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ENSO Update – OCOF 225

17 June 2026



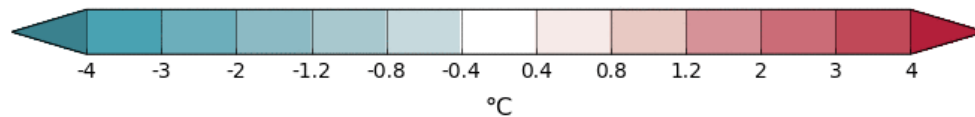
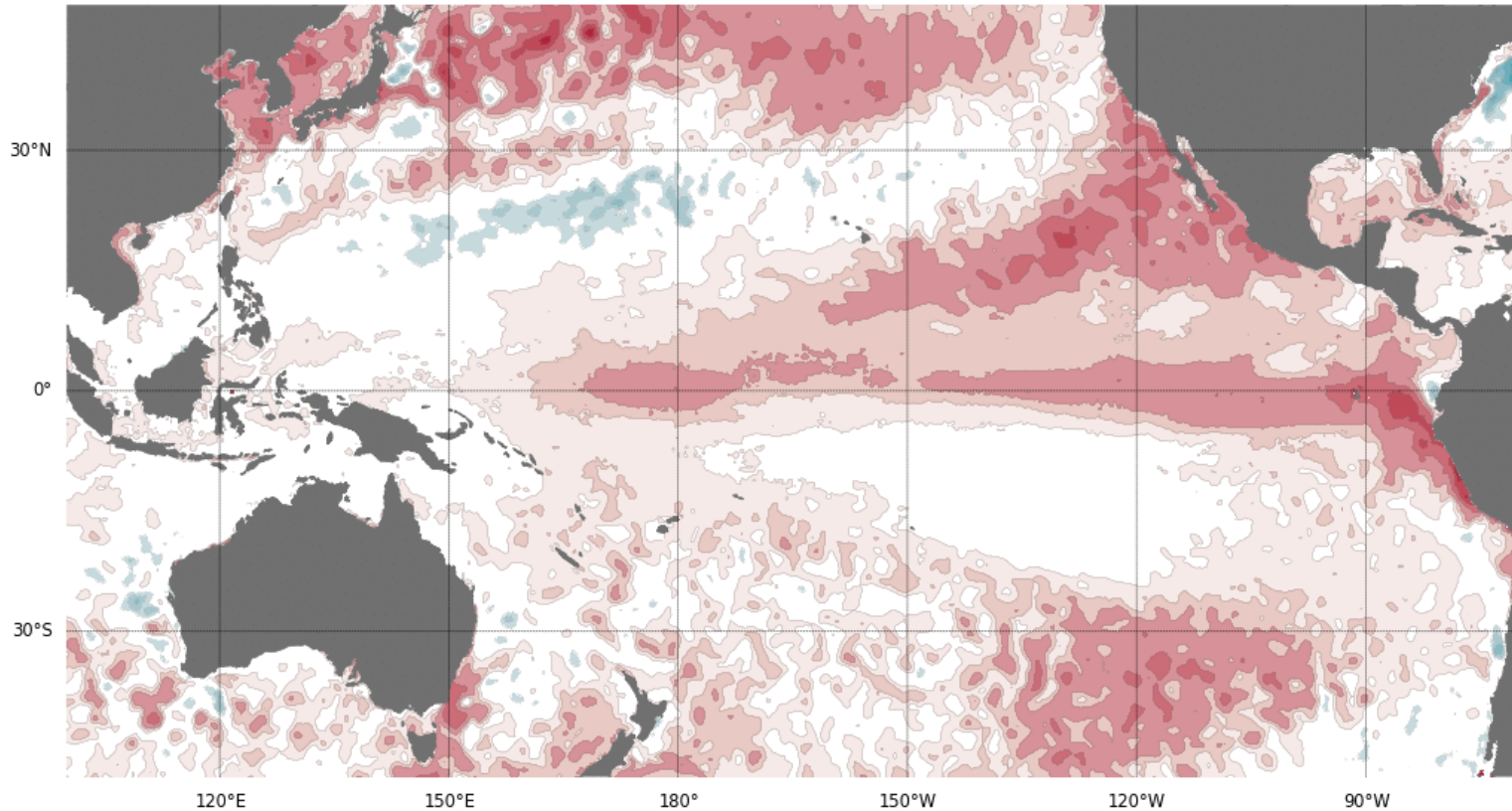
ENSO Update

- The **El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** is now in an **El Niño** phase.
- Climate models forecast that this **El Niño** event will persist until at least summer.
- Models suggest this event is likely to be strong.
- Global sea surface temperatures have been very warm, with May 2026 global **SSTs** the warmest May on record
- The **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** is **currently neutral**. Models suggest a positive **IOD** event is likely in the southern hemisphere winter-spring.

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May 2026 SSTs

Sea surface temperature anomaly: 01/05/2026 to 31/05/2026



Data: GAMSSA
Climatology baseline: 1991 to 2020
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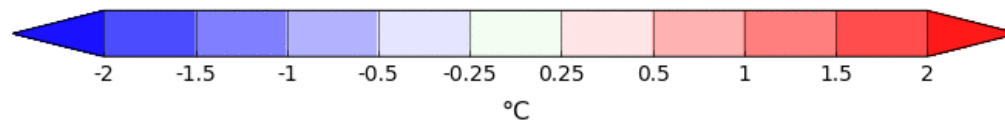
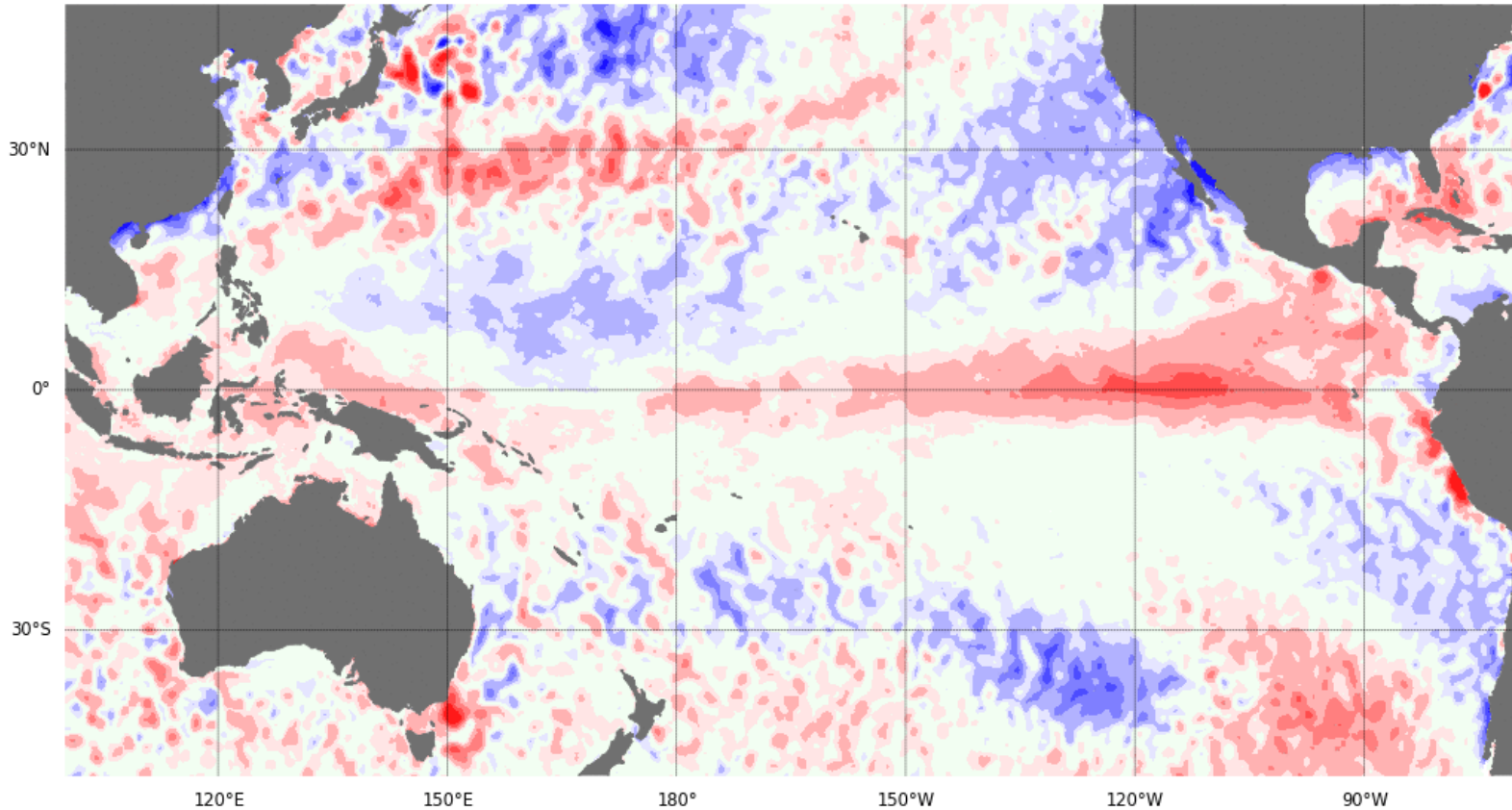
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate>

