Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Somalia Water and Land Information Management

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 28 Oct - 03 Nov 2026

Review Summary:

- **Lighter rains in the south, moderate falls in the north.** During 20–26 October, Fiqi Ayub recorded 103.0 mm, Caynabo 93.5 mm, Dararweyne 84.0 mm, Xaafuun 72.4 mm and Bandarbeyla 59.0 mm, while southern stations received 41 mm or less. Satellite estimates (IMERG, 21–27 October) indicate more than 40 mm over Diinsoor, Saakow and Afmadow districts, where no rain gauges reported.
- **By 26 October, 42 stations with a long-term record had reached or exceeded their October normal,** including Baidoa (381.0 mm, 282%), Mataban (333.4 mm, 394%), Galkacyo (253.5 mm, 532%) and Bandarbeyla (62.2 mm, 397%). Burao (26%), Borama (27%) and Qardho (16%) remain far below normal.
- **Belet Weyne is above its moderate flood-risk level.** Belet Weyne rose above 6.50 m on 26 October and stood at 6.70 m today, with the daily rise slowing to 0.06 m. Deefow peaked at 6.96 m on 27 October. Bulo Burti rose 0.56 m to 5.56 m, Jowhar has stayed at about 4.28 m since 24 October, and the Juba has started to rise again at Dollow and Luuq.
- **Radio Ergo callers (15–21 October)** reported floods and displacement in Jowhar, Cadale, Baidoa and Bardheere and flooded homes in Dabare and Cabudwaaq (Galgaduud). Drought continued around Tala-bur (Togdheer), Garasweyne (Bakool), Busley (Lower Shabelle) and Boholgaras (Gedo).

Forecast Highlights:

- **Mostly very light to light rains in the south.** Light rainfall of 10–30 mm is forecast over parts of Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Hiraan and Middle Juba, with up to 30–50 mm over a small area of Diinsoor district.
- **Dry conditions in the north and centre.** Dry conditions are expected over Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, Sool, Bari, Nugaal, most of Mudug and northern Galgaduud.
- **Little rain over the Ethiopian catchments.** Dry conditions are forecast over the upper Shabelle catchment, with very light to light rains over its middle part and over the Juba catchment.
- **Belet Weyne is likely to reach its peak this week** and remain near or above its moderate flood-risk level (6.50 m) for the next few days. Bulo Burti is likely to keep rising, and riverine farms between Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti remain at risk of flooding.
- **Hot conditions in the south.** Daytime maxima of 35–40°C are forecast over Gedo, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, most of Lower Shabelle and southern Bay, with warm nights of 25–30°C over Doolow and along the southern coast.

REVIEW — OBSERVED CONDITIONS AND EXPERIENCED IMPACTS

Observed Rainfall Conditions

Weekly rainfall (20–26 October 2026):

Rainfall decreased over most of the south during the week, while moderate falls continued in parts of the north. Fiqi Ayub in Togdheer recorded the highest weekly total (103.0 mm in 3 rainy days), followed by Caynabo (93.5 mm), Dararweyne (84.0 mm in one day), Xaafuun (72.4 mm in 6 days), Malawle and Towfiiq (64.0 mm each), Bandarbeyla (59.0 mm in 5 days), Alula (54.3 mm) and Las Dacawo (44.0 mm). In the south, Mataban recorded 40.9 mm, Dollow 32.9 mm, Wanle Weyne 32.0 mm, Jowhar 24.0 mm, Balcad 23.4 mm, Afgooye 16.2 mm and Qansax Dheere 14.6 mm, while Belet Weyne (7.0 mm), Bulo Burti (3.9 mm), Baidoa (3.5 mm) and Bualle (1.0 mm) were mostly dry.

In areas where no rain gauges reported, satellite rainfall estimates (IMERG) for 21–27 October, the latest seven-day period available and one day later than the station week, indicate district totals of more than 40 mm over Diinsoor district in Bay region (62 mm), Saakow district in Middle Juba region (59 mm) and Afmadow district in Lower Juba region (42 mm), and 20–30 mm over Ceel Buur (31 mm) and Ceel Dheer (28 mm) districts in Galgaduud region, Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region (29 mm), Sablaale district in Lower Shabelle region (25 mm), Cadale district in Middle Shabelle region (22 mm) and Garbahaarey district in Gedo region (21 mm).

Deyr 2026 rainfall performance to date (1–26 October):

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 1–26 October are ranked in Figure 1, with bar colours showing the percentage of the October LTM received. Stations are grouped below in the same classes as Figure 1: at or above 100%, 50–100% and below 50% of the October LTM.

Where two stations share the same name, they are shown as (1) and (2).

