

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 30 Sep to 06 Oct 2026

Forecast Highlight:

- Moderate to locally heavy rainfall is forecast over parts of Somaliland and Hiraan, with significant rainfall also expected over the Ethiopian headwaters of the Shabelle and Juba, sustaining rising river levels.
- Flood risk remains low this week, with all monitored stations expected to remain below moderate flood-risk levels; however, risk is expected to increase from mid-October as the MJO becomes more favourable for East African rainfall within an already wetter-than-normal Deyr outlook.
- Central Somalia will receive mostly patchy rainfall, while much of the Juba valley and interior Lower Shabelle will remain largely dry, providing little immediate drought relief.
- Very high daytime temperatures of 35–40°C will persist across much of the southern and central lowlands, further increasing heat and water stress in dry areas.

Review Summary:

- Satellite estimates indicate that September was wetter than normal across parts of southern Somalia, with positive anomalies over Gedo, western Bakool, Lower Juba and pockets of Hiraan and Galgaduud, while most central and northern areas remained largely dry. Station observations provide measured confirmation of substantial rainfall at several locations.
- Station data for 22–30 September recorded 84.0 mm at Bardheere, 62.9 mm at Awdheegle, 39.5 mm at Qansax Dheere, 30.6 mm at Kismayo and 25.0 mm at Baidoa, with lighter totals at other reporting stations. Satellite estimates remain useful for areas without station coverage.
- Shabelle and Juba river levels rose at all reporting stations, most notably at Belet Weyne (+1.08 m), but remain well below moderate flood-risk levels, last year's levels and, where available, the long-term mean.
- Field reports and station observations indicate improving rainfall and agricultural conditions in parts of the Shabelle regions, Bay, Gedo and Lower Juba, while drought and water shortages persist in parts of Galgaduud, Mudug, Sanaag and Bari; conditions remain spatially variable even within the same region.

REVIEW — OBSERVED CONDITIONS AND EXPERIENCED IMPACTS

Observed Rainfall Conditions

Although September falls in the transition from the Hagaa season into the Deyr season and is normally one of the driest months across most of Somalia, station data and satellite estimates indicate that September was wetter than normal across parts of southern Somalia, with positive anomalies over Gedo, western Bakool, Lower Juba and pockets of Hiraan and Galgaduud, while most central and northern areas remained largely dry. Station observations provide measured confirmation of substantial rainfall at several locations.

- Weekly observed station rainfall (22–30 September): The strongest measured totals were recorded at Bardheere in Gedo (84.0 mm over 2 rainy days), Awdheegle in Lower Shabelle (62.9 mm over 2 days), Qansax Dheere in Bay (39.5 mm over 2 days), Kismayo in Lower Juba (30.6 mm over 4 days) and Baidoa in Bay (25.0 mm over 3 days). Belad-Hawa recorded 23.2 mm, Marka 19.2 mm, Afgooye 15.0 mm, Jowhar 10.8 mm, Wanle Weyne 10.5 mm, Luuq 10.3 mm and Bu'aale 3.5 mm. These station observations confirm meaningful but spatially uneven rainfall across parts of the south during the closing days of September. Satellite estimates continue to provide a broader spatial picture, including areas without reporting gauges and the

north-west. Most other parts of the country remained dry including Middle Shabelle, Lower Shabelle, Banadir, Middle Juba, most of Mudug, Nugaal, Sool, Bari and Sanaag.

- Monthly observed station rainfall totals and anomaly: Satellite estimates continue to show above-normal monthly rainfall over parts of the southern agropastoral and riverine belt, including Gedo, western Bakool, Lower Juba and pockets of Hiraan and Galgaduud, with smaller positive anomalies in parts of Awdal and Woqooyi Galbeed. Station measurements provide important ground confirmation. For 1–30 September, notable totals in south-central Somalia include Kismayo 164.2 mm, Awdheegle 105.9 mm, Mogadishu 98.0 mm, Bardheere 84.0 mm, Qansax Dheere 55.3 mm, Marka 49.7 mm and Afgooye 47.6 mm. In the northern network, available accumulations for 1–20 September in Somaliland include Amoud 239.0 mm, Allaybaday 210.5 mm, Baki 110.0 mm and Hargeisa 64.0 mm; Puntland observations available for 1–21 September include Balli Dhiddin 109.9 mm and Baran 35.2 mm. These northern totals cover only the stated reporting periods and should not be interpreted as full-month totals. Most central and northern areas remained near normal or dry in

the satellite spatial assessment. Upstream, the Ethiopian highlands recorded significant September rainfall, feeding both the Shabelle and Juba catchments. The central regions and the northern coast remained largely dry going into the Deyr season.

Observed River Levels

The Shabelle River system turned upward in the last week of September after several weeks of low and stable flow, with the sharpest rise at Belet Weyne.