Monthly average: May 2026
Created: 03/06/2026

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May – April SSTs

Change in the monthly SST anomaly: May-2026 - April-2026



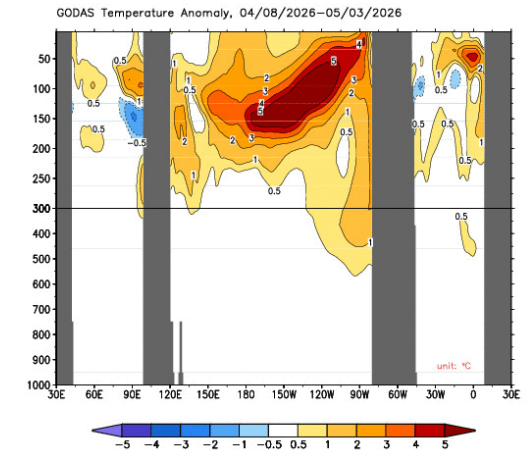
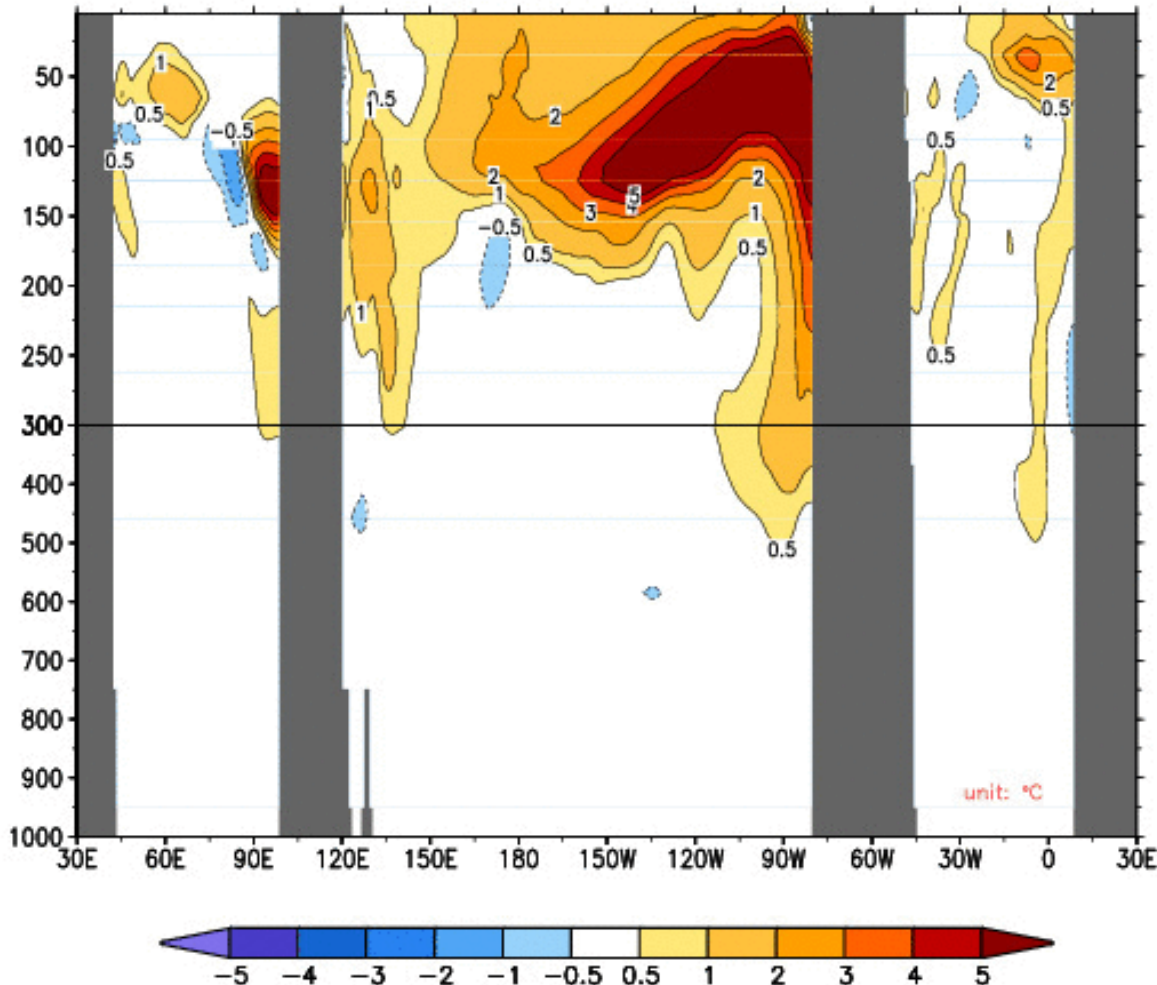
Data: GAMSSA
Climatology baseline: 1991 to 2020
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<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate>

Anomaly monthly difference
Created: 03/06/2026

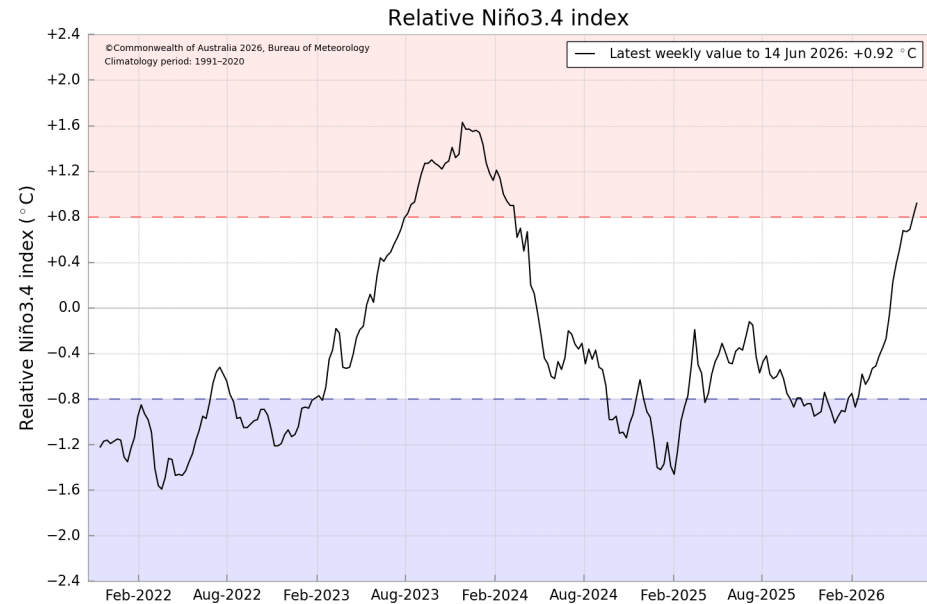
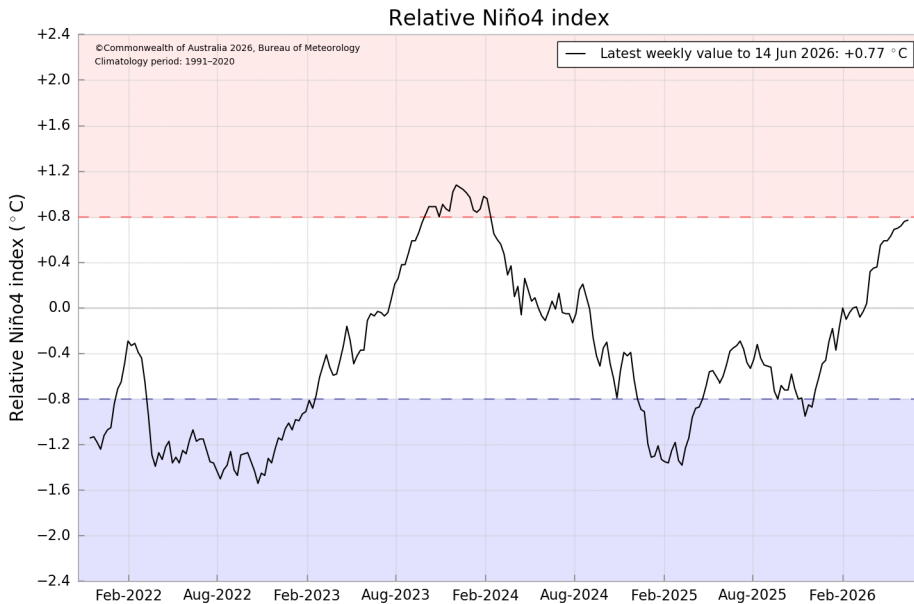
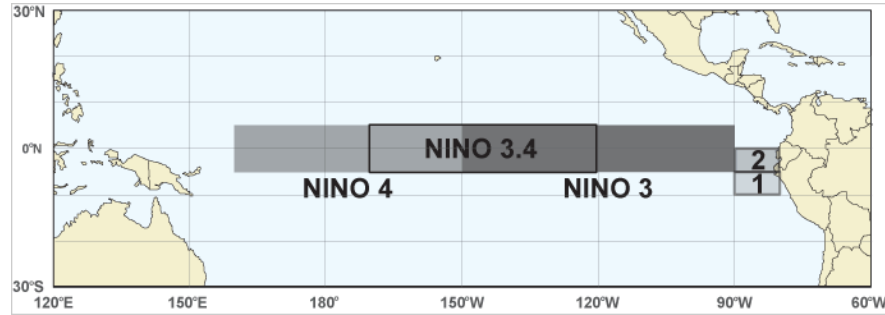
Equatorial Pacific Sub-surface Profile

GODAS Temperature Anomaly, 05/08/2026–06/02/2026



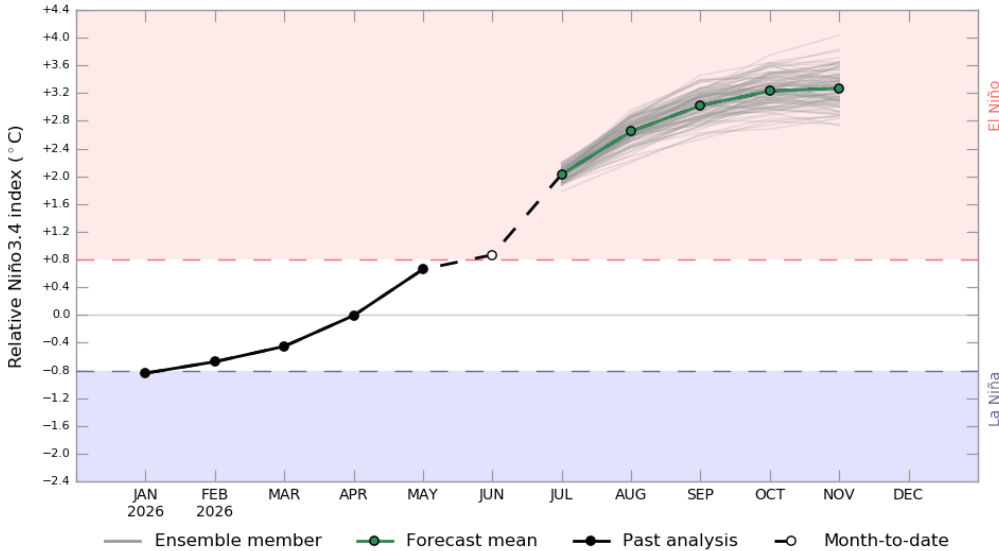
- Warming of more than 5 degrees is predominate on the eastern Pacific at depths of 30-150 metres.
- Significant warmth in the sub-surface suggests further warming of SSTs is likely in the coming weeks.

