# FIJI METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE Private Mail Bag (NAP0351)

Private Mail Bag (NAP035 Nadi Airport, Fiji Ph: +679 6724888,

Fax: +679 6720430 Email: climate@met.gov.fj Also online at http://www.met.gov.fj

# Fiji Ocean Outlook

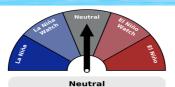
Issue: 7

Issue: 7

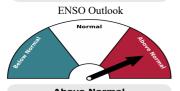
Issued: July 18, 2025
Next Issue: August 20, 2025

## In Brief

Volume: 7



⇒ ENSO neutral status continues to persist with chances for it to continue through the August to October 2025 period. Climate models also favour the event to continue until the end of 2025.



⇒ Above normal sea surface temperatures (SSTs) are likely across the Fiji Waters during August to October 2025.



⇒ The average position of the 29°C South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) is likely to be displaced south of its normal position, close to Fiji's EEZ, during August to October 2025.

Coral Bleaching

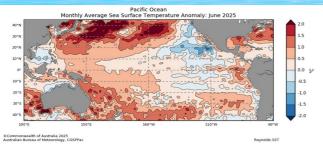
The 4, 8 and 12 weeks coral bleaching outlook is at 'No Stress' for Fiji Waters.



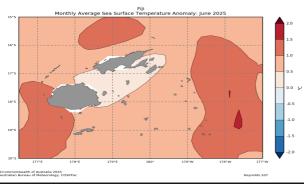
Sea Level Outlook

*Below normal* sea level is likely across the Fiji Group during the August to October 2025 period.

## Pacific Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs): Recent Observations



Above normal SSTs were observed across most of the Pacific Ocean, with slightly cooler than normal SSTs evident in parts of the central and eastern Pacific.

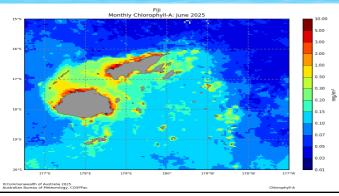


Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) around the Fiji waters were generally *above normal* during June, with anomalies ranging from 0.5–1.0°C, and up to 1.0–1.5°C over a small region, off west of Viti Levu, east of the Lau Group, as well as north of Vanua Levu.

#### Possible Applications:

Presence of warmer than usual waters in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific indicate persistence of an El Niño event and cool waters indicate La Niña. Monitoring warm patches of ocean gives insight into the potential for cyclone formation, and possible start or finish of the cyclone season. For further information on ocean temperature refer to <a href="http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_OceanTemperature.pdf">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_OceanTemperature.pdf</a>

## **Chlorophyll Concentration**

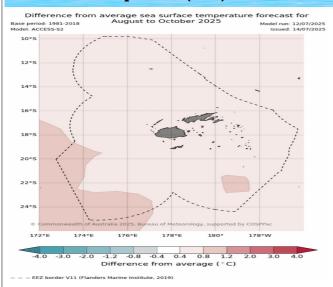


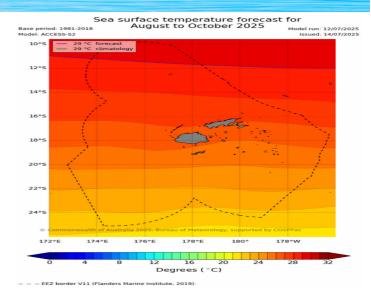
During June, high concentrations of chlorophyll were observed along the northern and southern coasts of Vanua Levu, western and central coasts of Viti Levu, and in some parts of the Eastern Division.

#### Possible Applications:

Chlorophyll concentration can be of great interest to fishermen targeting smaller pelagic (open sea) fish. High concentration of chlorophyll can also provide indication of potential hazardous conditions near the coast from reef fish diseases, such as ciguatera, harmful algal blooms, and outbreak of Crown of Thorns starfish, which is a coral eating pest. For further information on chlorophyll concentration refer to <a href="http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_chlorophyll.pdf">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_chlorophyll.pdf</a>

## Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Outlook





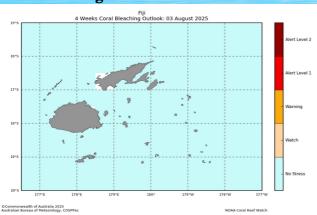
Above normal SSTs are likely across the Fiji Waters during the August to October 2025 period.

Average position of the 29°C convergence zone is likely to be displaced south of its normal position, close to Fiji's EEZ, during the August to October 2025 period (purple line).

