



Solomon Islands Meteorological Service

Early Action Rainfall Watch.

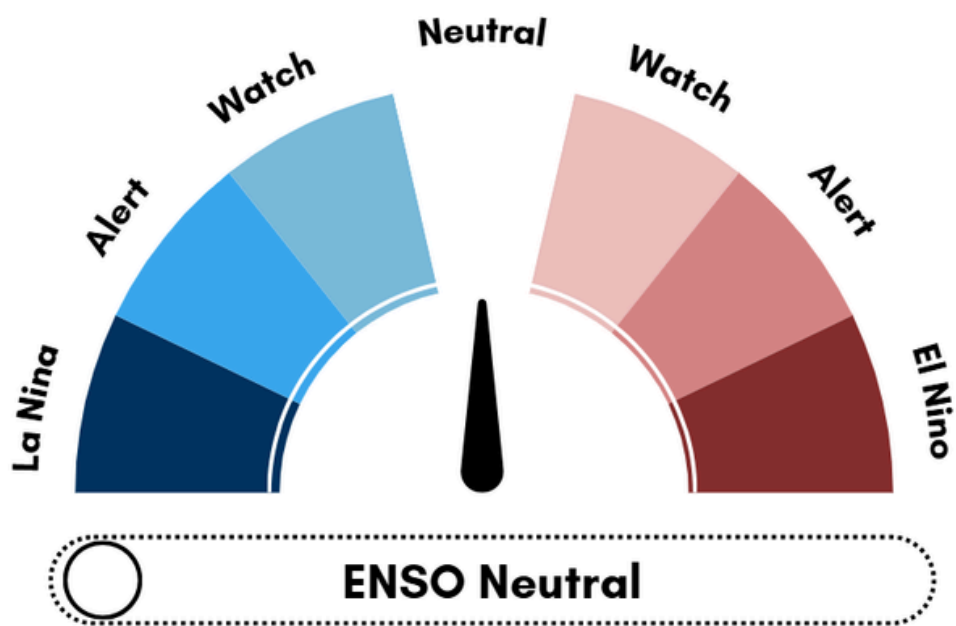
July 2025



The Early Action Rainfall (EAR) Watch provides sector managers with a brief summary of recent rainfall patterns, particularly for drought monitoring and the rainfall outlook for the coming months.

Climate Driver Update:

➤ El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) status:



ENSO is in Neutral Phase and is predicted to remain neutral in the coming months.

➤ ENSO Phases and Distinctive Rainfall Conditions:

- 1 La Nina** Associate with above-normal rainfalls
- 2 Neutral** Associated with Moderate to near-normal rainfalls
- 3 El Nino** Associated with below-normal rainfall and drought.