The rise is consistent primarily with significant rainfall over the Ethiopian highlands and upper Shabelle catchment, with local station observations also confirming rainfall in downstream parts of the Shabelle basin (including 62.9 mm at Awdheegle, 19.2 mm at Marka, 15.0 mm at Afgooye and 10.8 mm at Jowhar during 22–30 September). Along the Juba system, Dollow and

Luuq are rising gradually in response to upstream catchment rainfall; station data show 84.0 mm at Bardheere and 10.3 mm at Luuq during 22–30 September, while Kismayo recorded 30.6 mm. Belet Weyne warrants the closest operational attention this week because it is the fastest-rising station and further heavy rainfall is forecast upstream and locally. Across both river systems, 2026 levels remain below the equivalent dates of 2025 and below the long-term mean. The rivers are entering the Deyr season with spare channel capacity, but they are responding to upstream rainfall.

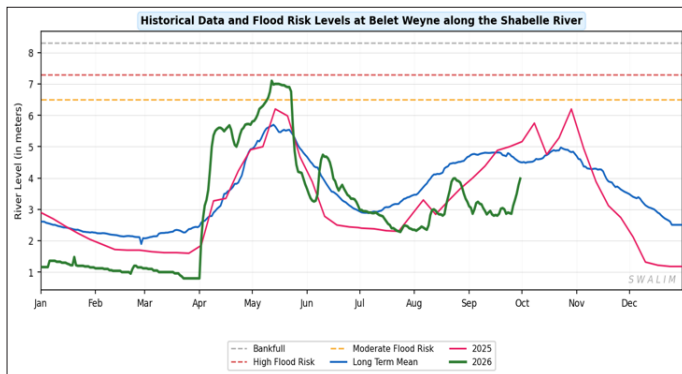


Figure 1: Shabelle River at Belet Weyne — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

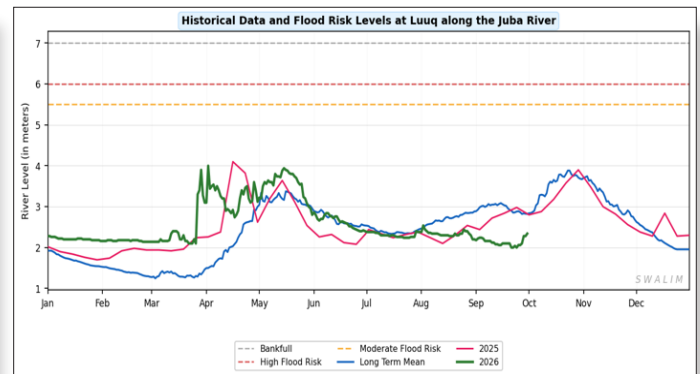


Figure 2: Juba River at Luuq — 2026 to date vs 2025, LTM and flood-risk levels

Drought Evolution and Experienced Impacts

According to the August 2026 Combined Drought Index (CDI) drought conditions eased on average and particularly at areas where Hagaa and Karan rains were observed. Extreme to severe drought conditions persist along the Awdal coast, the northern Sanaag coast and the Lower Shabelle–Middle Juba border area around Sablaale and Bu'aale.

Moderate drought conditions (0.6–0.8) were observed in Zeylac district (0.68) in Awdal; Gebiley district (0.76) in Woqooyi Galbeed; Bu'aale district (0.72) in Middle Juba; Badhaadhe district (0.74) and Kismaayo district (0.77) in Lower Juba; Sablaale district (0.77) in Lower Shabelle; and Baydhaba district (0.77) in Bay.

Mild drought (0.8–1.0) conditions were recorded in Bay (Diinsoor 0.84, Qansax Dheere 0.85, Buur Hakaba 0.89); Galgaduud (Cabudwaaq 0.85, Cadaado 0.86, Dhuusamarreeb 0.94); Mudug (Galdogob 0.91, Gaalkacyo 0.91, Hobyo 0.93, Xarardheere 0.98); Bakool (Xudur 0.92, Tayeeglow 0.92, Ceel Barde 0.95, Waajid 0.99); Middle and Lower Juba (Jilib 0.92, Saakow 0.92, Afmadow 0.90, Jamaame 0.96); and in the north Hargeysa (0.85), Eyl (0.90), Owdweyne (0.91), Lughaye (0.94), Bandarbeyla (0.96), Qandala (0.96) and Borama (0.97).

