

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 15 - 21 Oct 2026

Review Summary:

- Heavy rains fell over Bay, Gedo, Mudug, Hiraan and parts of Somaliland during 6–12 October. Baidoa recorded 146.5 mm in 4 days, Bardheere 115.5 mm, Qansax Dheere 107.6 mm, Sheikh 100 mm and Hargeisa 86 mm in a single day.
- By 12 October, 16 stations had already exceeded their October normal, including Baidoa (220.0 mm, 163%), Bardheere (208.5 mm, 255%), Galkacyo (124.0 mm, 260%) and Hargeisa (86.0 mm, 318%).
- Satellite estimates (ARC2) show 100–500 mm over central and southern Somalia and the Somali region of Ethiopia since 1 October, more than four to six times the normal for the period.
- Jowhar crossed its moderate flood-risk level on 12 October and its high flood-risk level on 13 October. Dollow peaked 4 cm below moderate on 12 October before falling sharply.
- Communities in Galgaduud, Mudug, Sanaag and Dollow continued to report drought, heat and livestock losses during 1–7 October, while callers in Bay, Lower Shabelle and Kismayo reported good rain and crop planting.

Forecast Highlight:

- Light to moderate rains are expected over central and north-eastern Somalia. Moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm is forecast over most of Xarardheere and Burtinle districts and about half of Jariiban district, with localized heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm near the coast in Xarardheere. Light rainfall of 10–30 mm is expected over Hiraan and Middle Shabelle.
- Light rains are expected over most parts of the Juba River catchment whereas light to moderate rains are likely over Shabelle River catchment.
- Jowhar remains above its high flood-risk level (5.36 m, 14 cm below bankfull). A new rise is moving downstream from Deefow (+0.76 m today) and Belet Weyne (+0.50 m today) and is expected to reach Jowhar during the week. Breakage flooding between Jowhar and Balcad is likely to continue.
- The 10-day CHIRPS-GEFS forecast (14–24 October) indicates heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm over Buloburto, Jalalaqsi and Jowhar districts, an upside flood risk for Jowhar and Balcad towards 22–24 October.
- Dry and hot conditions are forecast over most parts of Jubaland with very high maximum temperatures of 40–45°C over parts of Middle Juba, Lower Juba and Sablaale.

REVIEW — OBSERVED CONDITIONS AND EXPERIENCED IMPACTS

Observed Rainfall Conditions

Weekly rainfall (6–12 October 2026):

The Deyr rains spread and intensified during the week. Heavy rains were concentrated over Bay, Gedo, Hiraan, Lower Shabelle, Mudug and the Togdheer–Woqooyi Galbeed highlands. Baidoa recorded the highest weekly total (146.5 mm in 4 rainy days), followed by Bardheere (115.5 mm in 3 days), Qansax Dheere (107.6 mm in 4 days), Saaxo (100.0 mm in 3 days), Sheikh (100.0 mm in 3 days), Belad Hawa (99.5 mm in 2 days), Wanle Weyne (87.4 mm in 1 day), Hargeisa (86.0 mm in 1 day), Buloburto (85.4 mm in 3 days), Buuhoodle (81.9 mm in 5 days), Widh-widh (79.6 mm in 3 days) and Galkacyo (74.0 mm in 4 days). Moderate weekly totals of 40–75 mm were recorded at Mataban, Allaybaday, Las Dacawo, Bulohar, Buur Hakaba, Laan Madow, Burtinle, Darusalaam, Bualle, Kismayo, Awdheegle, Xasbahale, Belet Weyne, Marka, Galdogob and Waridaad. Light rains were recorded along the middle Shabelle (Jowhar 28.4 mm in 2 days, Balcad 15.0 mm, Afgooye 3.1 mm) and at Dollow (15.4 mm in 3 days), while Burao and Caynabo recorded only 1–2 mm.

Deyr 2026 rainfall performance to date (1–12 October):

In order to track Deyr performance through the season, rainfall observations are reported as a proportion of each station's October long-term mean (LTM) and of its full Deyr (October–December) LTM already received since 1 October. Station totals for 1–12 October, as revised on 14 October, are ranked in Figure 3.

The October normal has already been reached or exceeded in the following stations: Hargeisa 86.0 mm (318% of October; 238% of Deyr), Allaybaday 69.0 mm (303%; 223%), Galkacyo 124.0 mm (260%; 191%), Bardheere 208.5 mm (255%; 97%), Buuhoodle 83.1 mm and 47.0 mm at its two stations (243% and 138%; 206% and 116%), Burtinle 72.6 mm (170%; 122%), Baidoa 220.0 mm (163%; 95%), Las Dacawo 79.0 mm (159%; 98%), Sheikh 106.5 mm (151%; 97%), Galdogob 60.5 mm (129%; 101%), Awdheegle 51.4 mm (129%; 33%), Xasbahale 45.0 mm (124%; 95%), Baki 16.5 mm (116%), Malawle 24.0 mm (102%) and Baran 5.1 mm (143%).

In Galkacyo, Hargeisa, Allaybaday, Burtinle, Galdogob and at both Buuhoodle stations, the rain received in the first 12 days already exceeds the normal for the whole Deyr season.

The rains received in the following stations represent between 25% and 100% of the October normal: Bulo Burti 85.4 mm (97%; 55%), Garadag 16.0 mm (94%), Mogadishu 29.5 mm (86%; 25%), Mataban 70.6 mm (83%; 58%), Dararweyne 25.5 mm (83%), Jariiban 34.0 mm (80%), Bualle 57.0 mm (77%; 35%), Wanle Weyne 106.7 mm (73%; 37%), Balidhig 25.5 mm (72%), Buur Hakaba 73.8 mm (66%; 43%), Belet Weyne 56.5 mm (66%; 43%), Las Anod 19.0 mm (65%), Aburin 13.5 mm (63%), Garowe 22.9 mm (61%), Luuq 27.9 mm (58%; 25%), Gatiitley 37.0 mm (57%), Elafweyn 7.5 mm (55%), Wajaale 8.0 mm (51%), Taysa 8.0 mm (51%), Dilla 7.0 mm (49%), Dhubato 21.0 mm (48%), Eyl 12.6 mm (32%), Odweyne 18.5 mm (31%), Dollow 15.4 mm (31%; 19%), Jowhar 28.4 mm (29%; 15%), Cadaadley 16.5 mm (29%) and Taleex 6.8 mm (25%). The rains observed in the following stations represent below 25% of the October normal: Xudun 2.1 mm (10%), Afgooye 3.1 mm (6%), Burao 2.0 mm (6%) and Caynabo 1.0 mm (5%). Rains were also recorded at Qansax

