



**FIJI METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF FIJI**

MEDIA RELEASE

**FLOODING IN PARTS OF NORTHERN DIVISION, RAIN EXPECTED TO RE-DEVELOP OVER
THE REST OF THE GROUP LATER TOMORROW**

Issued at 10:30 am, Monday 18th March 2024

Key Messages

1. A **Heavy Rain Warning** remains in force for the Northern Division and Northern Lau Group and is now downgraded to **Alert** for the rest of Fiji.
2. A **Flood Warning** remains in force for the flood prone areas adjacent to and downstream of major rivers of Vanua Levu.
3. A **Flood Alert** remains in force for the flood prone areas adjacent to and downstream of all major rivers of Western Viti Levu..
4. A **Flash Flood Warning** remains in force for all flash flood prone areas, small streams and low lying areas of Vanua Levu.
5. **FLASH FLOOD ALERT** remains in force for all flash flood prone areas, small streams and low lying areas for Viti Levu.
6. A **Strong Wind Warning** remains in force for Yasawa and Mamanuca Waters, Vatu-i-Ra Passage, Northern Vanua Levu Waters, Koro Sea and waters.
7. Troughs of low pressure with associated cloud and rain are anticipated to affect the country till Sunday(24/03/24).

Details

An active trough of low pressure with associated cloud and heavy rain continues to affect the Northern Division and Northern Lau Group. Rain has eased over the rest of Fiji and with the same trough expected to drift southwards again from tomorrow, the system is anticipated to continue to bring rain until the weekend. Consequently, a Heavy Rain Warning remains in force the Northern Division and Northern Lau Group while a Heavy Rain Alert is in force for the rest of the country (Figure 1).

A flood warning remains in force for the flood prone areas adjacent to and downstream of major rivers of Vanua Levu and a flood alert remains in force for flood prone areas adjacent to and downstream of all major rivers of Western Viti Levu.

Low-lying and flood-prone locations may experience flash floods as a result of localized heavy rainfall. The ground is saturated with continuous rain of the past couple of days. This increases the risk of major river flooding, flash flooding and also landslides. A Flash Flood Warning remains in force for all flash flood prone areas, small streams and low lying areas of Vanua Levu and a Flash Flood Alert remains in force for all flash flood prone areas, small streams and low lying areas for Viti Levu.

Gusty conditions are possible in squally thunderstorms.

Meanwhile, a Strong Wind Warning remains in force for Yasawa and Mamanuca waters, Vatu-i-Ra Passage, Northern Vanua Levu Waters, Koro Sea and Lau waters. Northwest winds of 20 to 25 knots with gusts of 30 knots at times are likely in these areas. Rough seas with poor visibility in areas of heavy rain and thunderstorms expected.

The Fiji Meteorological Service will keep an eye on this weather phenomenon and update forecasts and warnings as necessary.

For more information and clarification, please contact the National Weather Forecasting Centre at (679) 6724888/9905376 or via email at all-fcstrs@met.gov.fj.

For the latest forecasts, you can visit the Fiji Meteorological Service website at www.met.gov.fj or you can follow us on Facebook.

Click on the link to access the latest Heavy Rain Warning update:

<https://www.met.gov.fj/index.php?page=warn1#20014.txt>

Click on the link to access the latest Flood Alerts and Warnings update:

<https://www.met.gov.fj/index.php?page=warn1#20016.txt>

<https://www.met.gov.fj/index.php?page=warn1#20018.txt>

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Figure 1: Areas under Heavy Rainfall Warning and Alert as at 10.30am on 18th March 2024.