Observed Relative NINO Indices



Relative ENSO Outlook

Relative Niño3.4 index

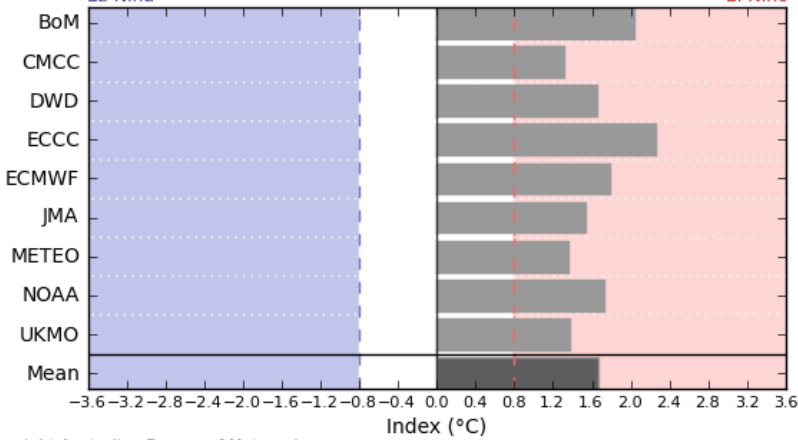


www.bom.gov.au/climate Commonwealth of Australia 2026, Australian Bureau of Meteorology
 Past analysis base period: 1991-2020 Forecast base period: 1981-2018
 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 13 Jun 2026



El Niño is underway in the tropical Pacific. El Niño levels are predicted to remain until at least Austral Summer.

Relative Niño3.4 index - Jul 2026

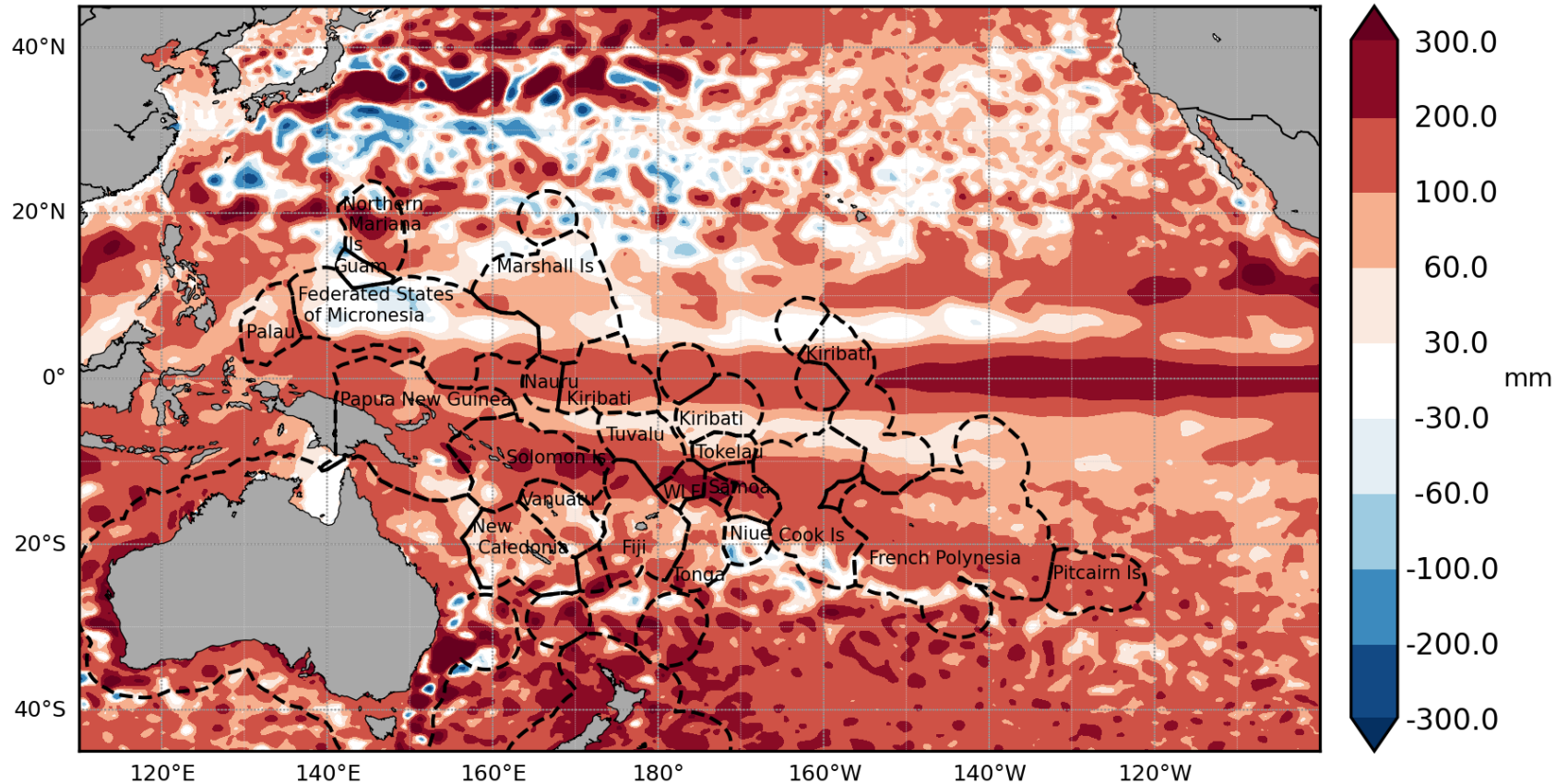


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May 2026 Sea Level Anomaly

Pacific Islands
Monthly Sea Level Anomaly: May 2026



© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025

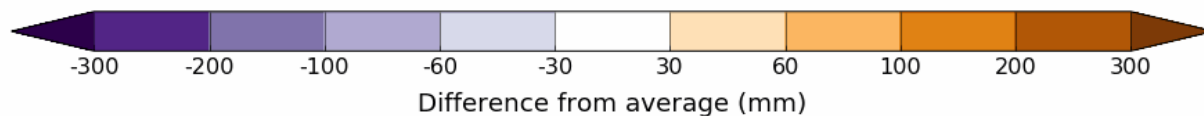
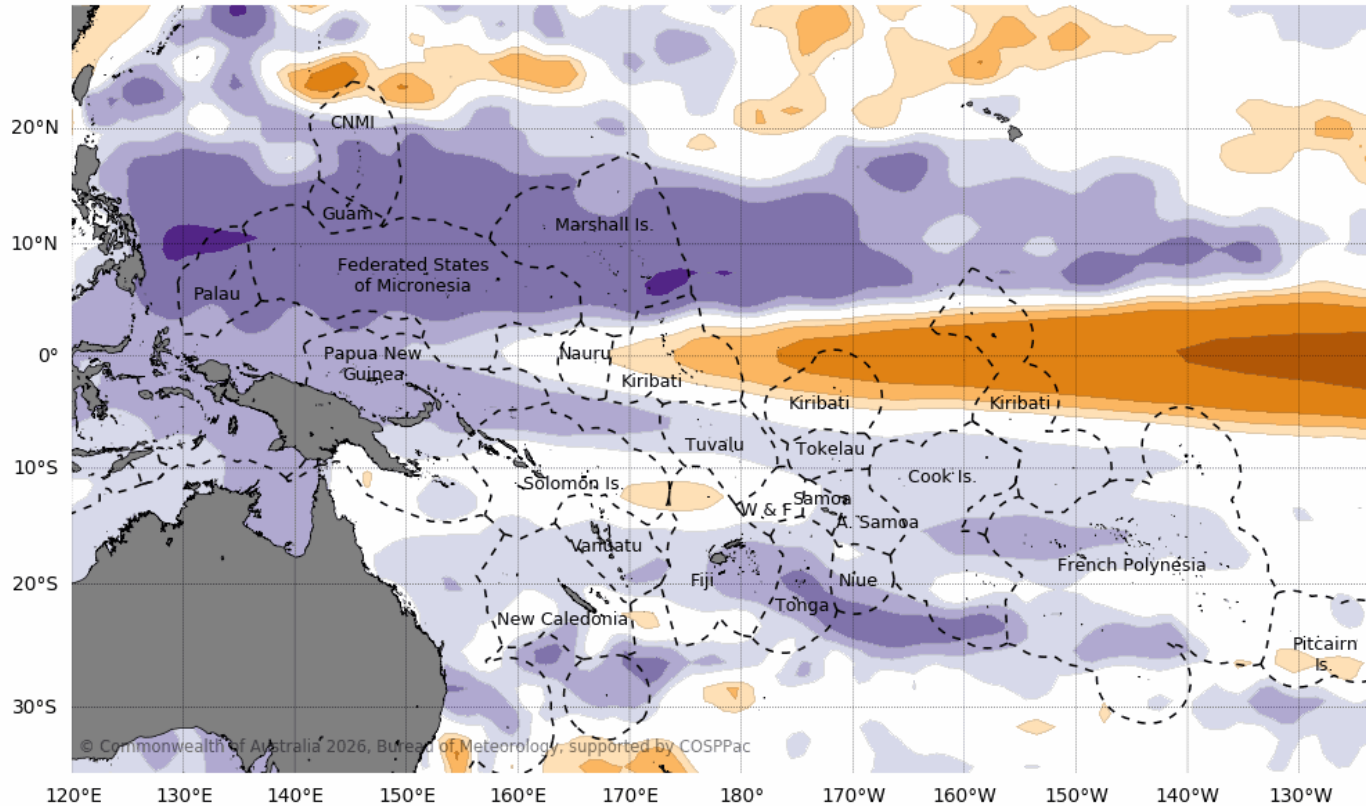
E.U. Copernicus Marine Service Information;
<https://doi.org/10.48670/moi-00149>