Dheere (161.0 mm), Saaxo (110.0 mm), Belad Hawa (99.5 mm), Widh widh (80.4 mm), Bulohar (66.3 mm), Darusalaam (64.8 mm), Laan Madow (58.0 mm), Kismayo (56.5 mm), Mahaday Weyn (47.3 mm), Marka (40.8 mm), Waridaad (40.0 mm), Xingalool (32.0 mm), Fiqi Ayub (29.0 mm), Towfiiq (26.0 mm), Sayla Bari (25.0 mm), Balcad (15.0 mm) and, with less than 10 mm, Dooxaguban, Bargaal, Yagori, Dhanaano, Ufayn, Marayo and Xaafuun.

Satellite rainfall estimates (ARC2, 1–12 October):

Satellite estimates confirm a very wet start to the Deyr over most of Somalia. Totals of 100–300 mm, locally 300–500 mm, fell over Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal and the Somali region of Ethiopia, which is more than four to six times the normal for the period. Gedo, the Juba valley and the north-west received 25–100 mm, also above normal in most areas.

The Ethiopian highlands that feed the Shabelle and Juba received 25–100 mm, near to above normal. Rainfall was below normal along the Gulf of Aden coast of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed, around Bossaso and over most of northern Kenya.

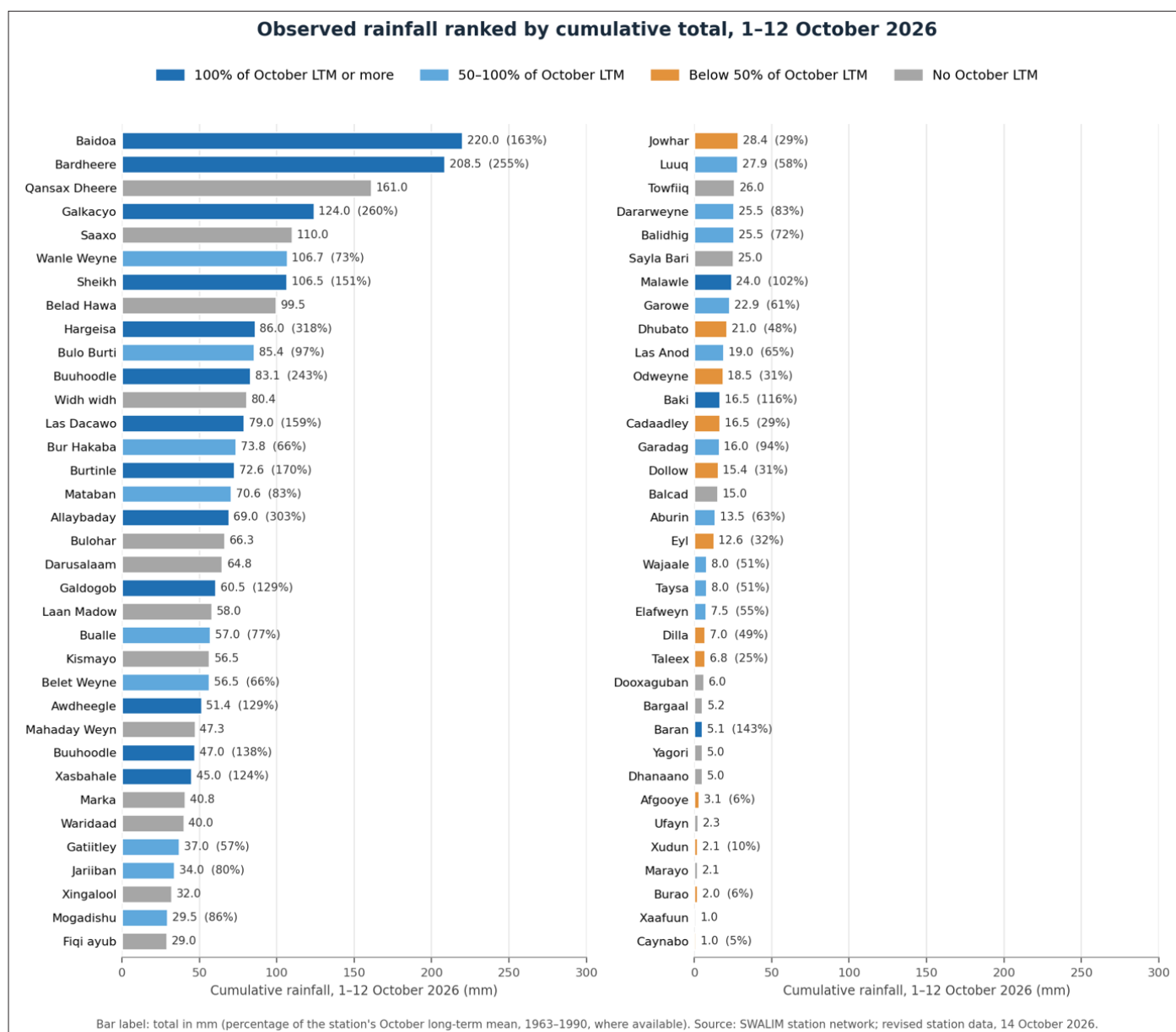


Figure 1: Observed station rainfall, 1–12 October 2026, ranked from highest to lowest; bar colours show the percentage of the October LTM received

Observed River Levels

River levels along the Shabelle and Juba Rivers have generally increased over the past week, although trends vary across monitoring stations. Of particular concern is the Shabelle River at Jowhar, where levels remain above the high flood risk threshold. The rise in upstream stations calls for close monitoring as well.