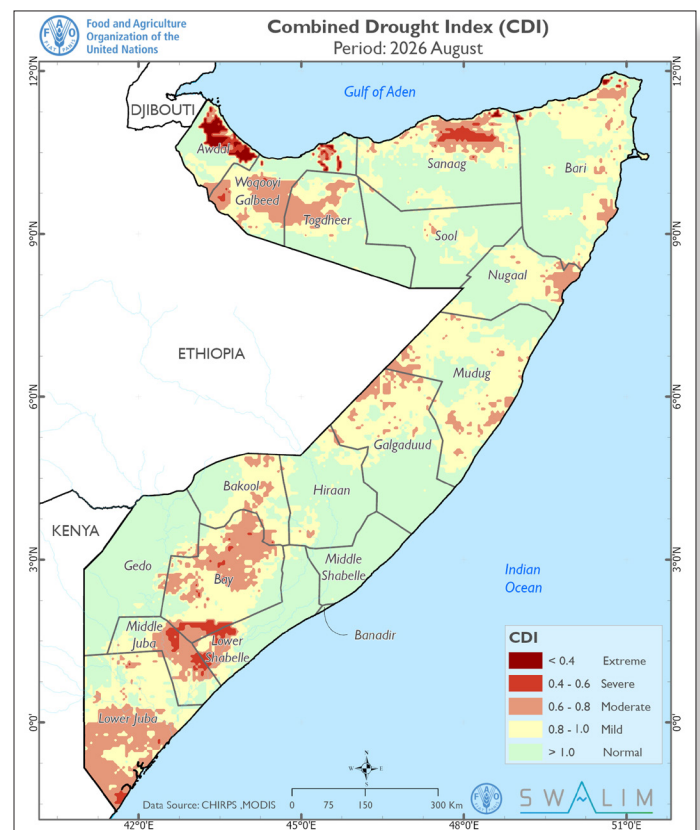


Figure 3: Combined Drought Index (CDI) most recent available Aug 2026

Farming and agriculture are reported to be recovering in the Shabelle valley and the South-West as the Deyr rains begin. In Middle Shabelle, callers from Jowhar and Bula-sheikh reported completed maize harvests, a rise in the river level and the start of the next planting cycle, including rice and sesame. In Lower Shabelle, farmers in Janale and Wanlaweyn reported rain and farm work resuming. In Bay, callers from Baidoa and Buur Hakaba reported beneficial rain. Crop pests were the most common agricultural concern: callers in Jowhar, Kongo, Warsheikh, Lower Shabelle, Baidoa, Bardera, Burdhubo and Dollow reported caterpillars, aphids and other pests on maize, vegetables, onions and watermelons. Farmers in Maqasha village near Dollow reported that they had stopped planting out of fear of El Niño river floods, and asked whether to continue.

Livestock conditions are mixed with callers in Middle Shabelle, Baidoa, Kismaayo and south-central rural areas reporting that livestock now had water and fodder. Against this, callers reported goat disease (runny noses, weakness, parasites) in Buleburte (Hiraan), Qansax Dheere (Bay), Bardera (Gedo) and Middle Shabelle. A caller in Adado (Galgaduud) reported livestock deaths from drought, and a caller in Qardo (Bari) reported animal losses and forced migration. A caller in Godobjiran (Nugaal) reported deaths caused by poison put down in grazing areas to kill foxes.

Water access and drought distress continue to be reported from the centre and north. Repeated calls from Harardhere (Mudug), Adado, Guriel, El-dhere, Dhusamareb and Galhareri

(Galgaduud), and Buur-weyn (Hiraan) described drought, heat and requests for water aid. Northern callers reported severe drought in Berbera (Sahil) and in Yube (Sanaag), where food prices are rising, and a broken borehole pump in Godobjiran (Nugaal). These reports are consistent with the Mild August CDI across Galgaduud and Mudug (Cadaado 0.86, Dhuusamarreeb 0.94, Xarardheere 0.98) and with the near-zero September rainfall there.

Gedo continues to show strong local variability with callers in Bardera and Dollow reporting both good rain and ongoing drought during the same week. Station observations support this variability, with Bardheere recording 84.0 mm over two rainy days during 22–30 September, compared with 23.2 mm at Belad-Hawa and 10.3 mm at Luuq; satellite estimates provide the broader spatial context between stations. In Lower Juba, Kismayo recorded 30.6 mm over four rainy days during the same period, consistent with reports of rain in Kismayo and Jamaame, while Bu'aale in Middle Juba recorded only 3.5 mm and a caller in Saakow reported no rain. The station, satellite and community reports therefore indicate marked local variability rather than a uniform onset.

El Niño preparedness emerged as a new theme this week with callers in Bardera, Beledhawo and Dollow (Gedo), Belet Weyne (Hiraan) and Dadmareen (Togdheer) asking for forecasts and guidance. IDPs in a Bardera camp reported food shortages, a lack of latrines and no plastic sheeting as the rains begin. A rise in malaria cases was reported in Lower Shabelle.