## Possible Applications:

The movement of the convergence zone has an influence on relative abundance of tuna in the Pacific Ocean. The 29°C isotherm around the western Pacific warm pool forms a good proxy for the convergence zone, and can therefore be used to track the gravity center of Skipjack tuna fishing activity. For further information on seasonal sea surface temperature forecast refer to <a href="http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_POAMA\_SST.pdf">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_POAMA\_SST.pdf</a>

## Coral Bleaching Outlook



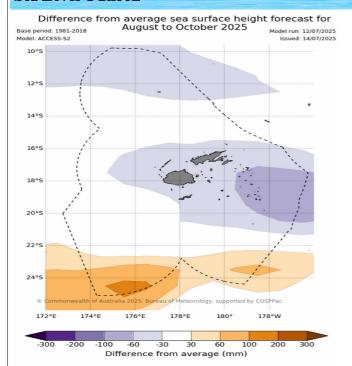
The 4, 8 and 12 weeks coral bleaching outlook is at 'No Stress' for the Fiji Waters.

Caption: The image is for 4 weeks outlook.

#### Possible Applications:

Once a potential bleaching event is detected, a management plan should be implemented to reduce the impacts of bleaching. For further information on coral bleaching refer to <a href="http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_coralbleaching.pdf">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_coralbleaching.pdf</a>

# Sea Level Outlook



*Below normal* sea level is likely across the Fiji Group during the August to October 2025 period.

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

## Possible Applications:

Stakeholders can use forecasts of extreme sea level to make decisions about the protection of communities and infrastructure against coastal inundation. For further information on sea level refer to <a href="http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_POAMA\_Sea\_Level.pdf">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/help/about\_POAMA\_Sea\_Level.pdf</a>

# Tide Predictions (August to October 2025)

Suva							Lautoka					
Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide			Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide			
Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	
23 Aug	06:09	1.95m	11 Aug	13:56	0.44m	23 Aug	05:56	2.18m	22 Aug	11:43	0.37m	
10 Sep	20:21	2.04m	9 Sep	13:24	0.45m	9 Sep	19:15	2.25m	8 Sep	12:25	0.37m	
8 Oct	19:06	2.11m	10 Oct	02:23	0.39m	8 Oct	18:45	2.36m	9 Oct	01:10	0.33m	

Port Denarau						Vatia					
Monthly Highest Tide		Monthly Lowest Tide			Monthly Highest Tide			Monthly Lowest Tide			
Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height	Date	Time	Height
11 Aug	07:22	2.04m	23 Aug	12:26	0.22m	23 Aug	05:46	2.02m	22 Aug	11:32	0.22m
10 Sep	20:03	2.13m	8 Sep	12:29	0.23m	9 Sep	19:06	2.07m	8 Sep	12:14	0.23m
8 Oct	18.51	2.24m	9 Oct	01:14	0.18m	8 Oct	18:34	2.19m	9 Oct	00:59	0.22m

All date and time are in Fiji Standard Time.

# Moon Phases (August to October 2025)

New Moon	First Quarter 🕕	Full Moon	Last Quarter 🌓	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> August	9 <sup>th</sup> August	16 <sup>th</sup> August	
23 <sup>rd</sup> August	31st August	8 <sup>th</sup> September	14 <sup>th</sup> September	
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	30 <sup>th</sup> September	7 <sup>th</sup> October	14 <sup>th</sup> October	
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	30 <sup>th</sup> October			

## **Explanatory Notes**

Anomalies – denote the departure of an element (sea surface temperature and sea level) from its long-period average value for a particular location.

Sea Surface Temperature (SST) - the temperature of the water's surface. It is usually measured using buoys, ship data, and satellites.

## Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Outlook

**Above Normal** – indicates that SST anomalies fall within the highest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or above +0.8°C.

**Near Normal** – indicates that SST anomalies lies in the middle 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically between  $-0.4^{\circ}$ C and  $+0.4^{\circ}$ C.

**Below Normal** – indicates that SST anomalies fall within the lowest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or below -0.8°C.

#### **Coral Bleaching Outlook**

**No Stress** – Thermal stress is unlikely.

Watch - Low-level of thermal stress.

**Warning** – Coral bleaching possible.

**Alert 1** – Coral bleaching is likely.

**Alert 2** – Coral mortality is Likely.

#### Sea Level Outlook

**Above Normal** – indicates that sea level anomalies fall within the highest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or above +60mm.

**Near Normal** – indicates that sea level anomalies lies in the middle 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically between – 60mm and +60mm.

**Below Normal** – indicates that sea level anomalies fall within the lowest 3rd of observations in a 37 year period, typically equal to or below –60mm.

**El Niño** events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell.

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season. (November to April).

When ENSO is **Neutral**, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.

**Disclaimer:** While Fiji Meteorological Service takes all measures to provide accurate information and data, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the information presented in this outlook. The Department should be sought for expert advice, clarifications and additional information as and when necessary. The user assumes all risk resulting directly or indirectly from the use of this outlook.