



The Ministry Of Infrastructure & Transport

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4.30pm Friday 16th December 2016

UPDATE ON TROPICAL DEPRESSION (TD04F)

MORE RAIN FORECASTED FOR THE WEEKEND

Tropical Depression (TD04F) with central pressure of 1000 HPA was located near 16.9 degrees South latitude and 174.3 degrees East longitude or about 350km West-northwest of Nadi or about 350km West of Yasawa-I-Rara at 4pm this afternoon. It is moving Southeast at about 12km/hr, but expected to turn South to Southwest in the next 12-18 hours.

Under the current and expected conditions, TD04F is expected remain as a tropical depression and may not develop into tropical cyclone, however, there is about 20% to 50% chance of TD04F to turn into a Category 1 cyclone in the next 24 hours.

On the projected path, the centre of the system is expected to remain over open waters and may pass more than 250km west of Nadi tomorrow. The chance of it coming close to Fiji is low.

The concerns at the present time are heavy rain, associated flooding, and strong & gusty winds. Consequently, the following alerts and warnings are in place:

- A strong wind warning remains in force for all land areas of Fiji;
- A heavy rain warning remains in force for the whole of Fiji; and
- A flood alert remains in force for the following areas:
 - Low lying areas and the downstream of Waimanu station;
 - Low lying areas and areas adjacent to Nabukaluka station and areas downstream of Nabukaluka station; and
 - Low lying areas and areas adjacent to Rewa bridge station and areas downstream of Nausori town.

Expect more rain with periods of heavy rain and squally thunderstorms over most parts of the country today and through the weekend. With more rain forecasted, the chances of flooding of major rivers are high.

East to Northeast winds of 40-50 km/hr and gusts of up to 75 km/hr over land areas is forecasted for today and tomorrow. Expect Northerly winds of 40-50 km/hr on Sunday.

Mariners should anticipate East to Northeast winds with average speeds of 20 to 30 knots and gusts of up to 40 knots. Expect rough to very rough seas. Visibility will be poor in areas of heavy rain and squally thunderstorms.

All communities are advised to take necessary precautions and remain prepared at all times as flood alerts and warnings are in place for all low lying areas and streams adjacent to major rivers. Also prepare for strong and gusty winds. Please take alerts, warnings and advisories seriously and remain updated with the latest weather bulletins.

For more details and the latest on weather, please contact the Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre on 6736006, 9905376 or visit the Fiji Meteorological Service's website, www.met.gov.fj.

ENDS.

Annex 1.

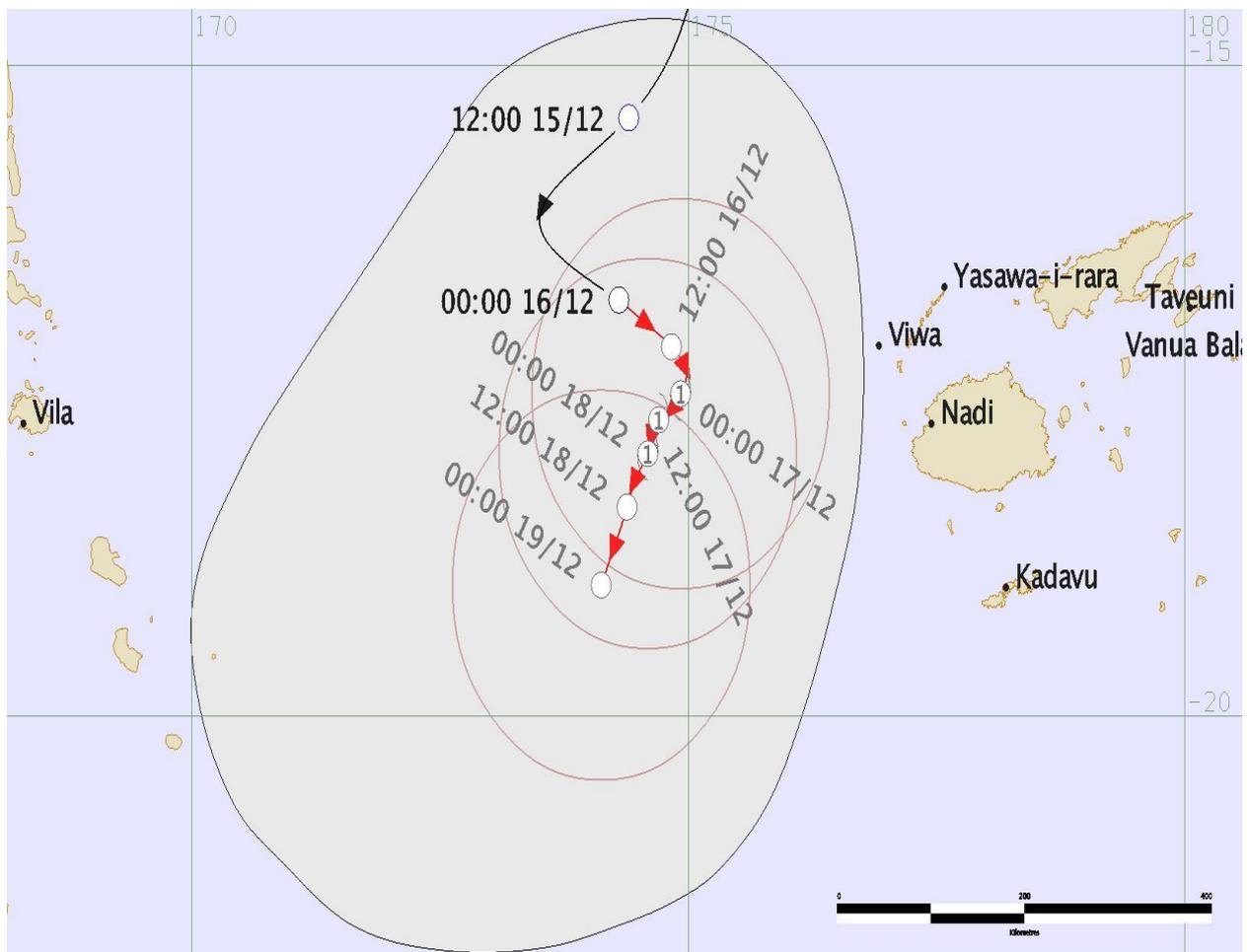


Figure1: Forecast Track Map for TD04F. The cone indicates that the track can lie anywhere within the shaded area.

Annex 2.

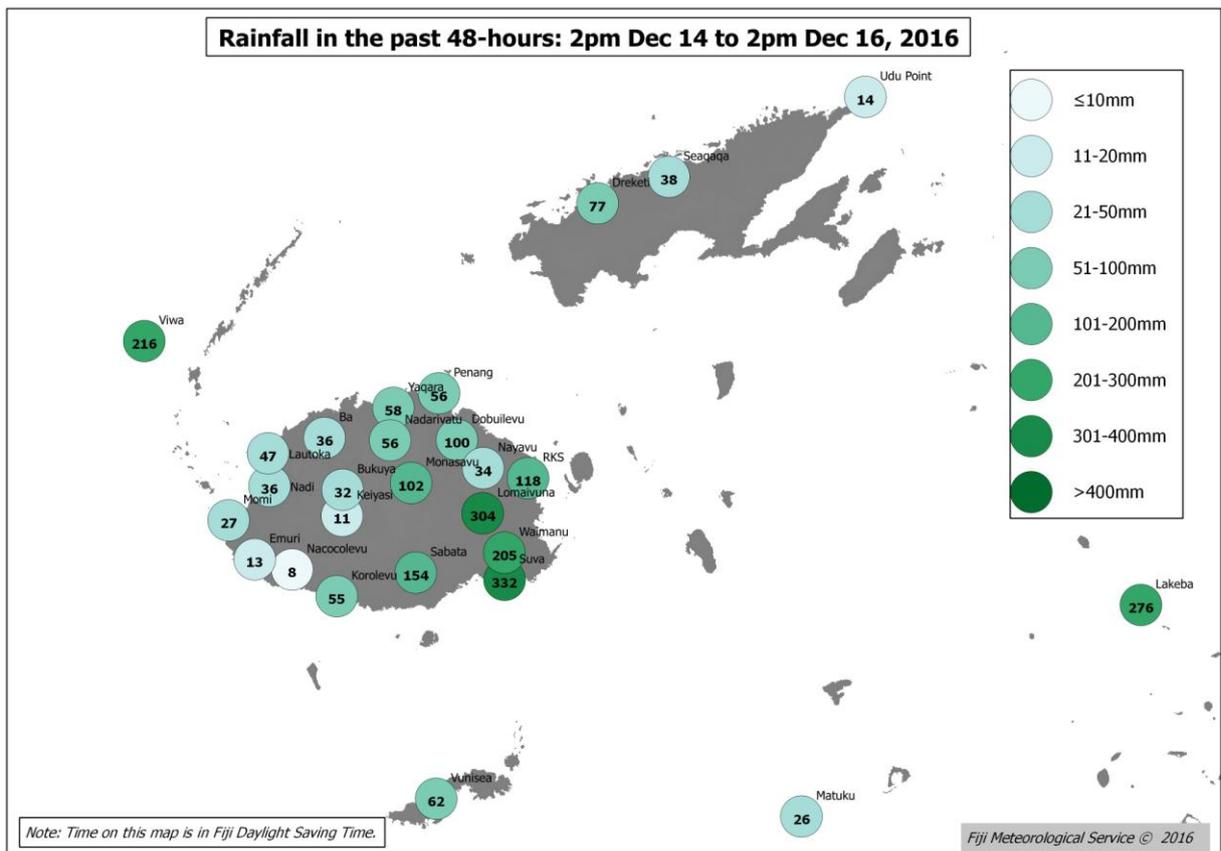
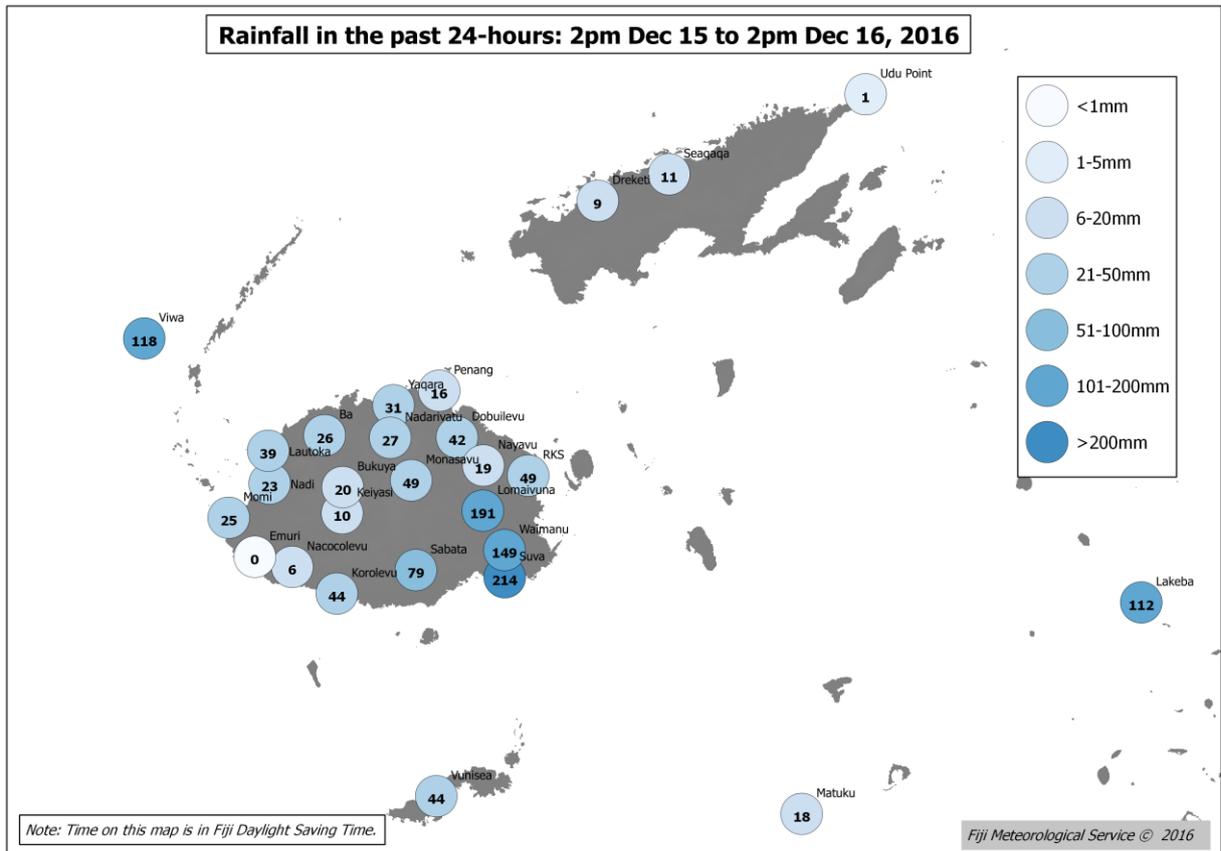


Figure 2: Rainfall Distribution Map for 24 and 48 hours.

Annex 3.

Rewa Catchment	River Level	Rainfall	Alert (m)	Warning (m)	Status
<i>Nabukaluka</i>	2.74	Nil	4.0	5.0	Decreasing
<i>Navolau</i>	5.26	Nil	6.0	8.0	Decreasing
<i>Waimanu</i>	3.98	0.5	4.0	5.0	Decreasing
<i>Nayavu</i>	3.11	1.0	5.0	8.0	Increasing
<i>Nausori Bridge</i>	3.66	-	3.5	4.5	Decreasing
<i>Wailotua</i>	2.26	1.0	3.0	4.0	Decreasing
<i>Nairukuruku</i>	delay	-	4.0	5.0	
Navua Catchment	River Level	Rainfall	Alert (m)	Warning (m)	Status
<i>Navua Town Bridge</i>	-	-	2.0	2.5	Offline
<i>Sabata</i>	2.74	3.5	6.0	8.0	Decreasing
<i>Nabukelevu</i>	1.68	Nil	3.0	4.0	Increasing
Rakiraki Catchment	River Level	Rainfall	Alert (m)	Warning (m)	Status
<i>Rakiraki Town</i>	0.88	-	1.5	2.5	Increasing
<i>Vatukacevaceva</i>	0.70	3.0	1.0	1.5	Increasing

Table 1: Status of Water Level in Rewa, Navua and Rakiraki Catchments.