The October normal has already been reached or exceeded in the following stations: Caynabo 243.5 mm (1141% of October; 967% of Deyr), Buuhoodle (2) 253.3 mm (742%; 627%), Las Anod 191.5 mm (656%; 472%), Garadag 111.5 mm (653%; 510%), Galkacyo 253.5 mm (532%; 390%), Beer 109.5 mm (453%; 391%), Galdogob 207.8 mm (443%; 347%), Bandarbeyla 62.2 mm (397%; 155%), Mataban 333.4 mm (394%; 275%), Balidhig 135.5 mm (381%; 336%), Malawle 88.0 mm (375%; 281%), Dararweyne 109.5 mm (358%; 252%), Gacan-libah 93.0 mm (344%; 257%), Hargeisa 91.0 mm (337%; 252%), Burtinle 139.3 mm (326%; 234%), Allaybaday 69.0 mm (303%; 223%), Buuhoodle (1) 103.0 mm (302%; 255%), Taleex 80.5 mm (298%; 238%), Baidoa 381.0 mm (282%; 165%), Bardheere 221.5 mm (271%; 103%), Las Dacawo 123.0 mm (247%; 152%), Xudun (2) 46.7 mm (212%; 158%), Sheikh 144.5 mm (205%; 131%), Xasbahale 73.0 mm (201%; 154%), Dollow 98.3 mm (200%; 123%), Geed Deeble 38.0 mm (191%; 131%), Xudun (1) 38.0 mm (172%; 128%), Bulo Burti 131.1 mm (149%; 85%), Awdheegle 58.9 mm (148%; 38%), Taysa 23.0 mm (147%; 97%), Gebiley 23.0 mm (147%; 88%), Wanle Weyne 214.6 mm (147%; 75%), Elafweyn 17.5 mm (129%; 90%), Jowhar 123.0 mm (126%; 63%), Jariiban 53.0 mm (124%; 78%), Aburin 25.5 mm (119%; 88%), Baki 16.5 mm (116%; 74%), Eyl 43.6 mm (109%; 73%) and Garowe 39.6 mm (105%; 78%). The October normal is also exceeded at Bali Dhiddin 14.6 mm (1026%; 139%), Baran (2) 13.4 mm (377%; 181%) and Baran (1) 10.0 mm (281%; 135%), where the October normal is less than 4 mm. Baidoa, Mataban, Bardheere, Dollow, Bandarbeyla and Sheikh, most of the stations in Sool, Togdheer and Mudug, and Hargeisa, Malawle, Dararweyne, Gacan-libah, Allaybaday and Las Dacawo in Woqooyi Galbeed have already received more than their full Deyr normal.

The rains received in the following stations represent between 50% and 100% of the October normal: Belet Weyne 81.9 mm (96%; 62%), Cadaadley 51.5 mm (92%; 62%), Bualle 64.5 mm (87%; 40%), Mogadishu 29.5 mm (86%; 25%), Dhahar (2) 18.1 mm (85%; 71%), Afgooye 39.6 mm (82%; 21%), Odweyne 46.5 mm (79%; 57%), Gatiitley 45.0 mm (70%; 49%), Botor 10.0 mm (70%; 43%), Bur Hakaba 73.8 mm (66%; 43%), Luuq 27.9 mm (58%; 25%) and Wajaale 8.0 mm (51%; 31%).

Rainfall remains below 50% of the October normal at Dilla 7.0 mm (49%; 28%), Dhubato 21.0 mm (48%; 33%), Borama 5.0 mm (27%; 16%), Burao 8.0 mm (26%; 21%), Qardho 4.0 mm (16%; 13%) and Dhahar (1) 2.0 mm (9%; 8%).

Stations without a long-term record, which are not classified against a normal, also recorded high totals, including Laan Madow (292.7 mm), Darusalaam (186.3 mm), Qansax Dheere (184.3 mm), Saaxo (170.0 mm), Widh Widh (166.4 mm), Fiqi Ayub (132.0 mm), Murcaanyo (123.9 mm), Towfiiq (120.5 mm), Balcad (109.1 mm), Belad Hawa (105.4 mm), Bulohar (103.3 mm) and Kismayo (99.4 mm).