Along the Juba River, levels have fluctuated, with recent peaks followed by declines at some stations. Continued monitoring is essential to track further changes and assess potential flood risks downstream

Shabelle River:

- Deefow (upstream of Belet Weyne) is rising sharply (2.48 m → 4.21 m this week, +1.73 m). It fell to 2.00 m on 11 October and has since risen 2.21 m in four days, including 0.76 m on 15 October. It is 2.29 m below its moderate threshold (6.50 m).
- The level at Belet Weyne (Figure 1) is rising (4.00 m → 4.90 m this week, +0.90 m). It peaked at 4.66 m on 10 October, fell to 3.60 m on 12 October and has since risen 1.30 m in three days, including 0.50 m today. It is 1.60 m below the moderate flood-risk level (6.50 m), 0.15 m above last year's level on the same date (4.75 m) and 0.17 m above the long-term mean for the date (4.73 m).
- Bulu Burti is rising (3.22 m → 3.70 m this week, +0.48 m), although it has eased by 0.20 m since reaching 3.90 m on 13 October. It is 2.80 m below its moderate threshold (6.50 m) and 0.90 m below last year's level on the same date (4.60 m).
- Jowhar is at high flood risk (4.68 m → 5.36 m this week, +0.68 m). It crossed its moderate level on 12 October (5.17 m) and its high level on 13 October (5.37 m), and has been almost unchanged since (5.38 m on 14 October and 5.36 m today). It is 0.11 m above its high flood-risk level (5.25 m), 0.14 m below bankfull (5.50 m) and 0.76 m above last year's level on the same date (4.60 m).

Drought Evolution and Experienced Impacts

According to Radio Ergo Audience Feedback Report (1–7 October 2026), callers from the south and parts of the north reported the start of the Deyr rains. In Bay, callers in Baidoa, Bur-eyle, Burhakaba and Dinsor reported rain and said crops had been planted. In Lower Shabelle, callers in Barawe and Qoryolley reported rain, and heavy rain was reported at Wanlaweyn on 5 October, in line with the 106.7 mm recorded at Wanle Weyne.

In Middle Shabelle, callers in Jowhar, Towfiq, Karto and Jarirow reported rain, and heavy rain on 5 October caused flooding in Adale. In Lower Juba, callers in Kismayo said water catchments had been refilled and were overflowing, and in Gedo, a caller in Bardera reported continuous rain on 5 October, consistent with the 208.5 mm recorded at Bardheere. In the north, callers in Togdheer, Erigabo and Amaro (Mudug) also reported rain. Callers in Hiraan, Kismayo, Bardera and Dollow expressed concern about El Niño-related floods. Drought, heat and water shortage continued to dominate calls from several areas where the rains had not yet arrived or had been patchy.

Juba River:

- Dollow rose from 2.48 m to 3.64 m this week (+1.16 m). It peaked at 4.46 m on 12 October, only 4 cm below its moderate threshold, fell to 3.14 m on 13 October and has risen 0.50 m in two days since, including 0.38 m today. It is 0.86 m below its moderate threshold (4.50 m) and 0.26 m above last year's level (3.38 m).
- Luuq (Figure 2) rose from 2.36 m to 3.20 m this week (+0.84 m). The peak from Dollow passed Luuq on 13 October (4.12 m), and the level has fallen 0.92 m since then, including 0.12 m today. It is 2.30 m below its moderate threshold (5.50 m), 0.02 m above last year's level (3.18 m) and 0.46 m below the long-term mean for the date (3.66 m).
- Monitoring of the middle and lower Juba at Bardhere, Saako and downstream of Bu'aale relies on the upstream stations at Dollow and Luuq.

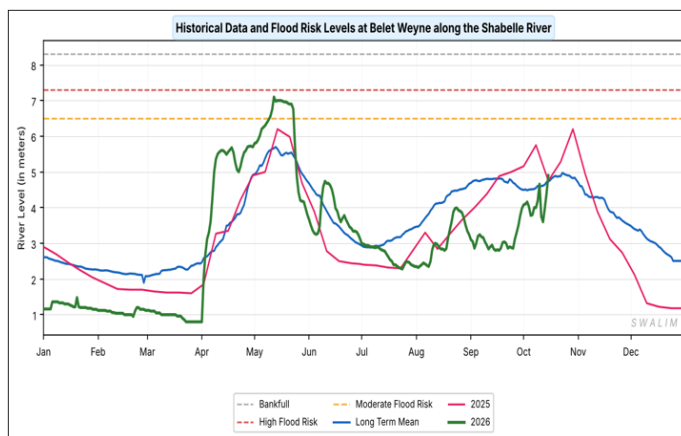


Figure 2: Shabelle River at Belet Weyne — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

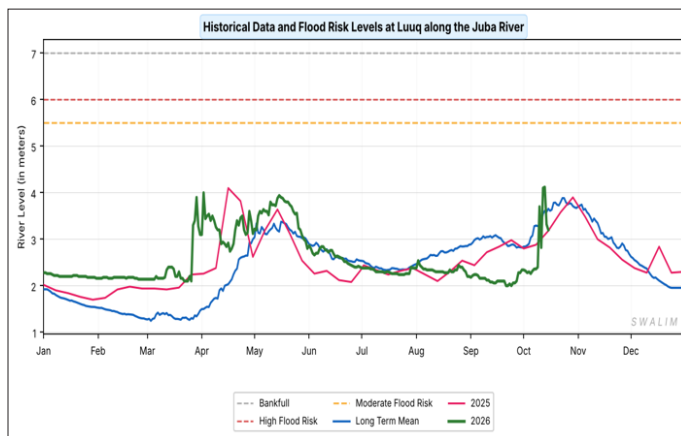


Figure 3: Juba River at Luuq — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

In Galgaduud, callers in Abudwak, Dhusamareb, Balanbale, Guriel, Huurshe and Shiqaley reported drought, with livestock deaths and displacement reported from Shiqaley.

Similar reports came from Harardheere in Mudug, from Badhan and other parts of Sanaag, where livestock are weak, and from Gonyale, where little rain had fallen. In Dollow, callers reported a lack of rain, livestock losses and intense heat. Callers also reported caterpillars and other crop pests in Togdheer, Nugal, Dollow, Kismayo and Raskamboni, and livestock disease in Garbaharey and Galgaduud.