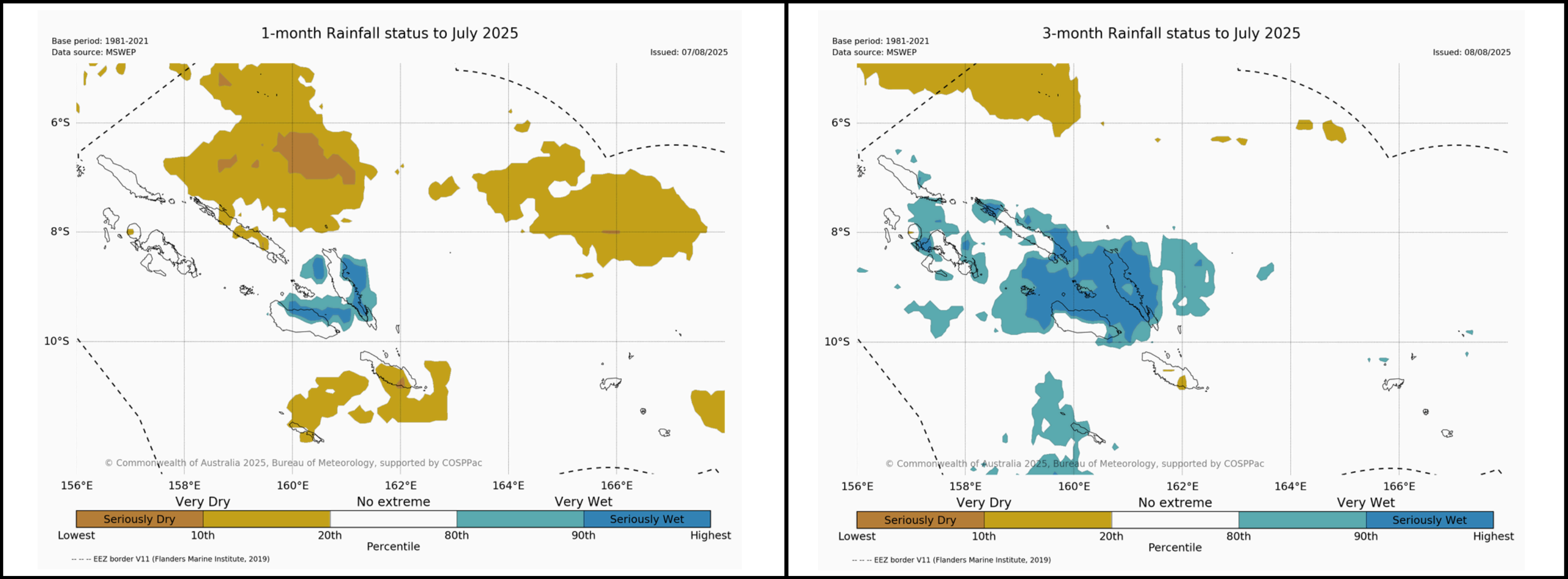
Rainfall Status:

➤ Rainfall Status to July 2025:

Honiara, Henderson have faced notably "seriously wet" rainfall conditions for the past month, while Auki and Munda are experiencing similar conditions in the third month, following Honiara and Henderson in the sixth and twelfth months. Meanwhile, Rennel & Bellona have endured "very wet" conditions for the past three months, along with Auki and Lata over the previous six months. In contrast, Taro has been under "very dry" conditions during the sixth month.

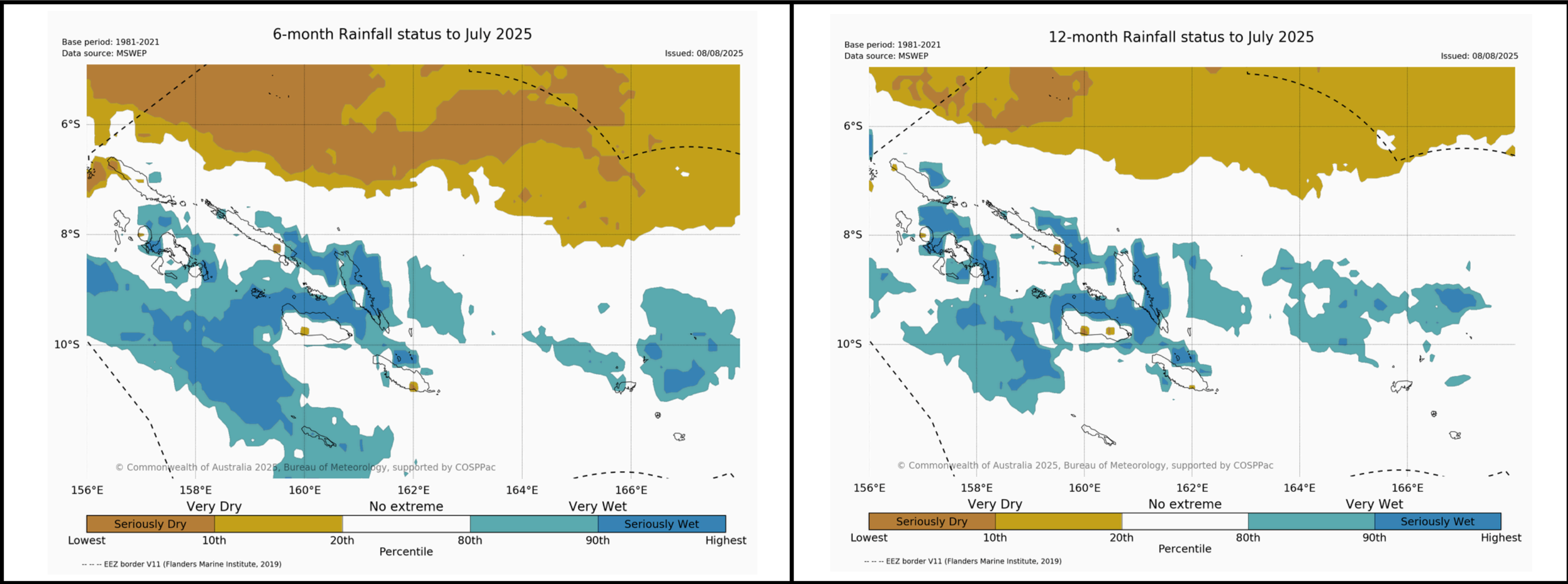
Status:	1-month to July 2025	3-Month to July 2025	6-Month February to July 2025	12-Month June 2024 to July 2025
Seriously wet	Honiara & Henderson	Munda, Honiara, Henderson & Auki	Honiara, Henderson	Honiara & Henderson
Very wet		Rennel & Bellona	Auki, Rennel & Bellona and Lata	
No Alert	Taro, Munda, Auki, Kirakira & Lata	Taro, Kirakira & Lata	Munda & Kirakira	Taro, Munda, Auki, Kirakira, Lata, Rennel & Bellona
Very Dry	Rennel & Bellona			
Seriously Dry			Taro	

Rainfall Monitoring for the Past 1 Month and 3 Months.





Rainfall Monitoring for the last 6 months and 12 Months.



IMPACTS

➡ Different past rainfall time scales impact on sectors. The impacts are estimates only. Allow for uncertainty associated with island size, topography, geology, and soil type. Contact the relevant sector offices for more information on rainfall impacts.

Sectors	1-month period most relevant for	3-month period most relevant for	6-month period most relevant for	12-month period most relevant for
<div>Water Sector</div>	small watertanks (e.g. 44-gallon drums, 5000L watertank), small streams, shallow wells	Bore holes, ground water, small wells, small streams, and rivers	medium water sources (e.g. boreholes, springs, medium rivers, wells, large watertanks)	Large water sources (e.g., large rivers, springs, bore holes, artisan wells). Water contamination
<div>Food Security</div>	shallow rooted agricultural crops (e.g. island cabbage, chinese cabbage, tomato, beans), kumara, cassava. Increases in pests and diseases.	Root crops (e.g. yam, taro, pana, cassava, sweet potato, kumala), banana, cabbage, tomato, traditional vegetables, small livestock, pasture. Low water in fish ponds	Shortage of cash crops (e.g. banana, young coconut, root crops, taro, yam, cassava, cocoa, kava, pana, sugarcane, lemon, grapefruit, orange trees, nut trees, pineapple, coffee), livestock (e.g. goats, horse, cattle), and honeybees. Low water table impacts fish food	large trees (e.g. oil palm, coconuts, edu, kakake, cocoa, noni, breadfruit, mango). Reduced fish reproduction in fish ponds
<div>Socio-economic, environment and health</div>	water-borne diseases, mosquito-borne diseases (e.g malaria), respiratory diseases (e.g. cough), Mental stress	water-borne diseases (e.g. hepatitis, typhoid), mosquito-borne diseases (e.g malaria), respiratory diseases (e.g. cough), skin disease, open defecation, malnutrition, and starvation. Schools and provincial hospitals closed down. Increase in domestic violence. Inflation, increase in government spending.	Eye disease, water-borne diseases (e.g., dysentery), skin disease (hookworm) Mental health. Wildlife migration (e.g., birds, snakes, butterflies, etc.), bush fires Disputes over resources. Interruption to inter-island shipping. Hydropower generation affected (disruption of essential services), Relocation of villages	Water pollution (e.g., algae bloom) Forced migration. High mortality, increases in crime (theft, looting etc.), increase workload (domestic chores e.g., water collections). Increase in poverty.



Rainfall Outlooks:

➤ September 2025:

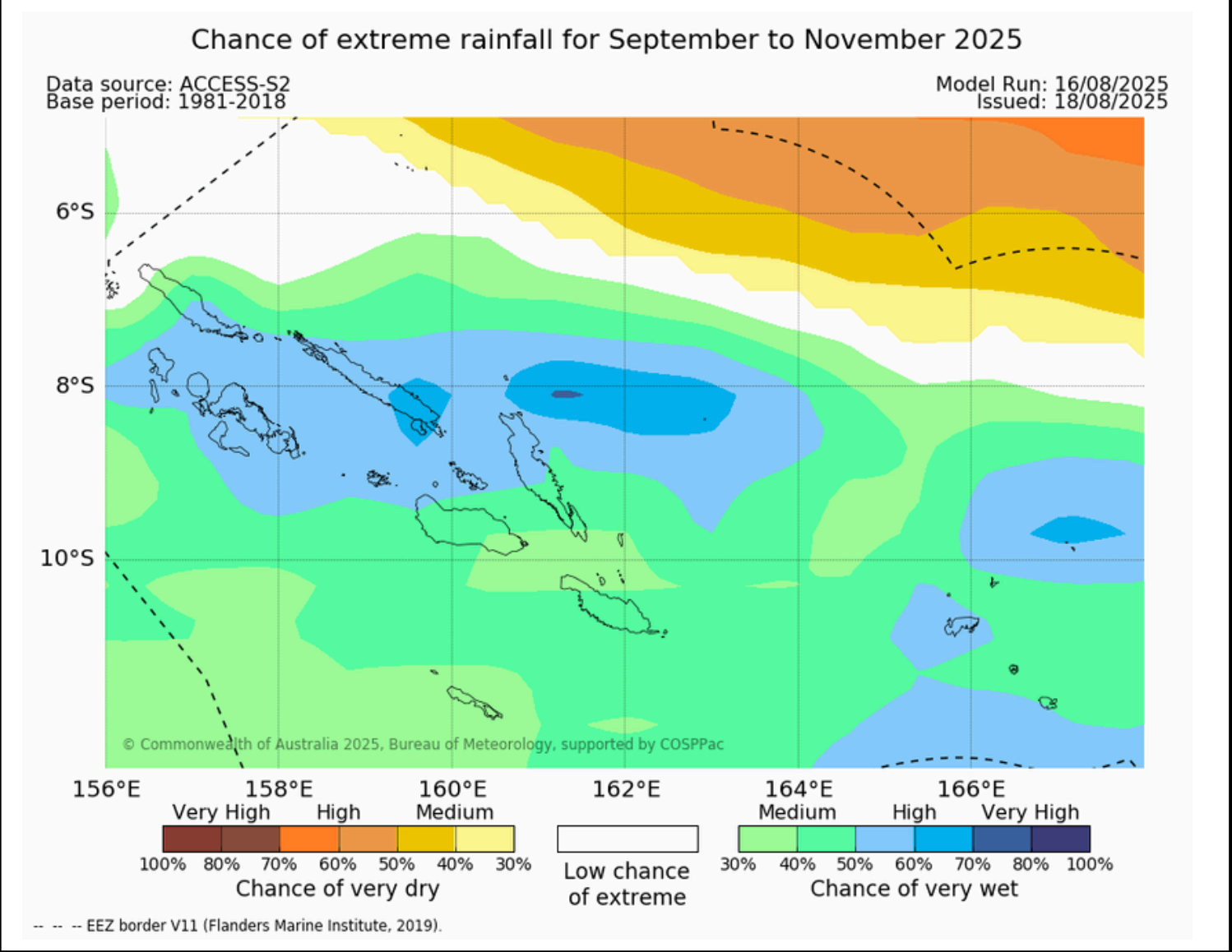
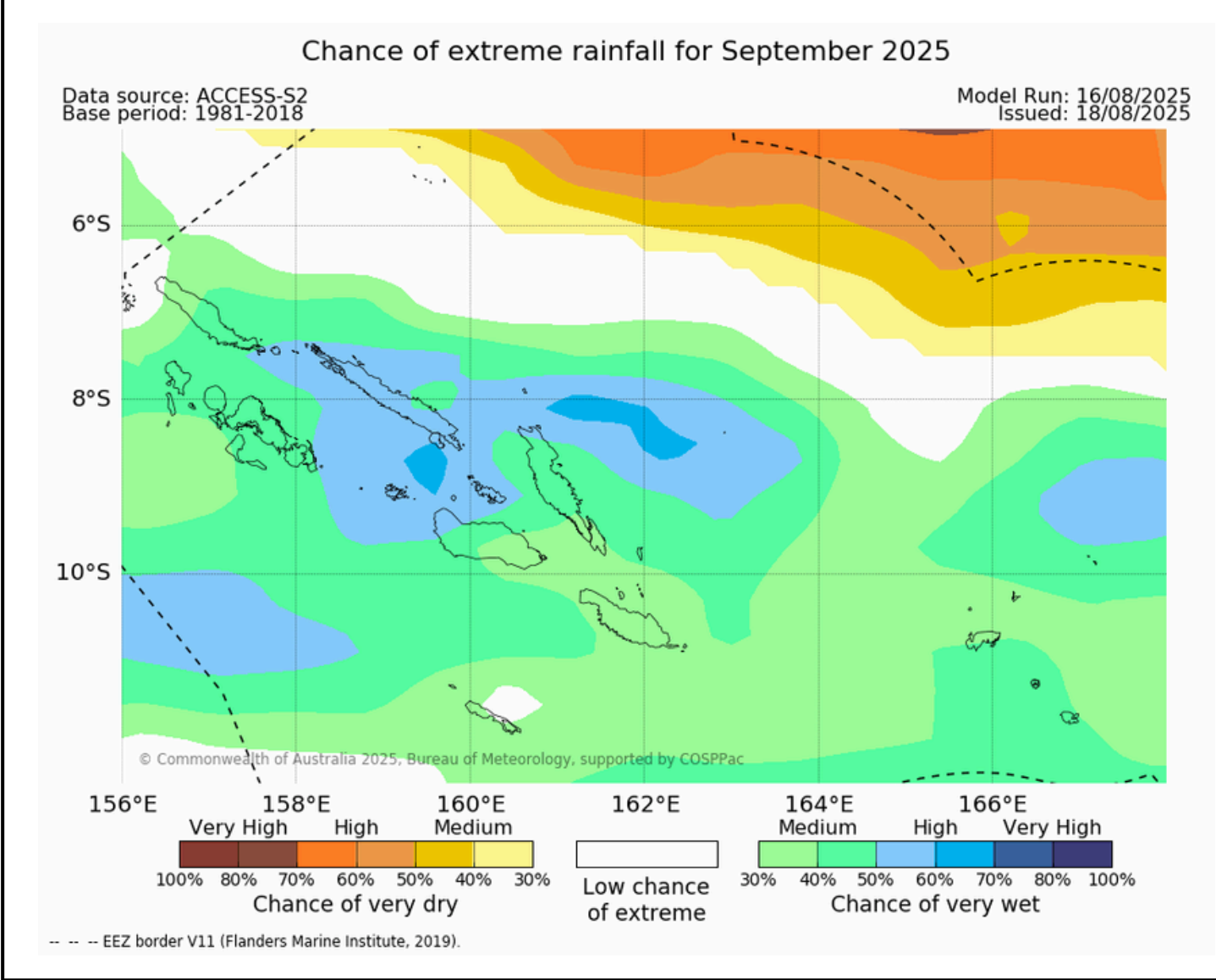
A "high chance of extreme" rainfall is expected over the Central Islands, Isabel, and the Northern tip of Malaita; elsewhere, a “medium chance of extreme” rainfall is expected in the coming Month.