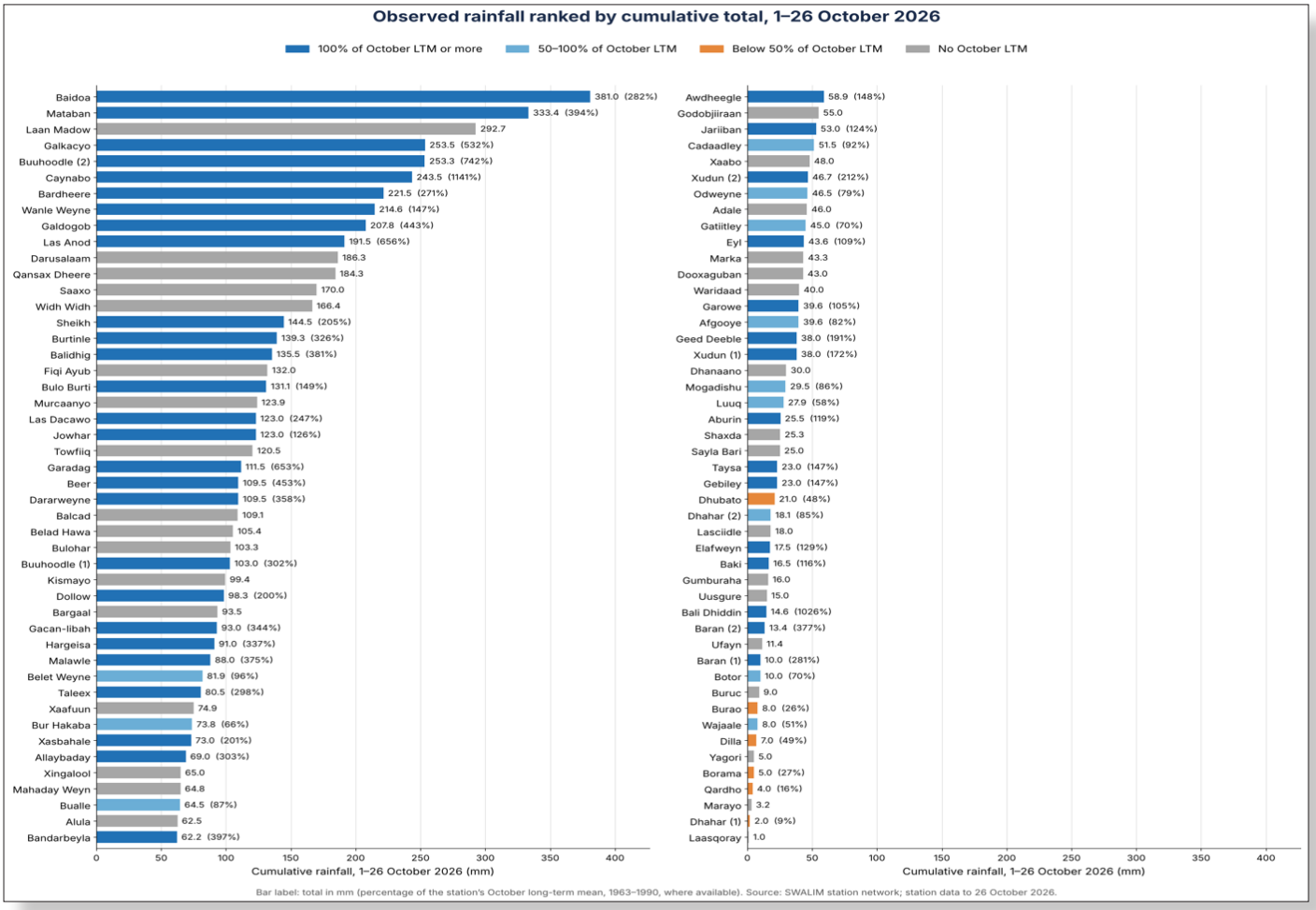


Figure 1: Observed station rainfall, 1–26 October 2026, ranked from highest to lowest; bar colours show the percentage of the October LTM received

Observed River Levels

On the Shabelle River, the rise in river levels from the Ethiopian highlands has reached Belet Weyne, which rose above its moderate flood-risk level on 26 October. The rise at Deefow upstream peaked on 27 October and the daily rise at Belet Weyne is slowing, indicating that Belet Weyne is close to its peak. Bulo Burti continues to rise steadily, while Jowhar has remained at about 4.28 m since 24 October. Satellite rainfall estimates (IMERG) indicate an average of 25.4 mm over the catchment upstream of Belet Weyne during 21–27 October.

On the Juba River, levels fell until 25–26 October and have started to rise again at Dollow and Luuq, but remain well below moderate flood-risk levels. Satellite rainfall estimates indicate an average of 44.7 mm over the catchment upstream of Dollow during the same period.

Shabelle River:

- **Deefow** (upstream of Belet Weyne) rose by 1.43 m, from 5.53 m on 21 October to a peak of 6.96 m on 27 October, and stood at 6.93 m today.
- **The level at Belet Weyne** (Figure 2) rose by 0.82 m this week, from 5.88 m on 21 October to 6.70 m today. It rose above the moderate flood-risk level on 26 October (6.56 m), and the daily rise has slowed from 0.19 m on 24 October to 0.06 m today. It is 0.20 m above the moderate flood-risk level (6.50 m) and 0.60 m below the high flood-risk level (7.30 m), 0.56 m above last year's level on the same date (6.14 m) and 1.85 m above the long-term mean (4.85 m).
- **Bulo Burti** rose steadily by 0.56 m this week, from 5.00 m on 21 October to 5.56 m today, including 0.12 m in the last 24 hours. It is 0.94 m below its moderate threshold (6.50 m) and 0.76 m above last year's level on the same date (4.80 m).
- **Jowhar** fell slightly by 0.11 m this week, from 4.39 m on 21 October to 4.28 m today, and has remained at about 4.28 m since 24 October. It is 0.72 m below its moderate flood-risk level (5.00 m) and 0.37 m below last year's level on the same date (4.65 m).
- Monitoring of the lower Shabelle at Mahaday Weyne, Balcad, Afgooye and Audegle relies on the upstream stations at Belet Weyne, Bulo Burti and Jowhar.

Juba River:

- **Dollow** rose by 0.16 m this week, from 3.08 m on 21 October to 3.24 m today. It fell to 2.76 m on 25 October and has since risen 0.48 m. It is 1.26 m below its moderate threshold (4.50 m) and 0.72 m below last year's level on the same date (3.96 m).
- **Luuq** (Figure 3) rose by 0.30 m this week, from 3.02 m on 21 October to 3.32 m today. It fell to 2.78 m on 26 October and has since risen 0.54 m, including 0.44 m today. It is 2.18 m below its moderate threshold (5.50 m), 0.64 m below last year's level (3.96 m) and 0.45 m below the long-term mean (3.77 m).
- Monitoring of the middle and lower Juba at Bardheere, Saakow and downstream of Bu'aale relies on the upstream stations at Dollow and Luuq.