FORECAST — EXPECTED CONDITIONS (15 OCTOBER TO 21 OCTOBER 2026)

Rainfall Forecast

According to NOAA-NCEP GFS model forecasts, moderate rains this week are expected over central and north-eastern Somalia, particularly Mudug, Nugaal, Sool and Galgaduud. Light rains are expected over Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Bakool, Banadir, Sanaag, Bari and Togdheer, with very light rains over parts of Bay and Lower Shabelle. Dry conditions are expected over Gedo, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Awdal and western Woqooyi Galbeed. The spatial variation of the weekly forecast rainfall is as below:

- **Heavy cumulative rainfall of 100–150 mm** is expected over a localized area near the coast in Xarardheere district in Mudug region.
- **Moderate cumulative rainfall of 50–100 mm** is expected over most of Xarardheere district in Mudug region and Burtinle district in Nugaal region, and over about half of Jariiban district in Mudug region. It is also expected over parts of Eyl and Garoowe districts in Nugaal region, Laas Caanood and Taleex districts in Sool region, Ceel Dheer district in Galgaduud region, Gaalkacyo district in Mudug region, Qardho district in Bari region, Adan Yabaal district in Middle Shabelle region and Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region, with localized falls over Belet Weyne and Bulo Burto districts in Hiraan region, Hobyo district in Mudug region, Ceel Buur district in Galgaduud region, Xudun district in Sool region and Bandarbeyla district in Bari region
- **Light cumulative rainfall of 20 mm to 50 mm** is likely over several other areas with 30–50 mm expected to dominate over Ceel Dheer district in Galgaduud region, Taleex and Laas Caanood districts in Sool region, Garoowe and Eyl districts in Nugaal region, and Cadale and Adan Yabaal districts in Middle Shabelle region. It is also expected over parts of Qardho district in Bari region, Gaalkacyo and Jariiban districts in Mudug region and Ceel Buur district in Galgaduud region. Light cumulative rainfall of 20–30 mm is likely over Banadir, Bulo Burto district in Hiraan region, Cadaado and Ceel Buur districts in Galgaduud region, Galdogob district in Mudug region, Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts in Sanaag region, Xudun district in Sool region and Buuhoodle district in Togdheer region.
- **Light cumulative rainfall of 10–20 mm** is expected over most of Jowhar and Balcad districts in Middle Shabelle region, Belet Weyne district in Hiraan region, Wanla Weyn

These reports cover the first week of October, before most of the heavy rain recorded during 6–12 October. Station and satellite data show that Gaalkacyo (124.0 mm) and much of Mudug and Galgaduud have since received well above normal rain, so community reports of drought there are expected to ease in the coming weeks. Dollow (15.4 mm) and Gedo remain comparatively dry.

district in Lower Shabelle region, Ceel Barde, Tayeeglow and Xudur districts in Bakool region, Cabudwaaq and Dhuusamarreeb districts in Galgaduud region, Hobyo district in Mudug region, Bossaso and Bandarbeyla districts in Bari region and Ceel Afweyn district in Sanaag region. (Map: dark green zone)

- **Very light cumulative rainfall of less than 10 mm** is expected over Waajid and Rab Dhuure districts in Bakool region, Baydhaba, Buur Hakaba and Diinsoor districts in Bay region (locally 10–20 mm in Baydhaba and Buur Hakaba), Afgooye district in Lower Shabelle region, Qandala and Iskushuban districts in Bari region, Caynabo district in Sool region and Burco and Owdweyne districts in Togdheer region. Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region is also forecast mainly 5–20 mm, with moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm over parts of the district.
- **Dry conditions** are expected over all of Gedo region (Baardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Doolow, Garbahaarey and Luuq districts), Middle Juba region (Bu'aale, Jilib and Saakow districts), Lower Juba region (Afmadow, Badhaadhe, Jamaame and Kismaayo districts) and Awdal region, Berbera, Gebiley and Hargeysa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Sheikh district in Togdheer region, Qansax Dheere district in Bay region, Baraawe, Kurtunwaarey, Marka, Qoryooley and Sablaale districts in Lower Shabelle region, and Caluula district in Bari region. (Map: white zone)
- **River Catchments (outside Somalia):** Most of the Ethiopian part of the Shabelle catchment is forecast to have dry conditions to very light rainfall (0–10 mm), with light rainfall of 10–20 mm over parts and no area forecast 50 mm or more. Over the Ethiopian part of the Juba catchment, light rainfall of 10–30 mm is forecast over much of the area, with dry to very light conditions over the rest. Moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm, with an isolated area of heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm, is forecast over the Genale–Dawa headwaters in the upper (north-western) part of the catchment, covering only a small part of it. The Kenyan part of the Juba catchment and the Somali reach above Luuq are expected to stay largely dry.



According to the **10-day CHIRPS-GEFS forecast for 14–24 October 2026**, wetter conditions than in the 7-day GFS forecast are expected over southern and central Somalia, particularly along the middle Shabelle posing an upside risk for Jowhar towards the end of the period (22–24 October):

- **Heavy cumulative rainfall of 100–150 mm** is forecast over all of Jowhar and Jalalaqsi districts, most of Wanla Weyn district and about half of Bulo Burto, Cadale and Adan Yabaal districts, with moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm over Belet Weyne district and the rest of Middle Shabelle region. Heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm is also forecast over most of Gaalkacyo and Hobyo districts in Mudug region, with isolated very heavy falls of 150–200 mm in Hobyo and Laas Caanood districts.
- **Moderate cumulative rainfall of 50–100 mm** is forecast over most of Galgaduud and Nugaal regions, Tayeeglow and Xudur districts in Bakool region, Baydhaba and Buur Hakaba districts in Bay region, Afgooye, Qoryooley, Kurtunwaarey and Sablaale districts in Lower Shabelle region and Buuhoodle district in Togdheer region. Gedo, Middle Juba and Lower Juba are forecast light rainfall below 50 mm.
- **River catchments:** the Ethiopian parts of both the Shabelle and Juba catchments are forecast mainly light rainfall of 10–30 mm, with no area of 100 mm or more. Within Somalia, moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm is forecast over Belet Weyne district, increasing to heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm over Bulo Burto and Jalalaqsi districts and the Jowhar catchment.