Seasonal Outlook: Sea Surface Height Anomaly

Difference from average sea surface height forecast for July to September 2026

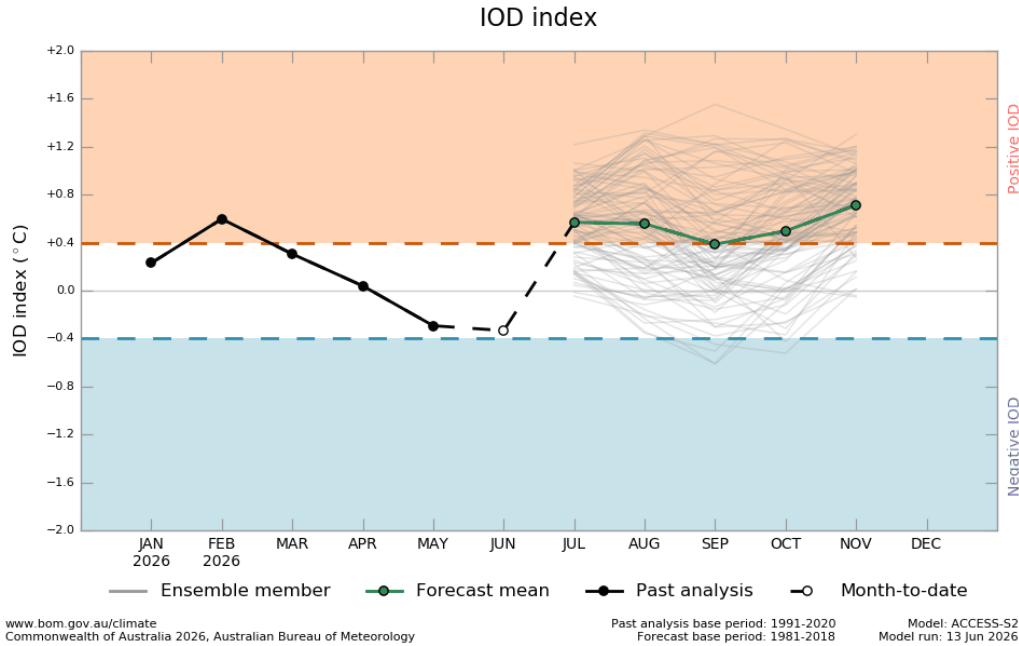
Base period: 1981-2018
Model: ACCESS-S2

Model run: 08/06/2026
Issued: 10/06/2026



-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)



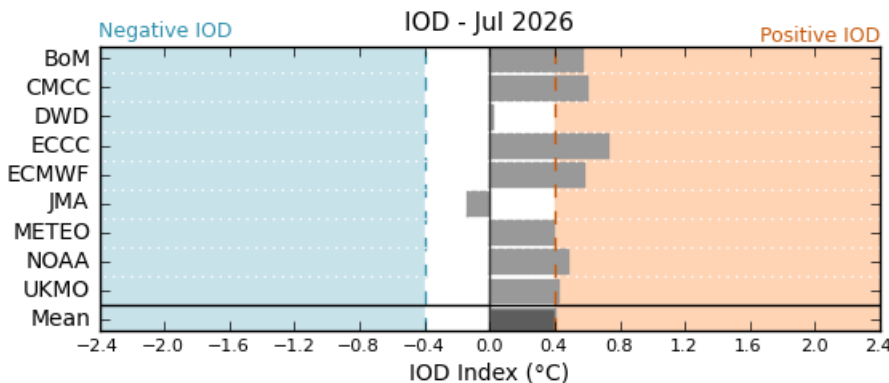
The peak of the **IOD** is **Sep-Oct** in the southern hemisphere. Decaying with the onset of the monsoon.



IOD negative is associated with **increased rainfall** across the far western Pacific.



IOD positive is associated with **decreased rainfall** across the far western Pacific.

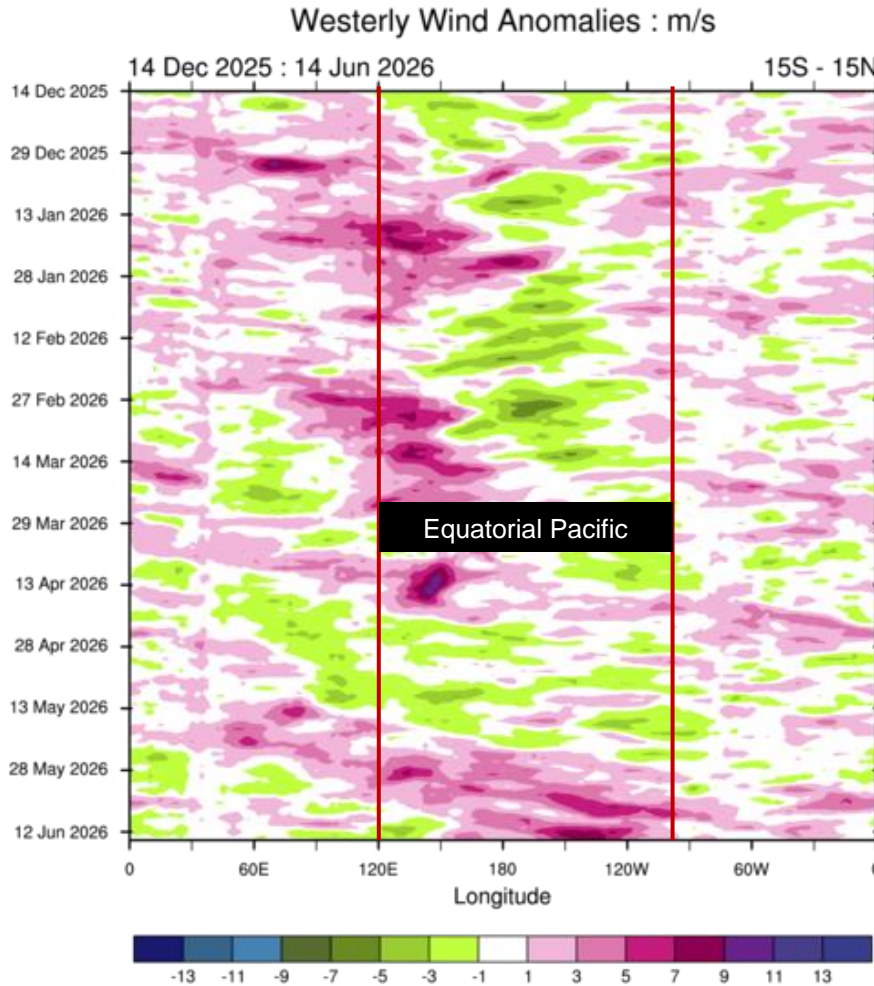


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Atmosphere Outlook

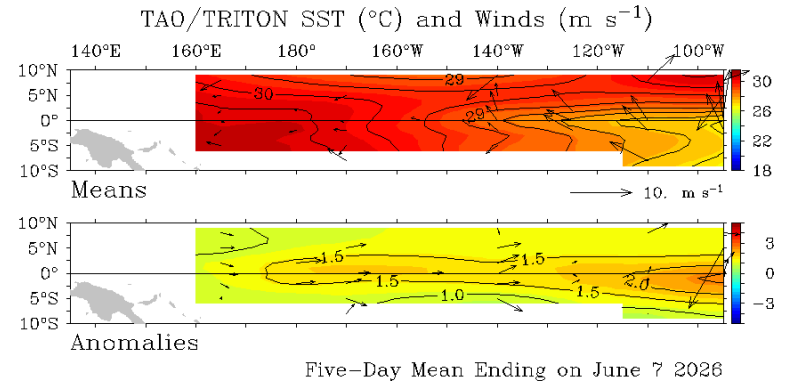


Wind Anomalies



Easterly (stronger trade)

Westerly (weaker trade)