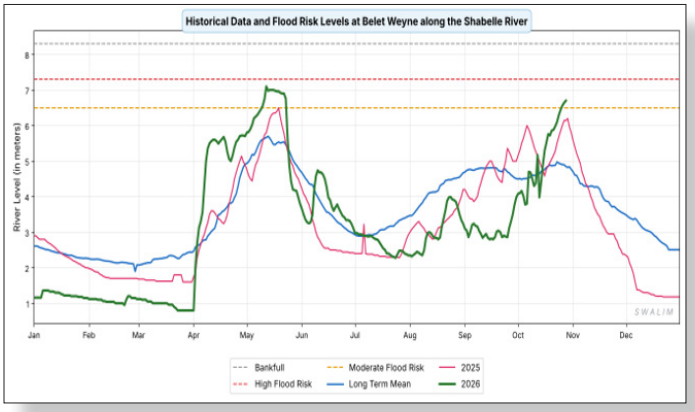


Figure 2: Shabelle River at Belet Weyne — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

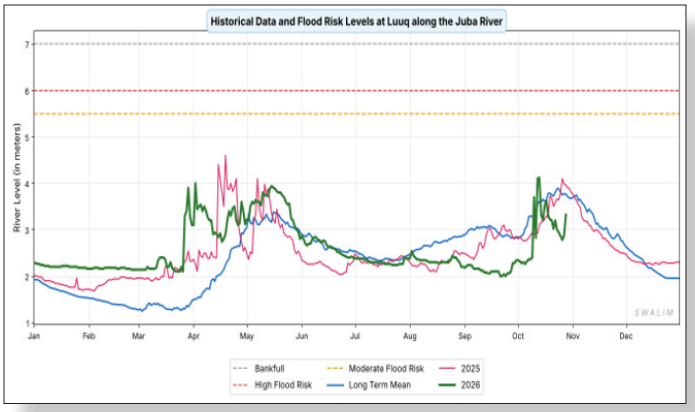


Figure 3: Juba River at Luuq — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

Experienced Impacts

According to Radio Ergo Audience Feedback Report (15–21 October 2026), the latest report available, which covers the week before the station rainfall week, rainfall brought widespread benefits but also flooding and displacement. In Middle Shabelle, callers in Jowhar reported floods that destroyed property in the town, flooded markets and neighbourhoods and left displaced families and IDPs in need of urgent help, and a caller in Cadale reported floods and displacement.

In Galgaduud, heavy rain on the night of 17 October flooded homes in Dabare, west of Ceel Buur, and houses and latrines were flooded in Cabudwaaq. Floods were also reported in Baidoa, where IDPs asked for plastic shelters and food aid, and in Bardheere in Gedo, where callers feared further flooding. A caller in Balcad reported the Shabelle rising.

Beneficial rains were reported across most of the country, including Buuhoodle, Hargeisa, Ceerigaabo, Hingalol and Las Anod in the north, Amaro, Dagari and Jariiban in Mudug, Cabudwaaq, Bahdo and Guriel in Galgaduud, Belet Weyne, Jowhar and Balcad, Baidoa, where one caller described the heaviest rainfall in a long time, Tayeeglow, where a caller reported harvesting farm produce, and Bardheere, Belet Xaawo, Dollow and Kismayo. Callers in Mudug and Galgaduud said livestock had recovered from the drought. At the same time, drought continued around Tala-bur near Burao in Togdheer, where livestock lack fodder and water and are affected by CCPP, in Garasweyne in Bakool, in Busley village in Lower Shabelle, which has had no rain this year, and in Boholgaras in Gedo. Callers also reported crop pests in Jowhar, Baidoa, Saakow, Bardheere and Wararey, crop diseases in Leego, and a caller in Jilib reported a disease affecting the mouths of young camels.

The rains received since 1 October continue to ease drought conditions over most of Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Galgaduud, Mudug, Nugaal, Sool, Togdheer and Woqooyi Galbeed, where most stations have exceeded their October normal.

Bandarbeyla in Bari, which had received only 20% of its October normal by 19 October, recorded 59.0 mm this week and has now exceeded it.

Drought conditions are likely to persist over Burao district in Togdheer, Qardho district in Bari and Borama district in Awdal, where rainfall since 1 October remains below 30% of the October normal, and callers reported continuing drought around Tala-bur in Burao district.

FORECAST — EXPECTED CONDITIONS (28 OCTOBER TO 3 NOVEMBER 2026)

Rainfall Forecast

According to NOAA-NCEP GFS model forecasts, very light to light rains are expected this week over parts of southern Somalia, mainly over Bay, Bakool, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Hiraan and Middle Juba, while dry conditions are expected over the northern regions, Nugaal, most of Mudug and northern Galgaduud, and over parts of Gedo and Lower Juba. No moderate or heavier rainfall is forecast within Somalia. The expected rainfall distribution is shown in Figure 4 and summarized below:

- **Light cumulative rainfall of 10–50 mm** is expected over parts of southern Somalia, with 10–20 mm dominating over Kurtunwaarey and Qoryooley districts in Lower Shabelle region, Qansax Dheere, Buur Hakaba and Diinsoor districts in Bay region, Tayeeglow district in Bakool region, Bu'aale district in Middle Juba region and Ceel Dheer district in Galgaduud region, and over about a third of Ceel Barde district in Bakool region, Ceel Waaq district in Gedo region, Adan Yabaal and Cadale districts in Middle Shabelle region, Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region, Jilib district in Middle Juba region and Sablaale district in Lower Shabelle region. Light rainfall of 20–30 mm is expected over parts of Qansax Dheere and Diinsoor districts in Bay region, Tayeeglow district in Bakool region and Sablaale and Qoryooley districts in Lower Shabelle region, with up to 30–50 mm over a small area of Diinsoor district.
- **Very light cumulative rainfall of 2–10 mm** is expected over most of Baydhaba district in Bay region, Waajid and Xudur districts in Bakool region, Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region, Jowhar, Cadale and Adan Yabaal districts in Middle Shabelle region, Afgooye and Baraawe districts in Lower Shabelle region, Banadir, Baardheere district in Gedo region, Saakow and Jilib districts in Middle Juba region, Afmadow district in Lower Juba region, Cabudwaaq district in Galgaduud region and Galdogob district in Mudug region, and over about half of Bulo Burto district in Hiraan region, Wanla Weyn district in Lower Shabelle region, Garbahaarey and Luuq districts in Gedo region, Rab Dhuure district in Bakool region and Ceel Buur district in Galgaduud region.
- **Dry conditions (0–2 mm)** are expected over all of Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Sanaag and Nugaal regions, nearly all of Sool and Bari regions, most of Togdheer region, Gaalkacyo, Hobyo, Jariiban and Xarardheere districts in Mudug region, Dhuusamarreeb and Cadaado districts in Galgaduud region, most of Belet Weyne district in Hiraan region, Balcad district in Middle Shabelle region, Belet Xaawo district in Gedo region and Kismaayo district in Lower Juba region, and over about half of Doolow district in Gedo region and Badhaadhe and Jamaame districts in Lower Juba region.
- **River Catchments (outside Somalia):** Dry conditions are forecast over the upper Shabelle catchment in Ethiopia, including the headwaters south of Jijiga, with very light to light rainfall of 2–20 mm over the middle part of the catchment and a small area of 20–30 mm north-west of Gode. The mean forecast over the catchment upstream of Belet Weyne is 3.4 mm. Over the Ethiopian part of the Juba catchment, very light to light rainfall of 2–20 mm is forecast over most areas, with 20–30 mm around Kobe and Mandera near the Somalia border; the mean forecast above Dollow is 6.4 mm.
- **10-day outlook (CHIRPS-GEFS, 28 October to 7 November 2026):** The 10-day forecast indicates wetter conditions over the far south, with light rainfall of 20–50 mm over most of Middle Juba, Lower Juba (Afmadow, Badhaadhe and Kismaayo), Lower Shabelle (Sablaale, Afgooye and Wanla Weyn), Bay, Baardheere district and the lower Shabelle valley around Jowhar and Balcad, and moderate rainfall of 50–100 mm over small parts of Bu'aale and Afmadow districts. Dry conditions are expected to continue over the north, Nugaal, Mudug, northern Galgaduud and most of the Ethiopian Shabelle and Juba catchments. The 10-day forecast comes from a different model (CHIRPS-GEFS) and extends four days beyond the 7-day GFS period, so its higher totals over the far south partly reflect rainfall expected after 3 November.

Climate Drivers:

El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO): A strong El Niño is under way. El Niño is an unusual warming of the sea surface in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean, and its strength is measured by the Niño-3.4 index, the difference between the current sea surface temperature in that part of the Pacific and its long-term average. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology's relative Niño-3.4 index, which allows for the general warming of the tropical oceans, reached +2.88°C for the week ending 25 October, the highest weekly value since the Bureau's weekly dataset began in 2008. All models assessed by the Bureau expect El Niño to peak around November–December and to remain above El Niño thresholds until around March–May 2027. El Niño usually brings above-normal Deyr rainfall to most of Somalia.

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD): A positive IOD is now under way. The Bureau of Meteorology's weekly IOD index was +0.69°C for the week ending 25 October, the seventh consecutive week above the +0.4°C threshold, and the positive IOD is expected to continue until about the end of November before returning to neutral in December. Together with El Niño, a positive IOD warms the western Indian Ocean and favours above-normal rainfall over the Horn of Africa for the rest of the Deyr season.

Madden–Julian Oscillation (MJO): The ECMWF forecast from 27 October keeps the MJO over the Indian Ocean (phases 2 and 3) with weak to moderate amplitude over the next two weeks, and the Bureau of Meteorology's ACCESS-S2 forecast from 26 October shows it moving through phases 2 and 3 towards the Maritime Continent by mid-November. An MJO over the Indian Ocean normally favours enhanced rainfall over East Africa, although the forecasts for this week show only very light to light rains over southern Somalia.

Temperature Forecast

Maximum Temperatures:

Maximum temperatures during 28 October–3 November 2026 are expected to remain high across most parts of Somalia, with the highest values over the south. The expected spatial variation of maximum temperature is shown in Figure 5 and summarized below:

- **High daily maximum temperatures of 35–40°C** are expected over all of Doolow and Luuq districts and most of Baardheere and Garbahaarey districts in Gedo region, all of Saakow and Bu'aale districts and most of Jilib district in Middle Juba region, all of Afmadow district and most of Badhaadhe and Kismaayo districts in Lower Juba region, all of Sablaale district and most of Kurtunwaarey, Qoryooley, Wanla Weyn and Afgooye districts in Lower Shabelle region, all of Jalalaqsi district in Hiraan region, most of Jowhar district in Middle Shabelle region, most of Buur Hakaba and Diinsoor districts in Bay region and most of Rab Dhuure district in Bakool region, and over about a third of Qansax Dheere, Bulo Burto and Jamaame districts.