Climate Drivers:

At the surface, a strong Mascarene High (about 1024 hPa) over the south-western Indian Ocean and the Siberian High (about 1040 hPa) over Asia are in place, with humid air over the Horn of Africa and weak winds over Somalia. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology's weekly Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) index was +0.88°C for the week to 11 October 2026, up from +0.6°C the previous week and well above the +0.4°C positive threshold.

A positive IOD warms the western Indian Ocean next to the Horn of Africa and is one of the strongest drivers of wet Deyr seasons in Somalia. The ECMWF forecast from 14 October shows the Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO) in phase 2 (Indian Ocean) at moderate amplitude. The ensemble mean weakens it towards the centre of the diagram over the coming week, which favours limited MJO support for rainfall during the forecast period. It then strengthens again in phase 3 (Indian Ocean), reaching an amplitude of about 1.8 by around the end of October. Phases 2 and 3 typically enhance rainfall over East Africa, so the MJO points to renewed heavy rains, and rising river inflows, in late October and early November. Confidence in the timing is moderate, as the ensemble spread is wide beyond about two weeks.

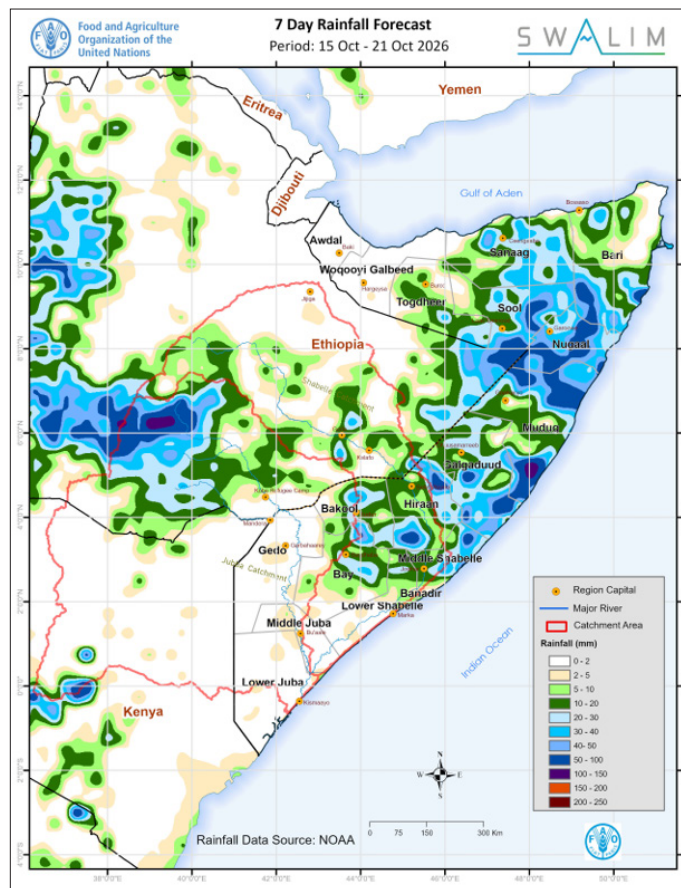


Figure 4: Cumulative rainfall forecast, 15 October to 21 October 2026

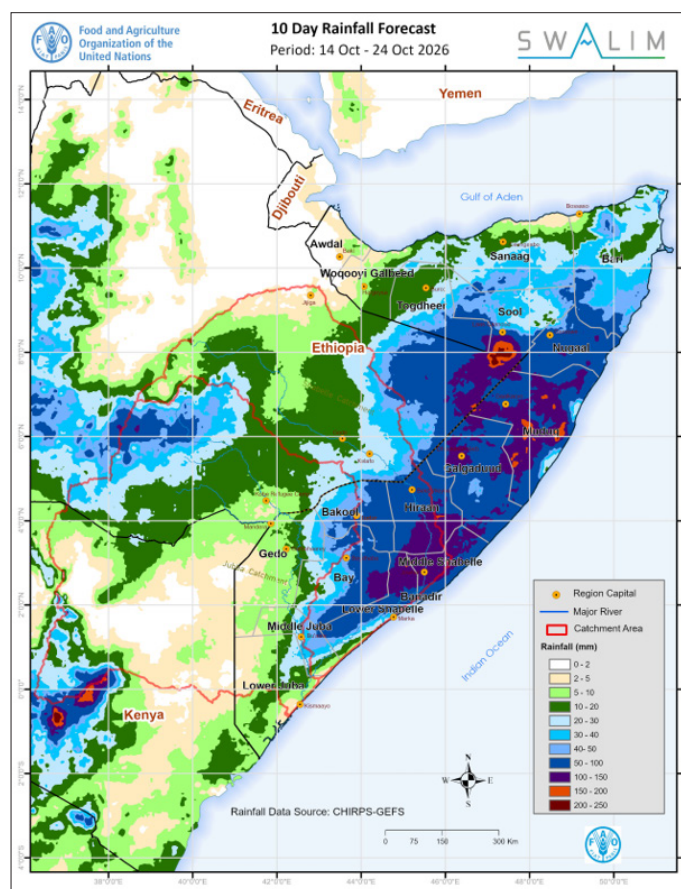


Figure 5: 10-day cumulative rainfall forecast (CHIRPS-GEFS), 14 October to 24 October 2026

Temperature Forecast

Maximum Temperature

Maximum temperatures during 15–21 October 2026 are expected to remain high across most parts of Somalia. The expected spatial variation of maximum temperature is shown in Figure 6 and summarized below:

- **Very high daily maximum temperatures of 40–45°C** are forecast over most of Bu'aale district in Middle Juba region and about half of Sablaale district in Lower Shabelle region, and over parts of Jilib district in Middle Juba region, Afmadow, Badhaadhe and Kismaayo districts in Lower Juba region and a small part of Kurtunwaarey district in Lower Shabelle region.
- **Moderately high daily maximum temperatures of 35–40°C** are expected across all of Gedo region (Bardheere, Belet Xaawo, Ceel Waaq, Doolow, Garbahaarey and Luuq districts), Saakow district and the rest of Bu'aale and Jilib districts in Middle Juba region, most of Afmadow district and the rest of Badhaadhe and Kismaayo districts in Lower Juba region, and most of Kurtunwaarey district and the rest of Sablaale district in Lower Shabelle region. They are also expected over most of Cabudwaaq district and about half of Ceel Buur and Dhuusamarreeb districts in Galgaduud region and about half of Buur Hakaba and Diinsoor districts in Bay region, and over parts of Qansax Dheere district in Bay region, Waajid district in Bakool region, Qoryooley and Baraawe districts in Lower Shabelle region, Jamaame district in Lower Juba region, Buldo Burto district in Hiraan region, Adan Yabaal district in Middle Shabelle region, Iskushuban district in Bari region and Zeylac district in Awdal region, with smaller areas in Belet Weyne, Jowhar, Cadaado, Gaalkacyo, Hobyo, Jariiban and Rab Dhuure districts.
- **High daily maximum temperatures of 30–35°C** are likely over most of central and northern Somalia, including Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Mudug, Nugaal, Sool, Togdheer and Bari regions, Ceel Afweyn district and parts of Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts in Sanaag region, Cadaado and Ceel Dheer districts in Galgaduud region, Baydhaba district in Bay region, Afgooye, Marka, Wanla Weyn and Qoryooley districts in Lower Shabelle region, Jamaame district in Lower Juba region, Berbera and Hargeysa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region and Baki, Lughaye and Zeylac districts in Awdal region.
- **Moderate daily maximum temperatures of 25–30°C** are likely over Banadir, most of Gebiley district in Woqooyi Galbeed region and about half of Borama district in Awdal region, Sheikh district in Togdheer region and Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts in Sanaag region, with smaller parts of Qandala district and the coastal strip of Bossaso district in Bari region, Hargeysa district in Woqooyi Galbeed region and Owdweyne district in Togdheer region.

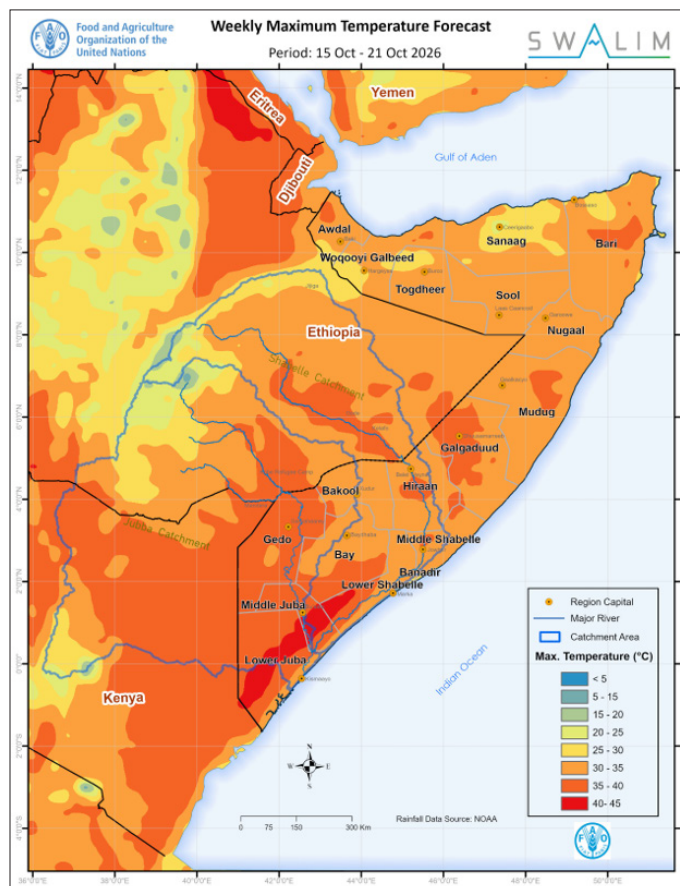


Figure 6: Maximum temperature forecast, 15 October to 21 October 2026

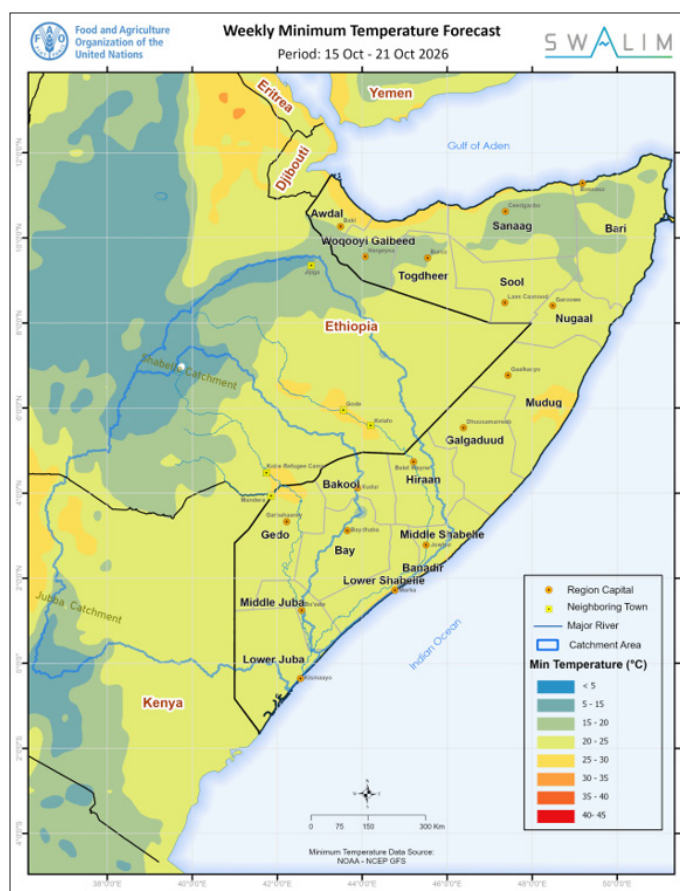


Figure 7: Minimum temperature forecast, 15 October to 21 October 2026

These temperature conditions may increase evapotranspiration, livestock water demand, heat stress and soil moisture loss, especially in areas where rainfall remains light, scattered or poorly distributed.

Minimum Temperature

Minimum temperatures are expected to remain moderately warm across most parts of the country, with relatively warmer night-time conditions likely over Banadir, the Gulf of Aden coast and Doolow district. The expected spatial variation in minimum temperature is shown in Figure 7 and summarized below:

- **High minimum temperatures of 25–30°C** are likely over Banadir, Doolow district in Gedo region and most of Marka district in Lower Shabelle region, over about half of Lughaye and Berbera districts on the Gulf of Aden coast, and over parts of Baki and Zeylac districts in Awdal region, Hobyo district in Mudug region and Luuq district in Gedo region. Warm nights reduce night-time cooling and can intensify heat stress on people and livestock when combined with high daytime temperatures.
- **Moderately high minimum temperatures of 20–25°C** are expected across nearly all of southern and central Somalia, including Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal, Middle Juba and Lower Juba regions, most of Gedo, Lower Shabelle, Sool and Bari regions, and Burco and Buuhoodle districts in Togdheer region, indicating generally warm night-time conditions.

IMPACT OUTLOOK AND ADVISORIES

Flood Risk: Riverine flood risk is high along the middle Shabelle around Jowhar and Balcad. Jowhar has been above its high flood-risk level since 13 October and stood at 5.36 m today, 0.14 m below bankfull. A new rise is moving downstream: Deefow has risen 2.21 m in four days and Belet Weyne 1.30 m in three days, including 0.76 m and 0.50 m today. This water is expected to reach Buloburti and Jalalaqsi in the coming days and Jowhar later in the week, making it likely that Jowhar will reach bankfull (5.50 m) during the forecast period. Flooding through the open river breakages between Jowhar and Balcad is likely to continue and to spread into nearby farms and villages. Belet Weyne and Buloburti will rise further but are expected to stay below their moderate flood-risk levels this week; given the rate of rise, they should be watched daily. With only light rainfall (10–30 mm) forecast over Hiraan and Middle Shabelle and mostly 0–10 mm over the Ethiopian Shabelle catchment in the 7-day forecast, upstream inflows are expected to level off after this rise.

However, the 10-day CHIRPS-GEFS forecast indicates heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm over Buloburto, Jalalaqsi and the Jowhar catchment by 24 October. If this materializes, local runoff would add to river flows while Jowhar is at or near bankfull, raising the risk of overbank flooding in Jowhar and Balcad districts towards the end of the period (22–24 October).

On the Juba, flood risk is low to moderate. The peak that brought Dollow within 4 cm of its moderate level on 12 October has passed Luuq and is moving through Bardhere towards Saakow, Bu'aale, Jilib and Jamaame, where there are no operational gauges and where low-lying riverbanks, farms and canal

- **Moderate minimum temperatures of 15–20°C** are mainly indicated over the northern highlands, over most of Hargeysa, Borama and Gebiley districts, Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts in Sanaag region, Qandala district in Bari region and Sheikh district in Togdheer region, about half of Bossaso and Owdweyne districts, and parts of Ceel Afweyn, Qardho, Taleex and Baki districts.

Daytime maxima of 35–45°C with warm nights of 20–25°C over Middle Juba, Lower Juba and Gedo coincide with dry conditions (0–2 mm) and with mild to moderate drought in Bu'aale, Badhaadhe and Kismaayo. This is expected to keep heat stress high and to dry out surface water quickly there.

intakes remain exposed. Dollow has started rising again (+0.50 m in two days to 3.64 m). Moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm, with an isolated area of 100–150 mm, over the Genale–Dawa headwaters is expected to sustain this rise at Dollow and Luuq during the week. Dollow is not expected to reach its moderate level (4.50 m), as the rest of the Ethiopian catchment is forecast mainly light rainfall, but it should be watched daily.

Moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm over Xarardheere, Burtinle and Jariiban districts, with localized heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm near the coast in Xarardheere district, brings a risk of flash flooding along seasonal watercourses (togga) and in low-lying settlements and displacement sites in Mudug and Nugaal. The 10-day forecast extends this risk to Galgaduud and to Gaalkacyo and Hobyo districts, where heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm is indicated.

Drought and Water Stress: Drought and water stress are expected to ease further over central and north-eastern Somalia, where moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm is forecast over parts of Mudug, Nugaal, Sool and Galgaduud. These are the areas where callers reported drought, livestock deaths and displacement in early October, including Harardheere, Abudwak, Dhusamareb and Shiqaley. The rains are also expected to replenish water sources in Sanaag, where 20–30 mm is forecast over Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts. Water stress is expected to persist where dry conditions are forecast: along the Awdal coast (Lughaye, Zeylac and Baki), where drought was extreme in September; in Gedo, including Doolow, where callers reported a lack of rain and livestock losses;



and in the Juba valley and Lower Juba (Bu'aale, Afmadow, Badhaadhe and Kismaayo), where drought was mild to moderate in September. In the north-west, Hargeysa and Sheikh, which received heavy rain last week, are forecast dry conditions.

Heat Stress: Daytime maxima of 40–45°C are forecast over most of Bu'aale district, about half of Sablaale district and parts of Jilib, Afmadow, Badhaadhe and Kismaayo districts, with 35–40°C over all of Gedo, Saakow and Kurtunwaarey, and warm nights of 20–25°C. Combined with dry conditions, this heat is expected to speed up the drying of surface water and pasture and to increase human and livestock water demand in the Juba valley and Gedo. Warm nights of 25–30°C on the Gulf of Aden coast, in Banadir and in Doolow add to the heat load there. In central and northern Somalia, maxima are expected to stay mainly at 30–35°C.

Agriculture and Food Security: The good rains in Bay (Baidoa, Buur Hakaba, Qansax Dheere), Gedo (Bardheere), Lower Shabelle (Wanle Weyne, Awdheegle) and Hiraan (Bulo Burti) have supported planting in the agropastoral belt. Callers in Bay confirmed that crops have been planted. This week's very light to light rainfall (2–20 mm) over Bay allows weeding and field work, while soil moisture from earlier heavy rain should sustain crop establishment. Riverine farms in the Jowhar–Balcad reach are at high risk of flooding, and riverine farms along the middle and lower Juba are exposed as the Dollow peak moves downstream. In Gedo and the Juba valley, the dry and hot forecast may stress newly sown crops and delay planting. Caterpillars and other crop pests reported in Togdheer, Nugal, Dollow, Kismayo and Raskamboni should be monitored as crops emerge.

Livestock and Rangeland: Pasture and water are expected to regenerate across Mudug, Nugaal, Galgaduud and Sool, where moderate rainfall is forecast after reports of livestock deaths in early October. In the north-west, last week's heavy rain around Hargeisa and Sheikh is expected to support pasture growth. Conditions are likely to remain stressed in Gedo, the Juba valley, Lower Juba and the Awdal coast.

Advisory Recommendations

- **For riverine communities and authorities in Jowhar and Balcad (Middle Shabelle):** Jowhar is above its high flood-risk level and is likely to reach bankfull this week as a new rise arrives from upstream, and the 10-day forecast indicates heavy local rainfall towards 22–24 October. Flood contingency and evacuation plans should remain active, and early evacuation of the most exposed riverside households should be prepared. Authorities and communities are advised to close open river breakages and reinforce weak riverbanks with sandbags where available, to move livestock, food stocks and valuables to higher ground, and to keep children away from the river. River-level updates should be followed daily.
- **For JOSP implementing partners (Jowhar and Balcad):** Teams are advised to move equipment and materials away from the river, to avoid working on exposed embankments while levels are high, and to inspect reinforced embankment sections daily. Any operation of intakes, outlets or diversion structures should be coordinated with SWALIM river-level updates.
- **For riverine communities along the rest of the Shabelle (Belet Weyne, Bulo Burti and Jalalaqsi):** Levels are rising quickly at Deefow and Belet Weyne but are expected to stay below the moderate flood-risk level this week. Communities are advised to follow river-level updates daily and to keep contingency plans on standby.

Livestock disease has been reported in Garbaharey and Galgaduud, and with surface water expanding during a wet, El Niño-influenced Deyr, vector-borne diseases, including Rift Valley fever, should be watched closely.

Fisheries and Coastal Areas: The Lower Juba coast, including the Kismaayo, Badhaadhe and Jamaame fishing communities and the Bajuni islands, is forecast dry conditions (0–2 mm), with daytime maxima of 35–40°C, locally 40–45°C inland in Kismaayo and Badhaadhe districts. The heat will shorten the time catch can be kept fresh without ice, shade or rapid processing, and island communities that depend on rainwater harvesting will have to rely on the water stored after the early October rains. The Juba peak that passed Dollow and Luuq on 12–13 October is expected to raise river flows into the lower Juba over the coming week, bringing more turbid, sediment-laden water and floating debris near the river mouth at Goobweyn and the Kismaayo coast. That could affect near-shore fishing grounds, small boats and fishing camps on low-lying river banks in Jamaame and Kismaayo districts. Along the central coast, moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm, locally heavy (100–150 mm), near Xarardheere may cause flash flooding of coastal settlements and fishing camps and bring turbid runoff into near-shore waters.

Ongoing Projects: The Jowhar Offstream Storage Programme (JOSP), implemented by the Federal Government of Somalia with FAO and partners in the Jowhar and Balcad districts of Middle Shabelle, is restoring the Jowhar offstream reservoir, river embankments, the barrage and the irrigation canal network to reduce flood and drought risk. With Jowhar above its high flood-risk level, 0.14 m below bankfull, a new rise on its way from Belet Weyne and heavy rainfall indicated by the 10-day forecast towards 22–24 October, embankment sections and construction sites close to the river are exposed to high river flows. Embankment reinforcement works, materials and equipment stored near the river channel, and canal intakes and outlets are at particular risk. Work on exposed embankments should be avoided until levels fall.

- **For riverine communities along the Juba (Dollow, Luuq, Bardhere, Saakow, Bu'aale, Jilib and Jamaame):** The peak from 12–13 October is moving downstream, and Dollow has started rising again. Livestock, food stocks, seed and farm equipment should be kept away from the riverbanks, and weak riverbanks and canal intakes should be checked and reinforced. Because there are no operational gauges at Bardhere and Bu'aale, communities downstream should follow the Dollow and Luuq readings and SWALIM advisories closely.
- **For communities in Mudug, Nugaal and Galgaduud (Xarardheere, Burtinle, Jariiban, Ceel Dheer, Gaalkacyo, Hobyo and Garoowe):** Moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm, locally heavy, is forecast. Communities should not cross flowing togga or shelter in dry riverbeds, and displacement sites should be protected from flooding. Herders are advised to protect weak animals from cold, wet conditions and to make use of the rains to harvest water.
- **For fishing communities and island residents in Lower Juba (Kismaayo, Badhaadhe, Jamaame and the Bajuni islands):** Fishers are advised to land and process catch early in the day and to use ice, shade, salting or drying to limit spoilage in the heat. Boats, gear and fishing camps should be moved away from low-lying banks near the Juba mouth as river flows rise. Island residents are advised to conserve stored rainwater.
- **For farmers in Bay, Bakool, Hiraan and Lower Shabelle:** Farmers are advised to use the lighter rains this week for weeding and to complete planting, avoiding low-lying riverbank land. Crop pests should be reported to agricultural extension services.
- **For WASH and health actors:** Water support should continue in Gedo, the Juba valley, Lower Juba and on the Awdal coast, where dry conditions are forecast. Malaria prevention, safe drinking water in flood-affected areas around Jowhar and Balcad, and livestock disease surveillance should be scaled up.

Key Operational Message

Jowhar on the middle Shabelle is above its high flood-risk level and is likely to reach bankfull this week as a new rise from Deefow and Belet Weyne arrives, so flooding through breakages between Jowhar and Balcad is likely to continue. The 10-day forecast indicates heavy rainfall of 100–150 mm over Bulo Burto, Jalalaqsi and Jowhar towards 22–24 October, which would raise the flood risk further. Flood contingency and evacuation plans, including protection of JOSP works, should remain active there. On the Juba, Dollow is rising again after the 12 October peak moved downstream to Bardhere and Bu'aale, which have no operational gauges. This week's heaviest rains fall over Mudug, Nugaal and Galgaduud, easing drought but bringing a flash flood risk. Gedo, the Juba valley and Lower Juba remain dry and hot and need continued water support. River levels will continue to be monitored daily, and river advisories will be issued as conditions evolve.

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