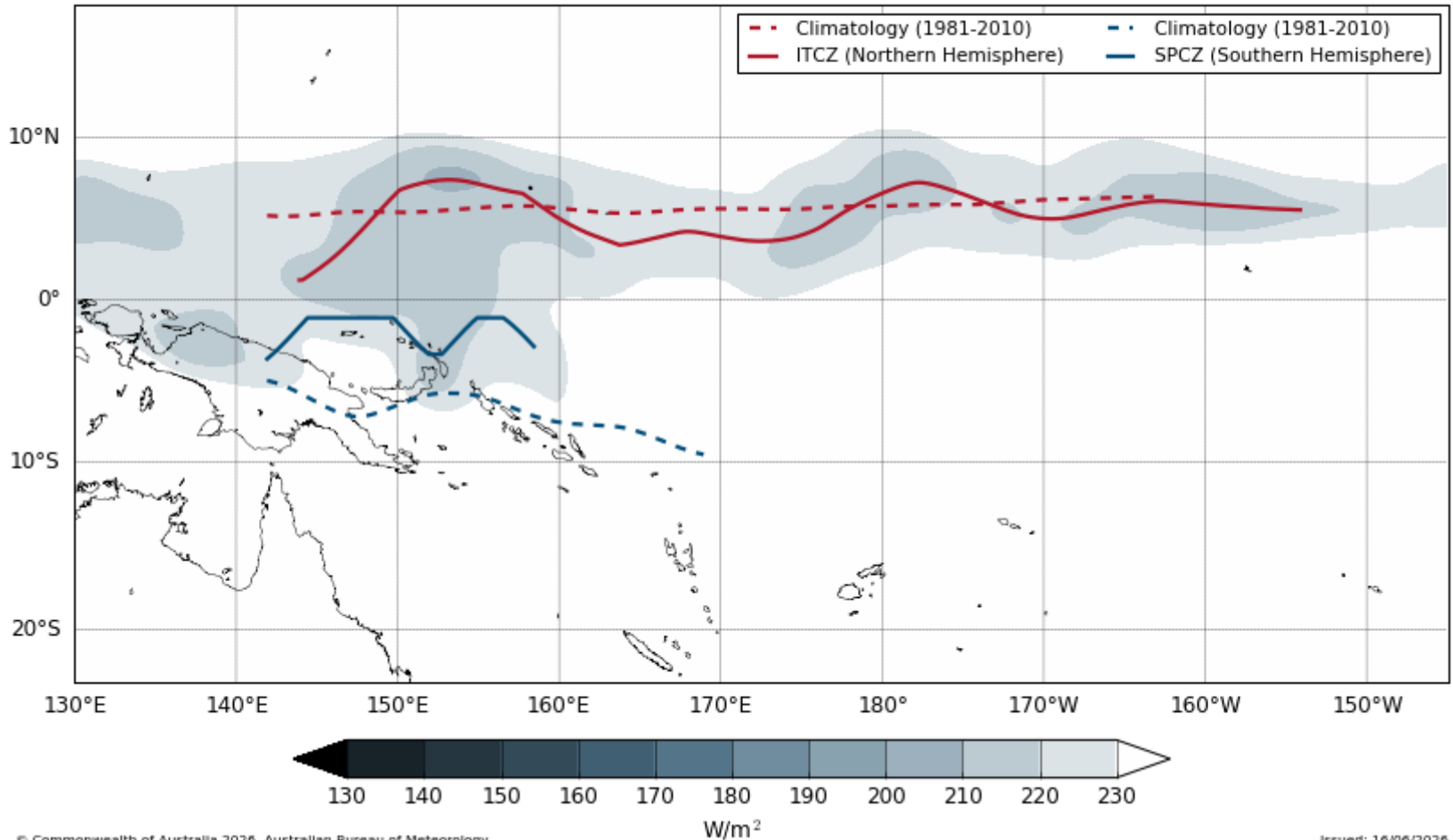
Weaker trade winds (pink) allow for the development of more clouds and potential for rain.



Stronger trade winds (green) hinders cloud development and the potential for rain.

ITCZ and SPCZ

30 Day Average Outgoing Longwave Radiation (OLR) minimum to 2026-06-13



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Issued: 16/06/2026

More clouds

Less clouds

Madden – Julian Oscillation



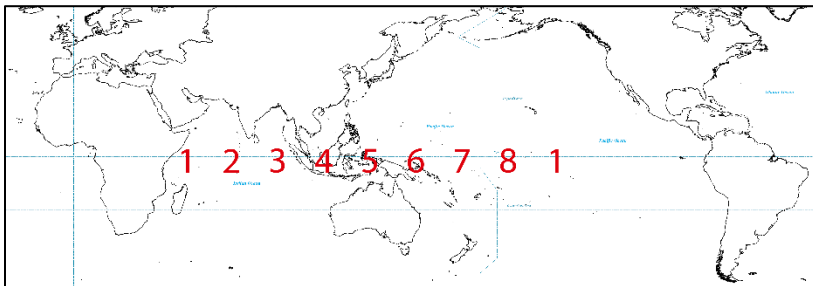
The **MJO** is weak in **Phase 1** Western Hemisphere. Preliminary forecast MJO to become weak or inactive in the coming weeks.



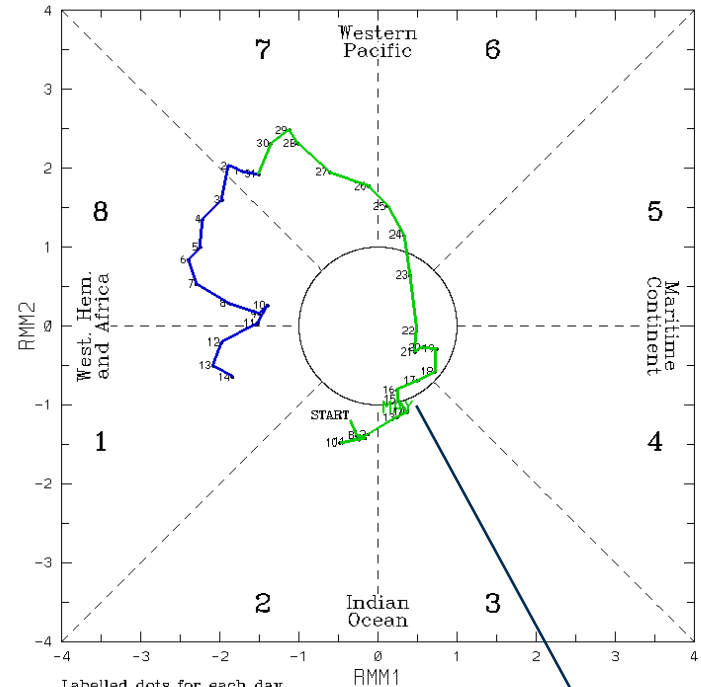
Phases **6, 7 and 8** are typically associated with **increased rainfall** across the Pacific.



Phases **2, 3 and 4** are typically associated with **decreased rainfall** across the Pacific.



(RMM1,RMM2) phase space for 6-May-2026 to 14-Jun-2026

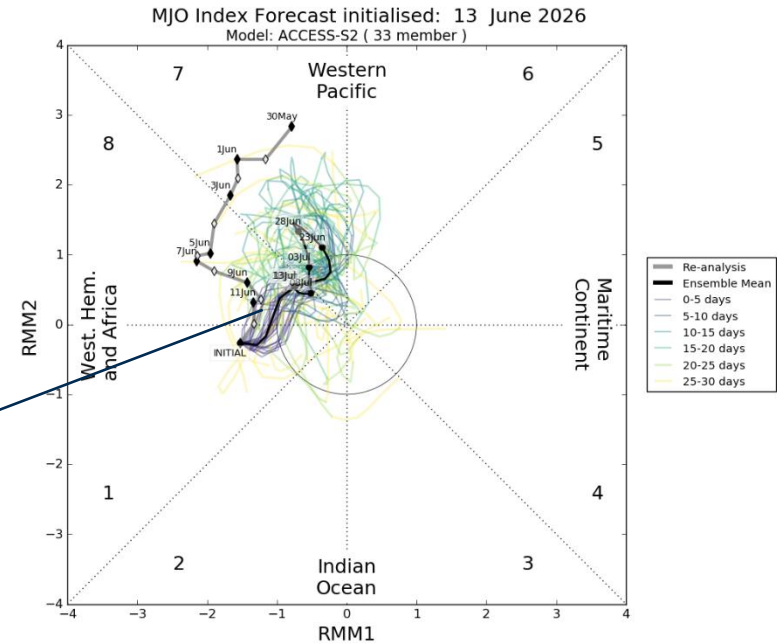
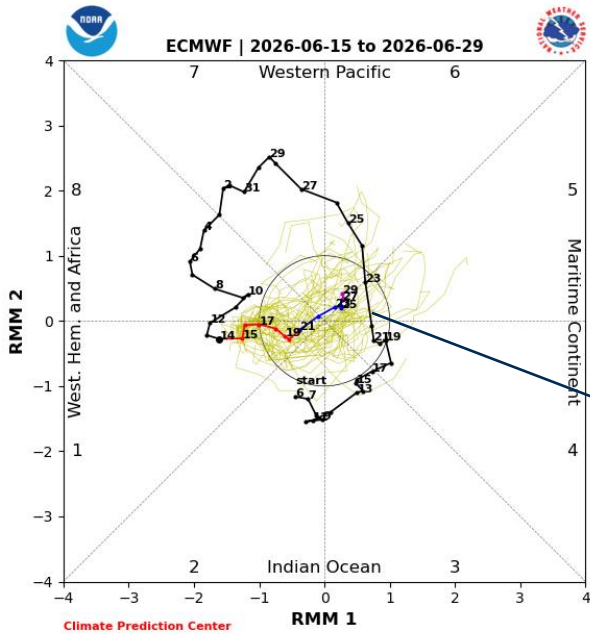


Labelled dots for each day.
Blue line is for Jun. green line is for May, red line is for Apr.

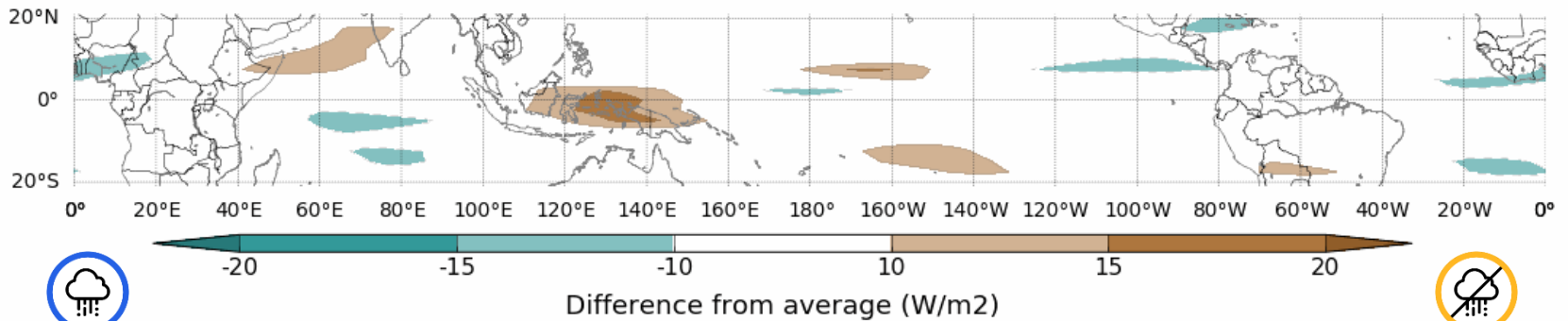
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Unit circle:
If inside the unit circle the MJO signal is weak

Madden – Julian Oscillation



Unit circle:
If inside the unit circle the MJO signal is weak



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Model: ACCESS-S2 Forecast date: 13/06/2026
Base period: 1981-2018 Model run date: 12/06/2026

Observed Rainfall – August 2025

Observed

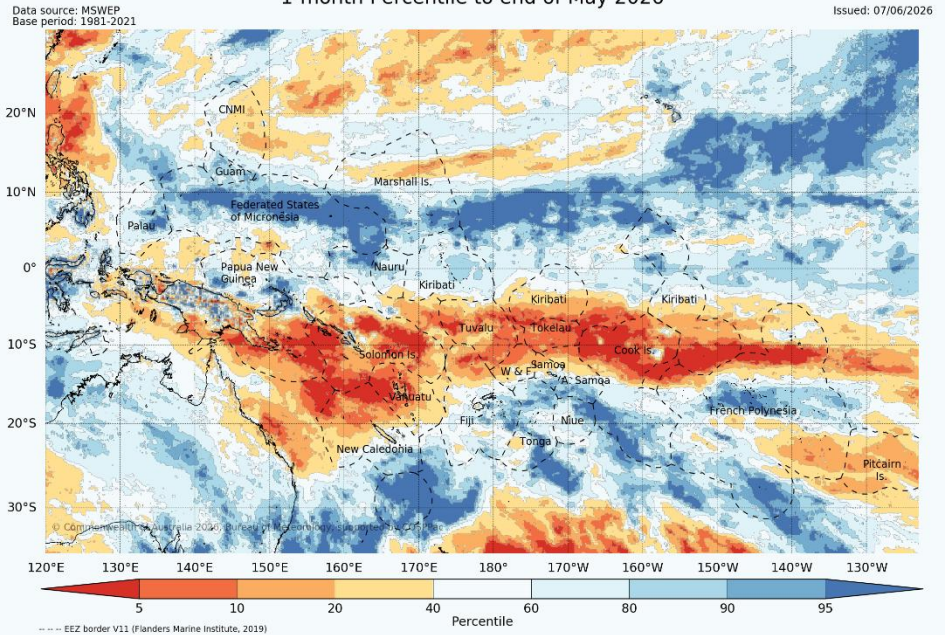
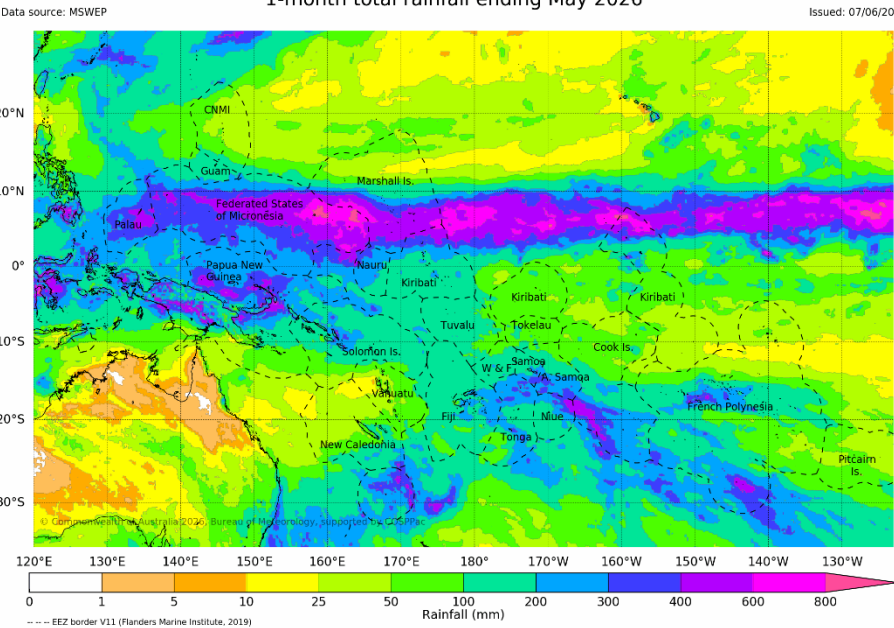
Percentile

1-month total rainfall ending May 2026

Issued: 07/06/2026

1-month Percentile to end of May 2026

Issued: 07/06/2026

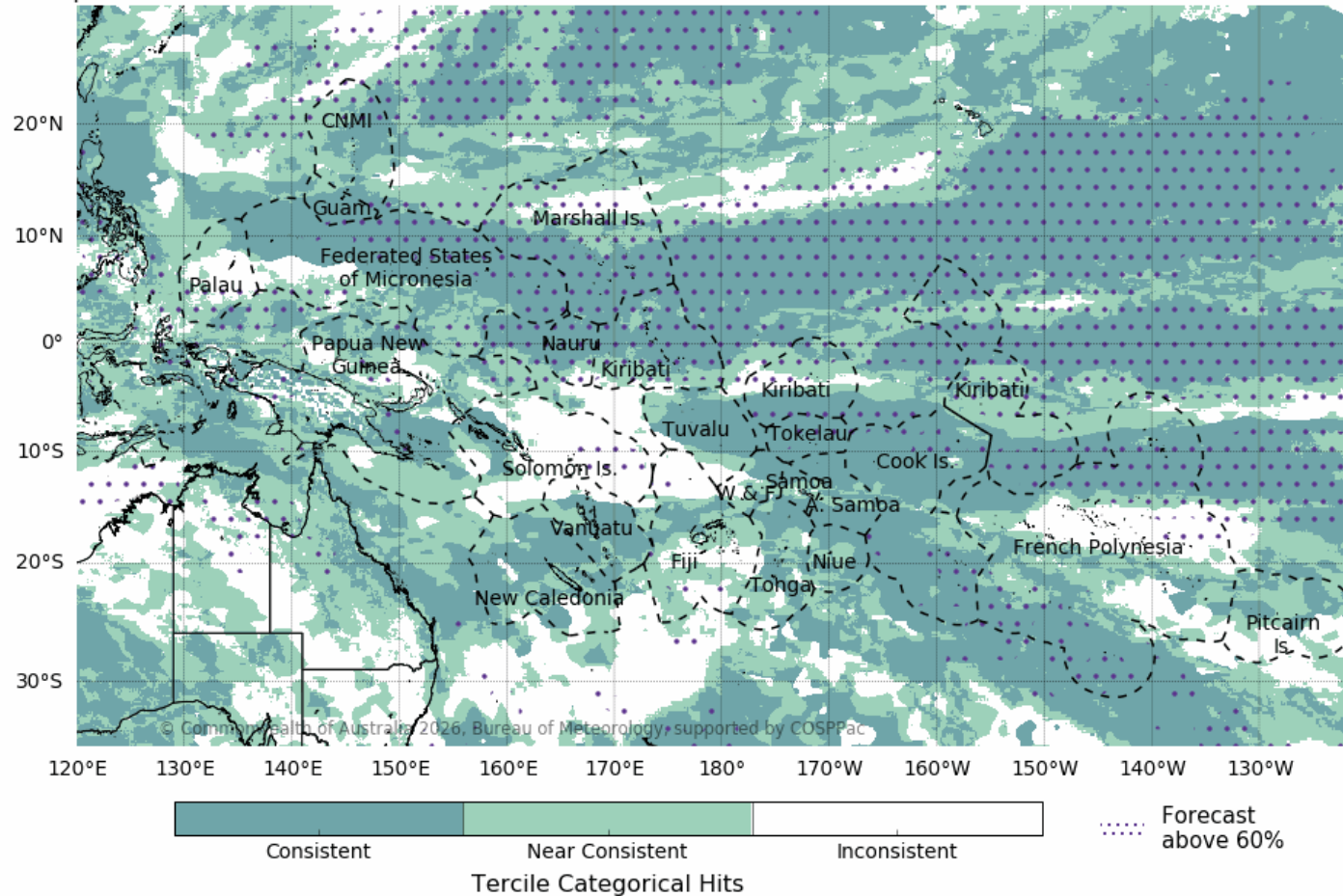


Forecast Verification – May

Near real-time tercile verification hit rate: rainfall May 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2018