FORECAST — EXPECTED CONDITIONS (30 SEPTEMBER TO 6 OCTOBER 2026)

Rainfall Forecast

Seasonal outlook

Both the Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (ICPAC GHACOF74) and National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) gives a 90% chance of above-normal October–December rainfall over central and southern Somalia. It expects seasonal totals above 400 mm in parts of the region and an early to normal onset. The main drivers are a developing El Niño, expected to strengthen, and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole. The analogue years are 1997 and 2023, both seasons with severe riverine flooding along the Juba and Shabelle. The IPC analysis for July–December 2026 draws on the same El Niño outlook and warns that floods may delay Deyr planting beyond the optimal window, as in 2023. MJO evolution through September (ECMWF extended-range forecasts):

9 September: The MJO was weak (inside the unit circle) near phases 8 and 1, with no organized signal over East Africa.

19 September: The MJO had strengthened to moderate amplitude in phase 8, and the ensemble projected a move into phase 1 followed by weakening.

29 September: The MJO is active in phase 1 (West Hemisphere and Africa). The ensemble mean stalls briefly near phases 8 and 1 over the next five days, then moves into phase 2 around 8–12 October and phase 3 at higher amplitude in mid to late October. Phases 2 and 3 place enhanced convection over the western and central Indian Ocean, which typically enhances rainfall over East Africa, including southern and central Somalia and the Ethiopian highlands. This week's rainfall is therefore driven mainly by the seasonal onset rather than the MJO. The MJO is expected to add support to the rains, and to river inflows, from the second week of October. Ensemble spread widens beyond about day 15, so the timing of the phase 3 signal carries moderate confidence.

According to NOAA-NCEP GFS model forecasts, the Deyr rains are expected to be concentrated this week in two areas: the north-western highlands and Togdheer, and Hiraan around Belet Weyne. Very heavy rainfall is expected over the Ethiopian highlands that feed both rivers. Rainfall over central Somalia is expected to be patchy, and the Juba valley, inland parts of Lower Shabelle and eastern Bari are expected to remain largely dry.

Heavy cumulative rainfall between 50 mm and 100 mm is forecast in localized areas: over parts of Sheikh district (Togdheer), around Belet Weyne town, and in parts of Ceel Afweyn and Ceerigaabo (Sanaag). Smaller pockets are expected in Tayeeglow (Bakool), Bulo Burto (Hiraan), and the Owdweyne–Hargeysa–Berbera corridor.

Moderate cumulative rainfall between 20 mm and 50 mm is expected over most of Hargeysa district (mainly 30–50 mm), much of Gebiley, Owdweyne and Ceel Afweyn, and the Belet Weyne area. It is also expected over some parts of Burco, Cabudwaaq, Tayeeglow and Bulo Burto.

Light to moderate cumulative rainfall between 10 mm and 20 mm is expected over Bakool (Waajid, Tayeeglow, Ceel Barde, Xudur), Baydhaba (Bay), Garbahaarey, Luuq and Ceel Waaq (Gedo), and Bulo Burto (Hiraan). Rains of similarly light intensity are likely over Cabudwaaq (Galgaduud), Galdogob (Mudug), Burtinle (Nugaal), Laas Caanood (Sool), Burco (Togdheer), and Berbera and Gebiley (Woqooyi Galbeed).

Light rainfall between 5 mm and 10 mm is expected over Cadaado and Dhuusamarreeb (Galgaduud, with 10–20 mm over about 30% of each), Belet Xaawo and Doolow (Gedo), Jalalaqsi (Hiraan), Rab Dhuure (Bakool), Baraawe (Lower Shabelle), Balcad (Middle Shabelle), Bossaso (Bari), Ceerigaabo and Laasqoray (Sanaag), Taleex (Sool), Buuhoodle (Togdheer) and Baki (Awdal).

Very light rainfall of 2–5 mm is likely over Buur Hakaba, Diinsoor and Qansax Dheere (Bay), Jilib and Saakow (Middle Juba), and Badhaadhe, Kismaayo and Jamaame (Lower Juba). It is also likely over Kurtunwaarey and Qoryooley (Lower Shabelle), Jowhar (Middle Shabelle), Banadir, Ceel Buur (Galgaduud), and Xudun and Caynabo (Sool).

Dry conditions (0–2 mm) are expected to prevail over most of Awdal (Borama, Lughaye, Zeylac) and most of Bari (Qardho, Iskushuban, Caluula, Qandala, Bandarbeyla). Similar dry conditions are likely in coastal and eastern Mudug (Gaalkacyo, Hobyo, Jariiban, Xarardheere, with isolated 10–20 mm cells), Garoowe and Eyl (Nugaal), and Ceel Dheer (Galgaduud). In the south, Adan Yabaal and Cadale (Middle Shabelle), Afgooye, Sablaale and Wanla Weyn (Lower Shabelle), