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MEDIA RELEASE 1

Friday 03rd February 2017

WET WEEKEND ANTICIPATED AS TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE DRIFTS OVER FIJI

The country could expect unsettled weather this weekend and early next week as a trough of low pressure with associated cloud and rain moves over Fiji from the east and start affecting from tomorrow.

Rain and thunderstorms are anticipated to develop from tomorrow over Vanua Levu, Taveuni, Lau Group, Yasawa, interior and eastern parts of the larger islands. Rain is expected to gradually spread over rest of Fiji on Sunday.

The trough is expected to lie over Fiji and remain slow moving. Tropical disturbances are anticipated to develop along the trough near Tonga and Vanuatu which will keep rainy conditions over the country into early next week with isolated heavy falls likely.

Localised heavy rain may lead to flash flooding in the low lying areas. The weather will be closely monitored over the weekend and updates will be provided as any significant changes are observed.

It is advisable that people take alerts, warnings and advisories seriously whenever it is issued and remain prepared at all times. Keep updated with the latest weather bulletins.

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

ENDS.

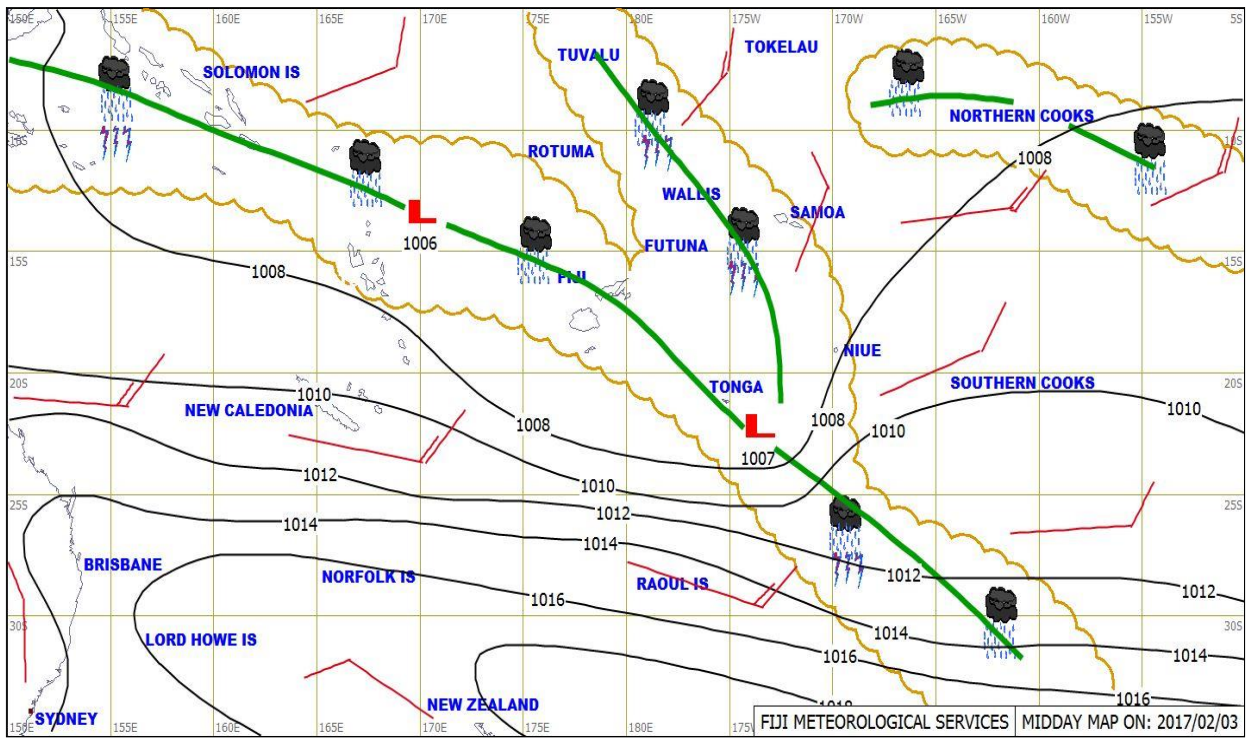


Figure 1: Weather Map at 12 noon on 3rd February 2017.

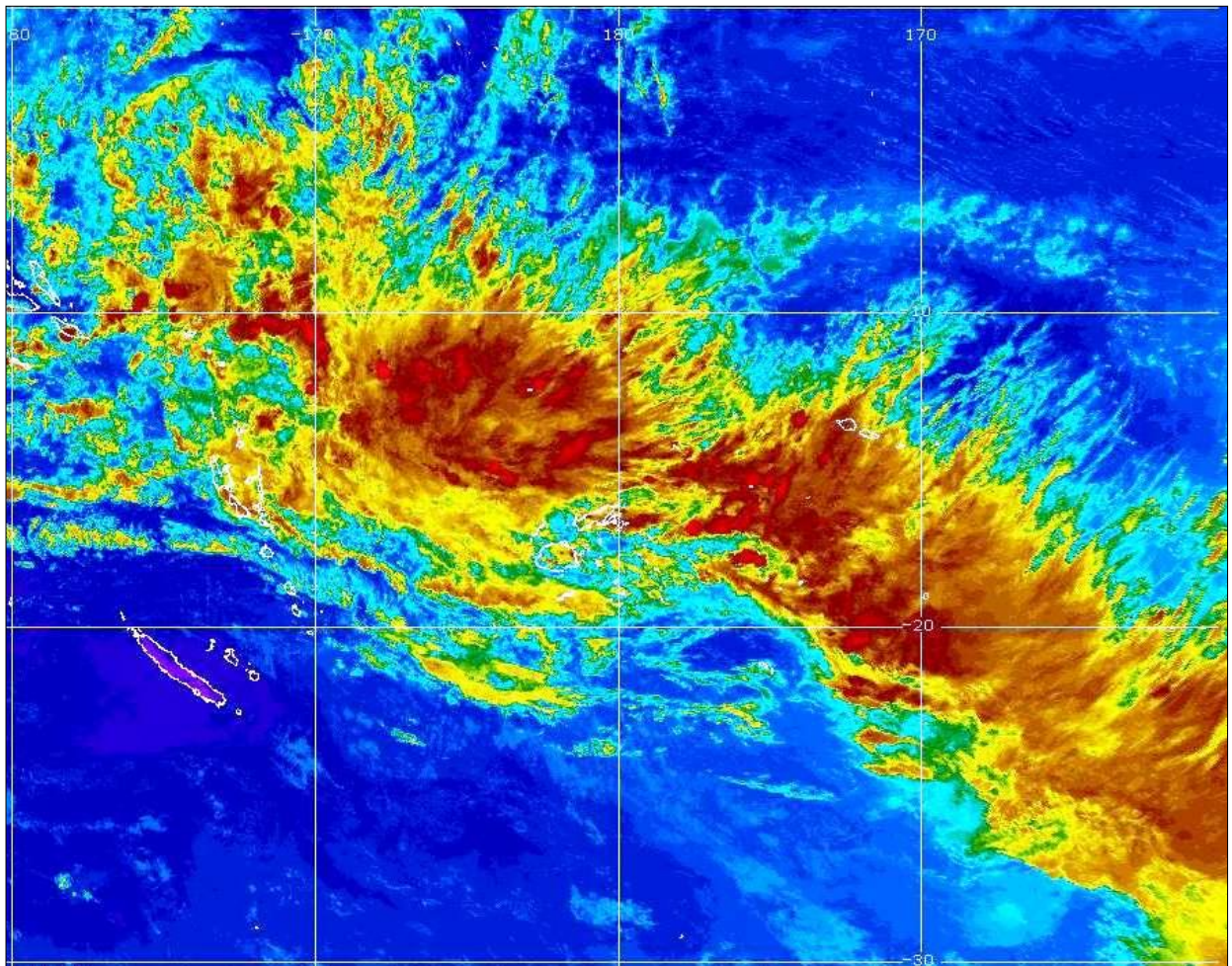


Figure 2: Satellite image at 03.00pm on 03rd February 2017.