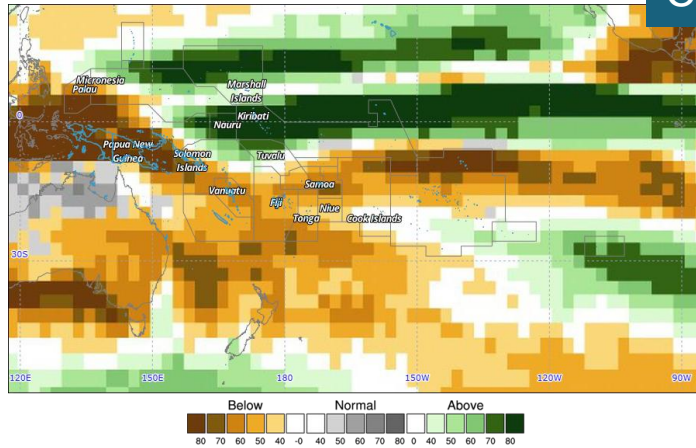
Model Run: 01/05/2026
Issued: 07/06/2026



--- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute (2019))

Model Rainfall Predictions (XXX)

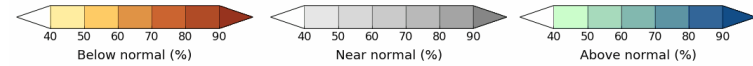
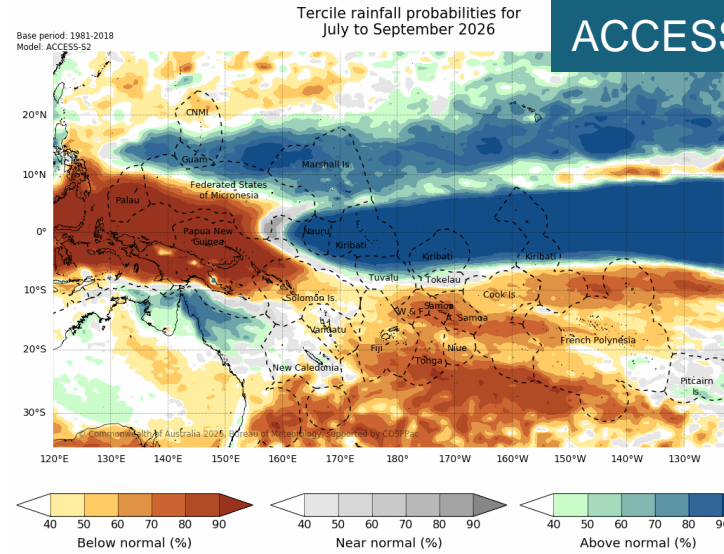
CLIKP



Year: 2026, Season: JAS, Lead Month: 3, Method: GAUS
 Model: APCC, BOM, CMCC, CMA, ECCG, NASA, NCEP
 Generated using CLIKP (2026-6-17)

© APEC Climate Center

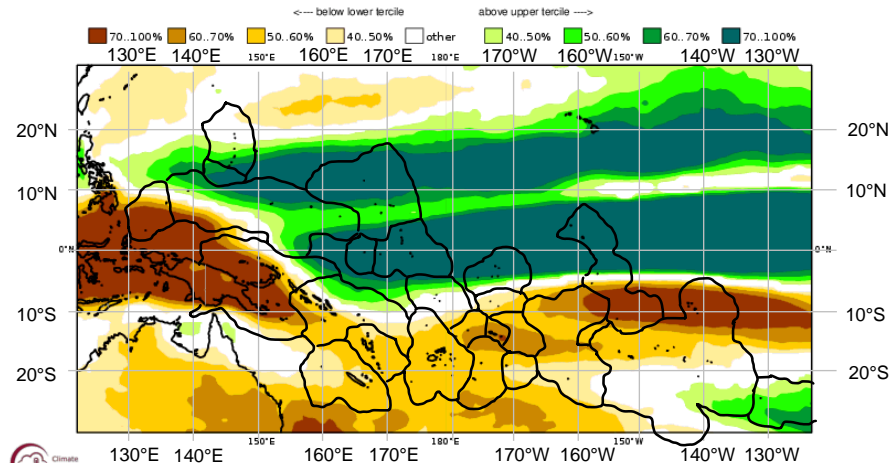
ACCESS-S2



-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).

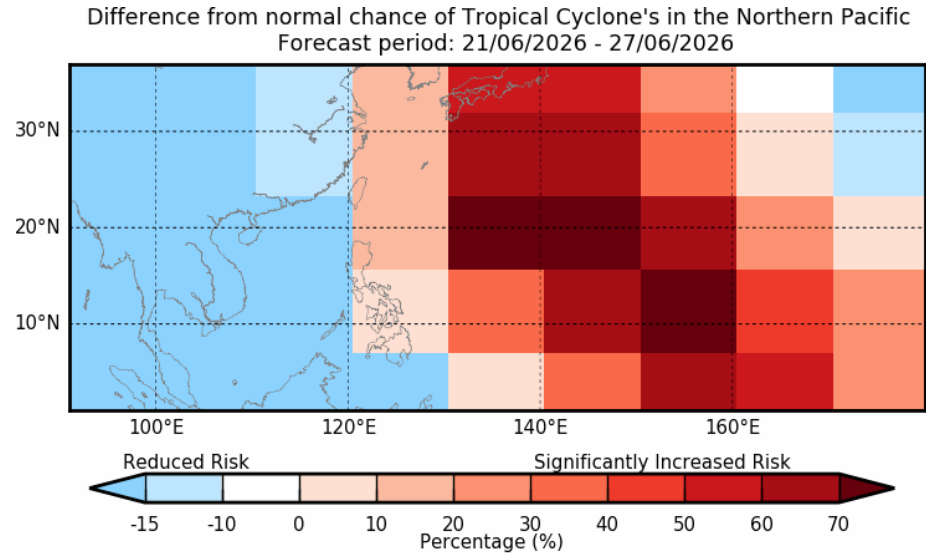
C3S multi-system seasonal forecast ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/ECCC/BOM
 Prob(most likely category of precipitation)
 Nominal forecast start: 01/06/26
 Unweighted mean

C3S



TC Outlooks – Two Weeks

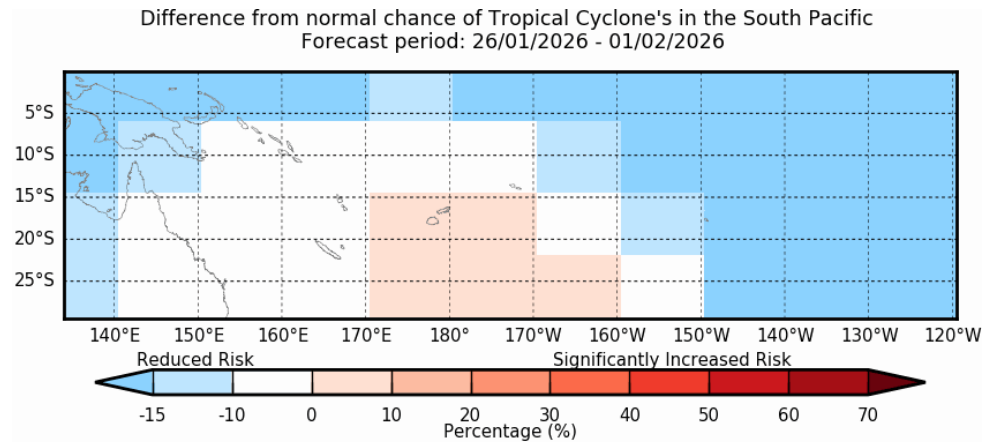
North Pacific



Calibrated Model anomaly probability in overlapping 15 x 20 degree boxes
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Model: ACCESS_S2 Model Run: 13/06/2026 Issued: 15/06/2026