➤ September to November 2025:

A "high chance of extreme" rainfall is expected over Western, Isabel, Central Islands, and north of Malaita, including Temotu, and elsewhere, "medium chance of extreme” rainfall is expected in the coming three months.

Rainfall Outlooks for September and November 2025

Status	1-Month Rainfall Outlook	3-Month Rainfall Outlook
Very High		
High		Munda, Auki and Lata
Medium	Taro, Munda, Honiara, Henderson, Auki, Kirakira, Rennel & Bellona and Lata	Taro, Honiara, Henderson, Kirakira, Rennel & Bellona.
Low Chance of Extreme		
Medium		
High		
Very High		





Key Terms & Glossary

➤ Rainfall Status

Estimates of moisture/water stress are based on recent rainfall compared with historical observations using the Percentile (Decile) Index. The Percentile Index is used to assess the rainfall status from the MSWEP dataset. MSWEP is a global precipitation product that combines rain gauges, satellite and, reanalysis data to a 0.1° resolution. Seriously Dry is defined as drought assessed by rainfall data only. A site is assigned 'No Alert' when rainfall has been near normal or slightly above or below normal for the period(s) in question. The 3-, 6- and 12-month timescales can accurately predict drought.

➤ Rainfall Outlook (month and season)

The chance of extremes outlook maps presents the likelihood of Very Wet or Very Dry conditions. They are displayed by the chance that the outlook will result in rainfall in the top or bottom 20% of historical observations for the selected outlook period. Where there is white shading, it is less likely there will be either Very Wet or Very Dry conditions, rainfall is likely to be close to normal in this case. A very high chance of Very Dry (Very Wet) conditions is associated with the highest likelihood of rainfall being in the lowest (highest) 20% on record. A medium chance of Very Dry (Very Wet) conditions is associated with a lower but reasonable chance of rainfall being in the lowest (highest) 20% on record. The outlooks have been produced using the Australian Bureau of Meteorology ACCESS-S2 model.

➤ Glossary

1. **ENSO** - El Niño Southern Oscillation.
2. **SST** – Sea Surface Temperature
3. **La Nina** – extensive ocean cooling in the Central and Eastern Pacific – associated with wetter than normal conditions.
4. **El Nino** – extensive ocean warming of the Central and Eastern Pacific – associated with drier than normal conditions.
5. **Past Rainfall** – rainfall that is observed in the past 1, 3, 6, and 12 months.
6. **Quintile** – based on a chance of extreme rainfall (very dry or very wet) using 5-category predictions.
7. **Very Dry** – rainfall in the lowest 20% of the historical record for that location and time period.
8. **Very Wet** – rainfall in the highest 20% of the historical record for that location and time period.
9. **Seriously Dry** – rainfall in the lowest 10% of the historical record for that location and time period.
10. **Seriously Wet** – rainfall in the highest 10% of the historical record for that location and time period.
11. **Chance of Very Dry** – percent chance of rainfall in the lowest 20% of the historical record for that location and month/season.
12. **Chance of Very Wet** – percent chance of rainfall in the highest 20% of the historical record for that location and month/season.
13. **Medium, High, and Very High** - refer to the percent probability level, where Very High has the highest confidence and represents the range 70% and above.

Contact the Solomon Islands Meteorological Service for further information.

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