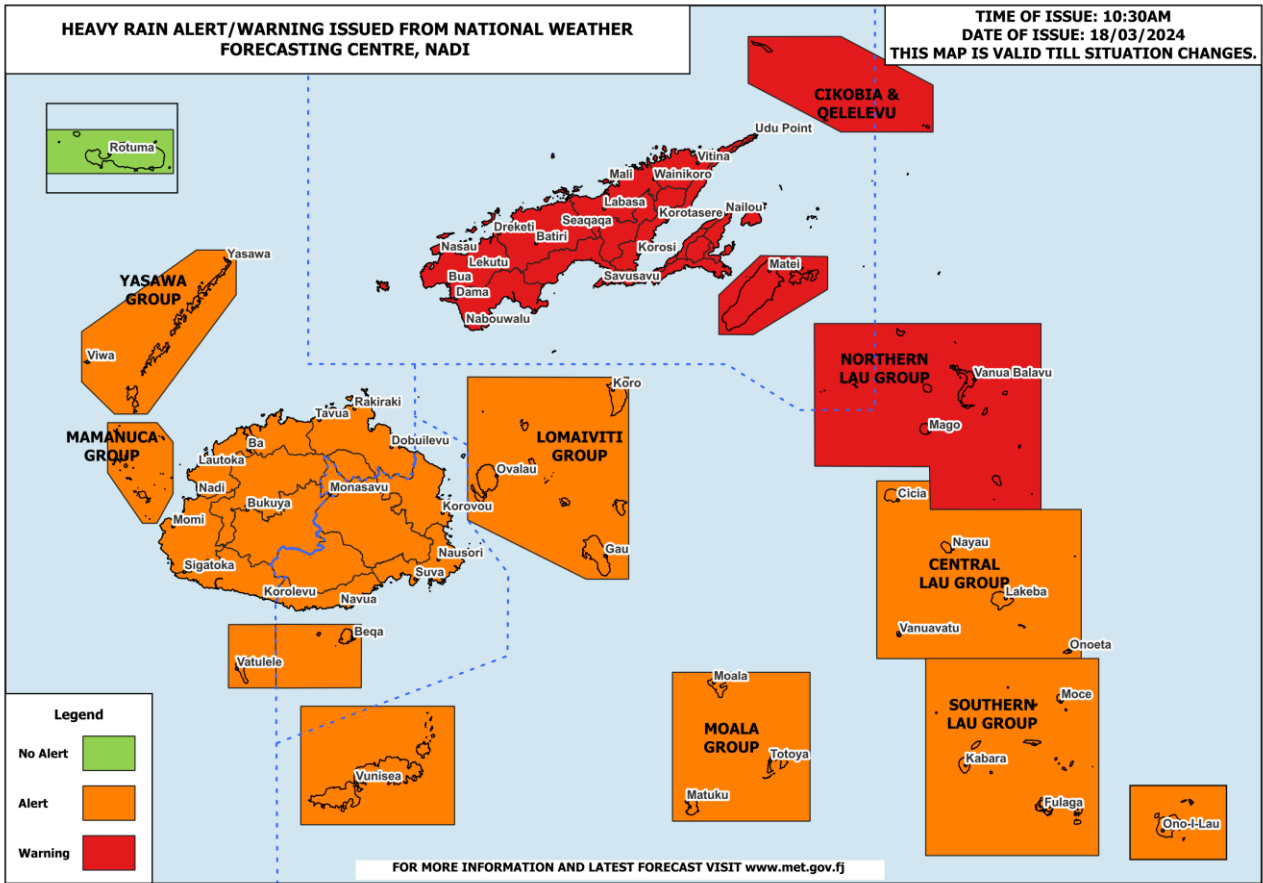


Figure 2: Areas under Flash Flood Alert/Warning as at 09.00am on 18th March 2024.