South Pacific

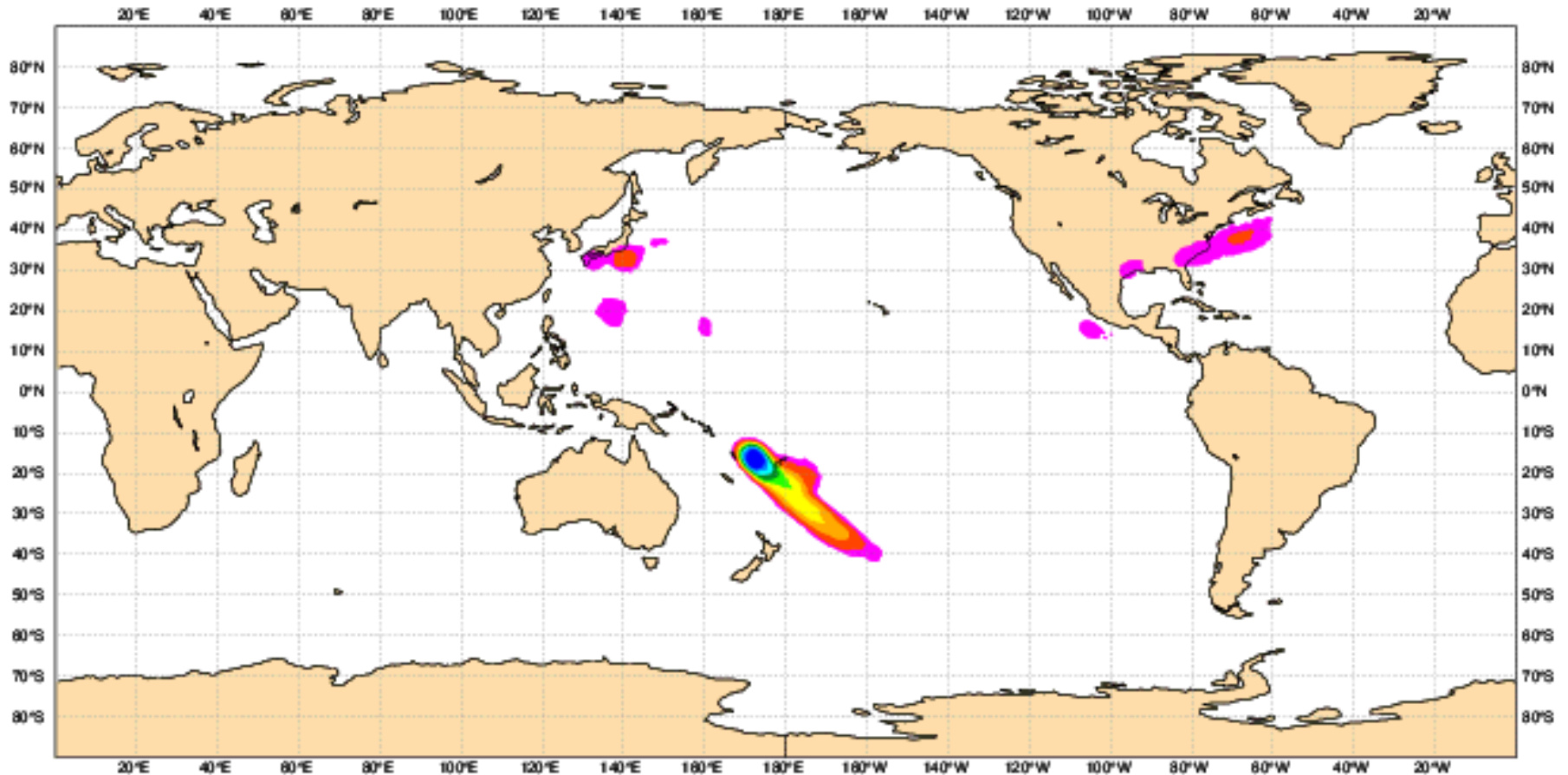


Calibrated Model anomaly probability in overlapping 15 x 20 degree boxes
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Model: ACCESS_S2 Model Run: 18/01/2026 Issued: 20/01/2026

Weekly ECMWF TC Forecast

Weekly mean Tropical Storm Strike Probability. Date: 20260615 0 UTC 1+(0-168)
Probability of a TS passing within 300km radius

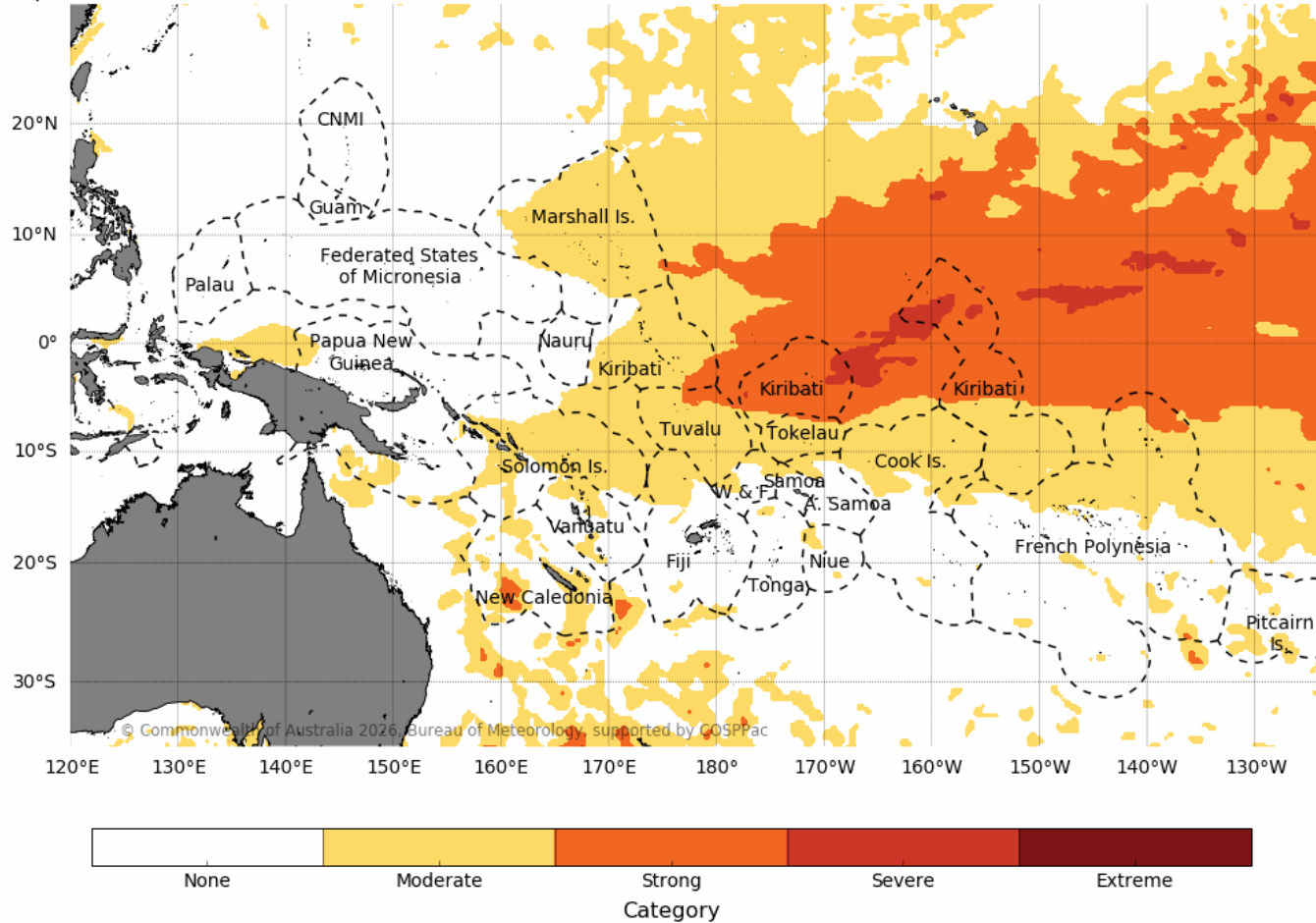


Marine Heatwaves

Marine heatwave category forecast for July 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Base period: 1981-2018

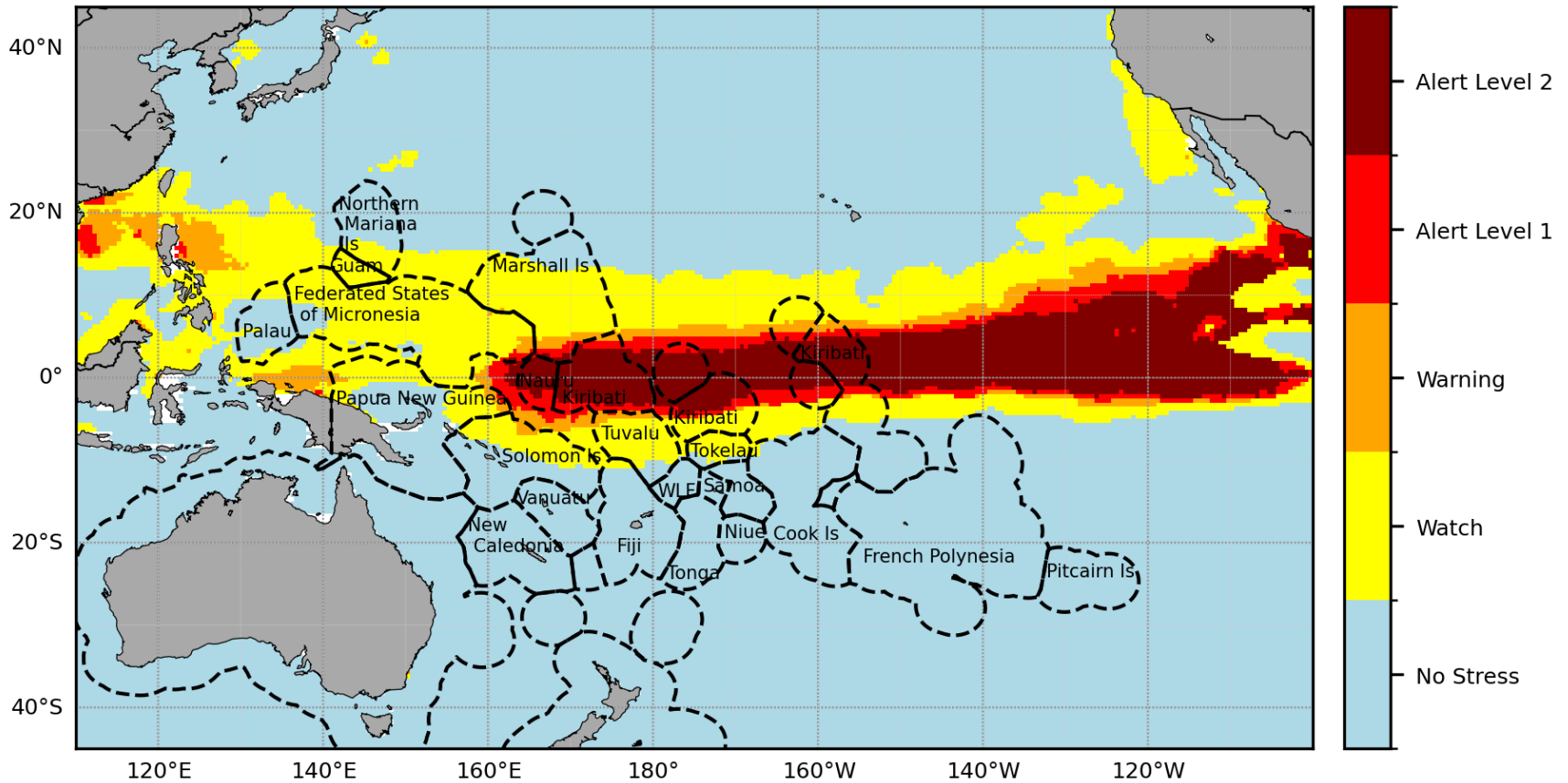
Model Run: 13/06/2026
Issued: 15/06/2026



--- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute (2019))

Coral Bleaching

Pacific Islands
4 Week Coral Bleaching Outlook: 29 June 2026



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Thank you

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