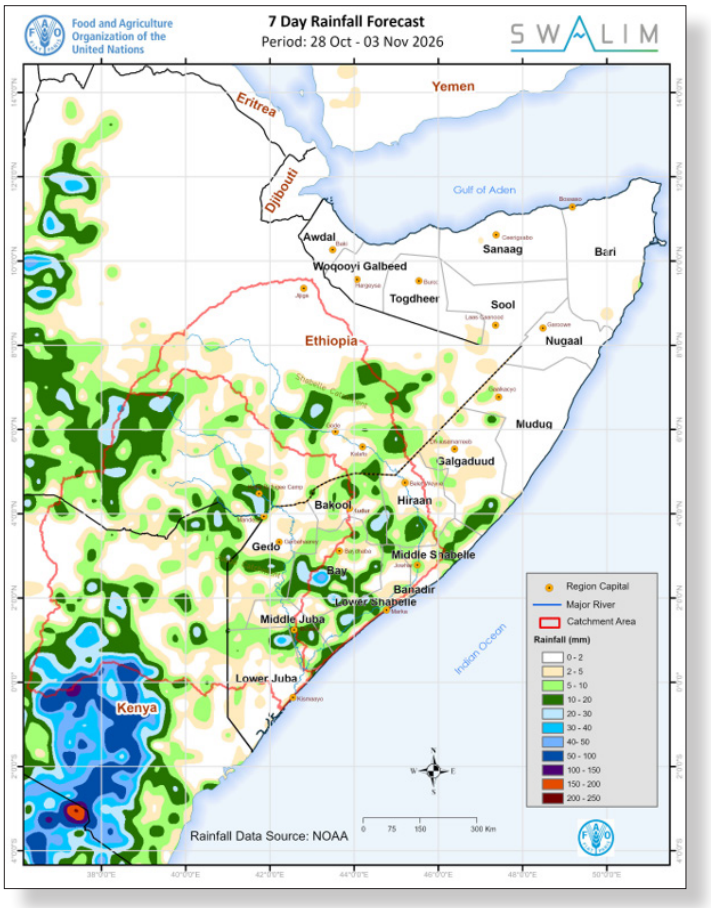


Figure 4: Cumulative rainfall forecast, 28 October to 3 November 2026

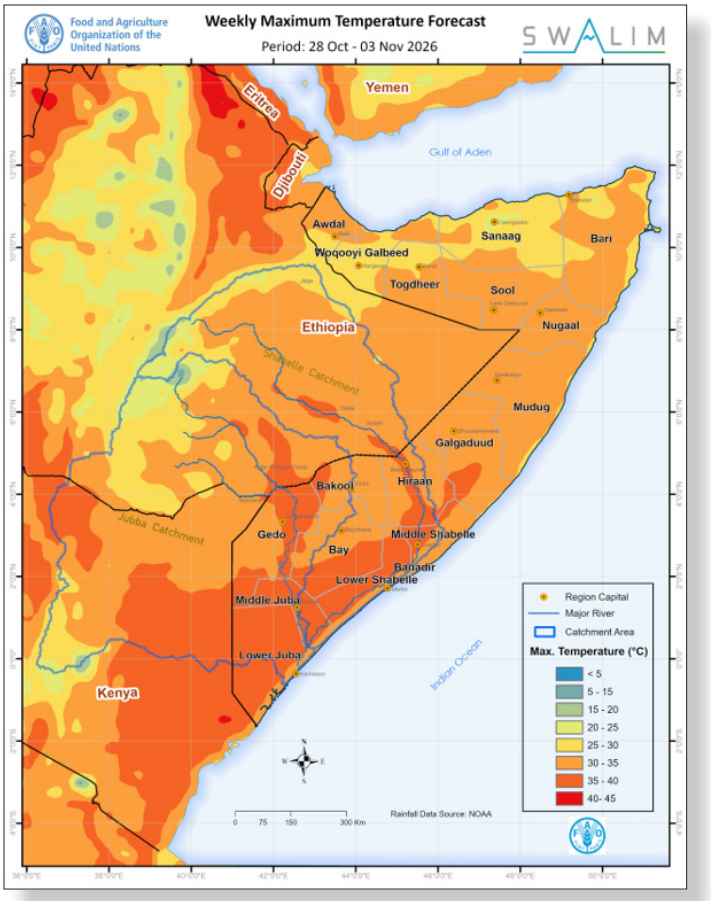


Figure 5: Maximum temperature forecast, 28 October to 3 November 2026

- **Moderately high daily maximum temperatures of 30–35°C** are likely over most of central and northern Somalia, including Mudug, Nugaal, Sool and Galgaduud regions, most of Bari region, Baydhaba district in Bay region, Ceel Barde, Tayeeglow, Waajid and Xudur districts in Bakool region, Belet Weyne district in Hiraan region, Balcad, Cadale and Adan Yabaal districts in Middle Shabelle region, Banadir, Marka and Baraawe districts in Lower Shabelle region, Belet Xaawo and Ceel Waaq districts in Gedo region, Burco, Buuhoodle and Owdweyne districts in Togdheer region, Berbera district in Woqooyi Galbeed region and Zeylac, Lughaye and Baki districts in Awdal region.
- **Moderate daily maximum temperatures of 25–30°C** are likely over Borama district in Awdal region, Gebiley and Hargeysa districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Sheikh district in Togdheer region, Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray districts and about half of Ceel Afweyn district in Sanaag region, and over about half of Qandala, Caluula and Bossaso districts in Bari region.

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 Temperatures:

Minimum temperatures are expected to remain moderately warm across most parts of the country, with warmer nights likely over Doolow district, parts of Luuq and Afmadow districts and along the southern coast. The expected spatial variation in minimum temperature is shown in Figure 6 and summarized below:

- **High minimum temperatures of 25–30°C** are likely over all of Doolow district in Gedo region, about half of Luuq district in Gedo region and Afmadow district in Lower Juba region, and along the southern coast from Banadir through Marka district to Kismaayo, and over parts of Baardheere district in Gedo region, Balcad district in Middle Shabelle region and Lughaye district in Awdal region.
- **Moderately high minimum temperatures of 20–25°C** are expected across nearly all of southern and central Somalia, including Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Juba, Galgaduud and Mudug regions, most of Gedo, Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle regions, Bandarbeyla, Iskushuban and Caluula districts in Bari region, Eyl and Garoowe districts in Nugaal region, Xudun, Caynabo and Laas Caanood districts in Sool region, Buuhoodle district in Togdheer region, Berbera district in Woqooyi Galbeed region and Zeylac and Baki districts in Awdal region.
- **Moderate minimum temperatures of 15–20°C** are mainly indicated over the northern highlands, including Hargeysa and Gebiley districts in Woqooyi Galbeed region, Borama district in Awdal region, Burco, Owdweyne and Sheikh districts in Togdheer region, Ceerigaabo, Laasqoray and Ceel Afweyn districts in Sanaag region, Qardho, Qandala and Bossaso districts in Bari region and Taleex district in Sool region, and over about half of Burtinle district in Nugaal region, with cooler nights of 5–15°C over parts of Gebiley district.

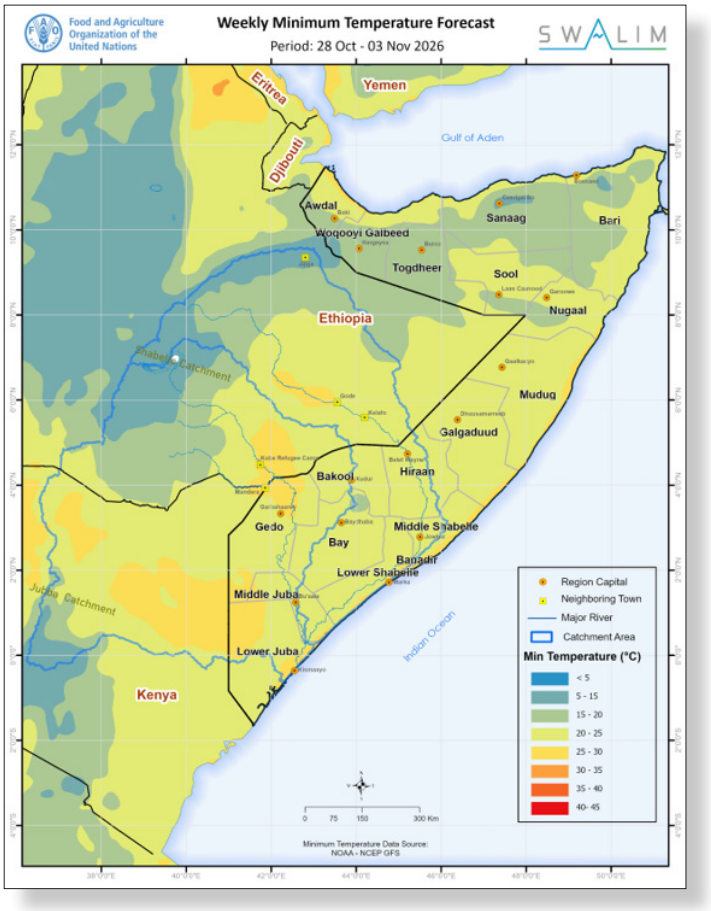


Figure 6: Minimum temperature forecast, 28 October to 3 November 2026

Daytime maxima of 35–40°C with warm nights of 25–30°C at Doolow and in parts of Luuq and Afmadow districts coincide with dry conditions to very light rains there. This is expected to keep heat stress high and to dry out surface water quickly.

IMPACT OUTLOOK AND ADVISORIES

Flood Risk: Riverine flood risk remains elevated along the middle Shabelle. Belet Weyne has been above its moderate flood-risk level since 26 October and stood at 6.70 m today, 0.60 m below the high flood-risk level. With the rise at Deefow having peaked on 27 October and little rainfall forecast over the Ethiopian catchment (mean 3.4 mm), Belet Weyne is likely to reach its peak during the next few days and then begin to fall slowly, but it is likely to stay near or above 6.50 m for several days. Riverine farms and low-lying villages around Belet Weyne and between Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti remain at risk of flooding, particularly through weak embankments and open breakages. Bulo Burti is likely to continue rising as the water passes downstream, although it is unlikely to reach its moderate level (6.50 m) this week. Jowhar remains 0.72 m below its moderate level, but river embankments are weakened and breakages between Jowhar and Balcad remain open, so river levels at Jowhar should be monitored closely as the higher flows from Belet Weyne move downstream.

On the Juba, flood risk is low. Dollow and Luuq have started to rise again but are more than 1.2 m below their moderate levels, and only very light to light rainfall is forecast over the Ethiopian Juba catchment.

Local rainfall this week is mostly very light to light, and the risk of flash flooding is low. Displacement sites around Jowhar, Baidoa and Bardheere that were affected by floods during 15–21 October remain vulnerable if heavier showers occur, particularly in the far south, where the 10-day outlook indicates 20–50 mm.

Drought and Water Stress: Water and pasture conditions are expected to remain favourable over most of Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Galgaduud, Mudug, Sool and the north-western highlands, where the rains since 1 October have replenished water catchments, although surface water will begin to decline under the dry conditions forecast over the north and centre. Water stress is likely to persist in Burao district in Togdheer, including around Tala-bur, Qardho district in Bari and Borama district in Awdal, where rainfall since 1 October remains below 30% of the October normal and dry conditions are forecast, and in Busley in Lower Shabelle and Boholgaras in Gedo, where callers reported continuing drought.

