, most of Fiji, Tonga, Wallis and Futuna, southern American Samoa, Niue, parts of northern Cook Is. and northern French Polynesia.
- Near-normal maximum and minimum air temperatures** are favoured for northern CNMI, parts of the Gilbert Is., the northern Phoenix and Line Is. (Kiribati), far northern Tonga, most of Niue, south American Samoa, southern Cook Is., and western and northeast French Polynesia. Elsewhere **above-normal** temperatures are likely. 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)** remain neutral. Additional information is available via the Southern Hemisphere Monitoring Update - <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>.
- For the past 30 days, outgoing longwave radiation observations show the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** is currently weak and located close to its normal position for this time of year. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is located close to its normal position for this time of year.
- The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is currently moderately strength and located in the Maritime Continent. The MJO is forecast to strengthen and move into the Western Hemisphere in the coming week; however, there is a large degree of disagreement among the models compared to the ACCESS-S.
- Outlooks: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](http://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/short-range-weather-forecasts/tropical-cyclone-outlook)
- Influences: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