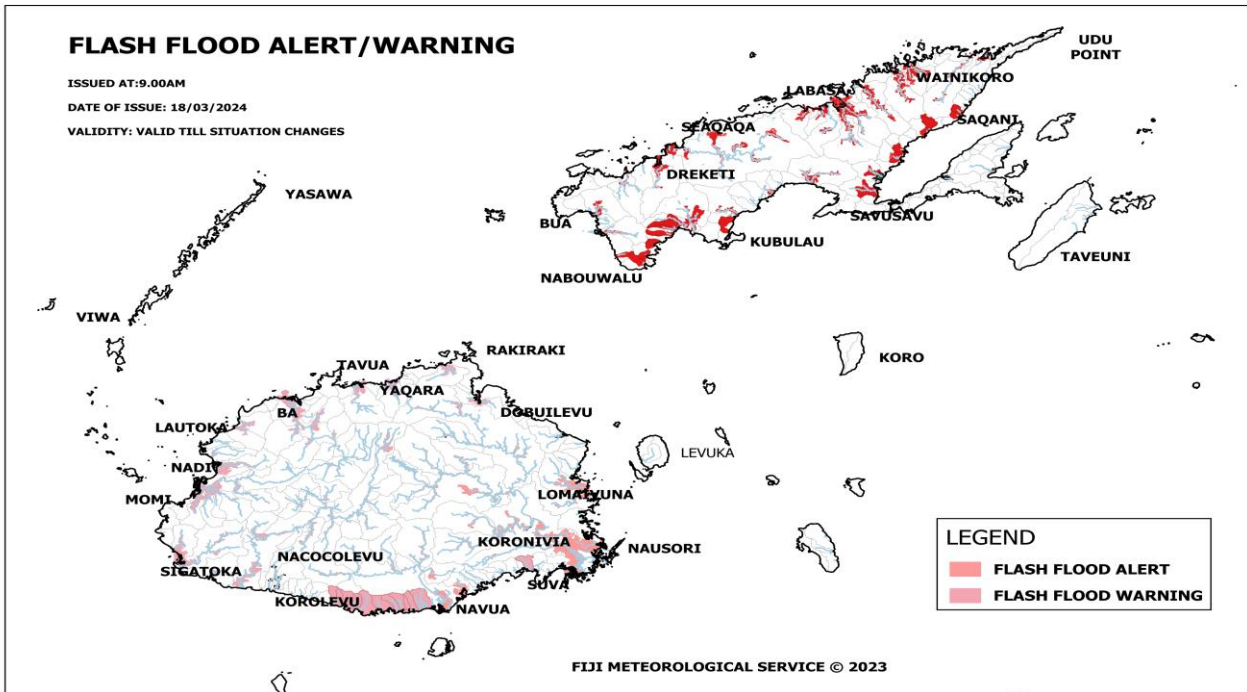
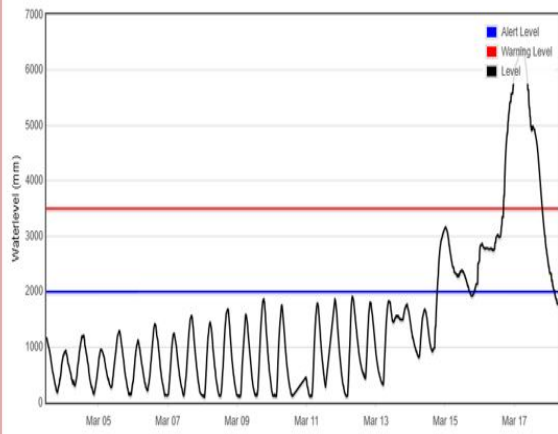


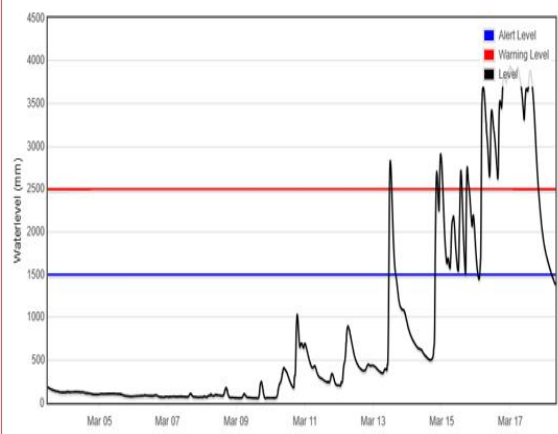
Figure 3: River Levels as at 09:00am on 18th March 2024.

WATER LEVELS AS AT 9AM 18TH MARCH 2024

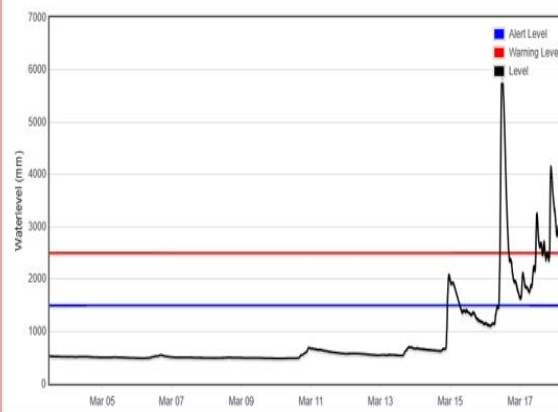
River Level at FSC Ba WL



River Level at Rakiraki Town Centre WL



River Level at Dreketilalailai WL



River Level at Nadi Town Bridge WL