Heat Stress: Daytime maxima of 35–40°C are forecast over Gedo, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, most of Lower Shabelle, southern Bay, Jalalaqsi and Jowhar, with warm nights of 25–30°C at Doolow and along the southern coast. Combined with very light rains or dry conditions over Gedo and Lower Juba, this heat is expected to increase heat stress for people and livestock, raise water demand and speed up the drying of surface water.

Agriculture and Food Security: The good rains in Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle, Gedo and Galgaduud have supported planting and crop establishment, and a caller in Tayeeglow reported harvesting farm produce. This week's very light to light rains will support crop growth in Bay, Bakool and Lower Shabelle, while drier and hot conditions in Gedo and Lower Juba may stress young crops. Riverine farms between Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti are at risk of flooding while Belet Weyne remains high. Crop pests reported by callers in Jowhar, Baidoa, Saakow, Bardheere and Wararey may spread under warm, humid conditions.

Livestock and Rangeland: Pasture and water are expected to remain good across Bay, Bakool, Galgaduud, Mudug, Sool and the north-western highlands following the recent rains. Livestock diseases reported by callers, including CCPP around Tala-bur in Togdheer and a disease affecting the mouths of young camels reported by a caller in Jilib, may spread where herds gather at water points. In Burao, Qardho and Borama districts, where rainfall has remained well below normal, pressure on water points and grazing is expected to continue.

Fisheries and Coastal Areas: Dry conditions are forecast along the Gulf of Aden coast and the Indian Ocean coast of Bari, Nugaal and Mudug. Along the Lower Juba coast, including the Kismaayo, Badhaadhe and Jamaame fishing communities and the Bajuni islands, dry conditions to very light rains are forecast, with daytime maxima of 30–40°C and warm nights of 25–30°C along the coast. The heat will shorten the time catch can be kept fresh without ice.

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 Belet Weyne above its moderate level and Bulo Burti rising, works on and near the river embankments in Jowhar and Balcad remain exposed if the rise reaches the lower Shabelle.

Advisory Recommendations

- **For riverine communities and authorities along the Shabelle (Belet Weyne, Bulo Burti and Jalalaqsi):** Belet Weyne is above its moderate flood-risk level and is expected to stay high for several days. Communities are advised to follow river-level updates daily, to reinforce weak embankments and open breakages with sandbags where available, and to move livestock, food stocks and farm equipment away from the river. Flood contingency and evacuation plans should be kept active.
- **For riverine communities and JOSP implementing partners in Jowhar and Balcad:** Jowhar is below its moderate level, but water from upstream may raise levels later. Teams are advised to keep equipment and materials away from the river, to inspect reinforced embankment sections and breakages daily, and to coordinate any operation of intakes, outlets or diversion structures with river-level updates.
- **For riverine communities along the Juba (Dollow, Luuq, Bardheere, Saakow, Bu'aale, Jilib and Jamaame):** Levels have started to rise again but remain well below moderate levels. Communities should continue to monitor river levels and use the lower levels to repair weak riverbanks.
- **For communities and humanitarian actors in flood-affected areas (Jowhar, Cadale, Baidoa, Bardheere and Cabudwaaq):** Displaced families and IDPs affected by recent floods should be supported with shelter, food and safe drinking water, and drainage around displacement sites should be maintained.
- **For farmers in Bay, Bakool, Hiraan, Middle Shabelle and Gedo:** Farmers are advised to take advantage of the light rains to weed and protect crops, to avoid planting on low-lying riverbank land around Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti, and to report crop pests to agricultural extension services.
- **For pastoralists in the north and centre:** With dry conditions forecast, pastoralists are advised to use the water stored in berkads and catchments carefully, and to vaccinate livestock against CCPP and other diseases where herds gather.

- **For fishing communities 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.
- **For WASH, health and livestock actors:** Water support should continue in Burao, Qardho and Borama districts and in drought-affected villages reported by callers. Malaria prevention and safe drinking water in flood-affected areas around Belet Weyne, Jowhar, Cadale, Baidoa and Bardheere, and livestock vaccination and disease surveillance, should be scaled up.

KEY OPERATIONAL MESSAGE

Belet Weyne rose above its moderate flood-risk level on 26 October and stood at 6.70 m today. The rise at Deefow has peaked and little rainfall is forecast over the Ethiopian Shabelle catchment, so Belet Weyne is likely to reach its peak in the next few days but to remain near or above 6.50 m for several days, with a risk of flooding to riverine farms and villages around Belet Weyne and Bulo Burti. Bulo Burti is likely to continue rising, and river levels at Jowhar and Balcad, where breakages remain open, should be monitored closely as the higher flows move downstream. The Juba is rising slowly but remains well below moderate levels. This week, mostly very light to light rains are forecast over the south and dry conditions over the north and centre, with temperatures of 35–40°C over Gedo, Middle and Lower Juba and Lower Shabelle. The 10-day outlook indicates wetter conditions over the far south into early November, and with a strong El Niño, a positive IOD and the MJO over the Indian Ocean, wetter than normal conditions remain likely for the rest of the Deyr season, so flood preparedness along both rivers should be maintained.

This bulletin is co-produced by The Food and Agriculture Organization's Somalia Water and Land Information Management project (FAO-SWALIM) and The Somali Disaster Management Agency (SODMA)

SWALIM is a multi-donor project managed by FAO and currently funded by The European Union, UKaid, SDC, AICS, GCF, The World Bank, Canada and Government of Sweden

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UKaid from the British people
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Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo
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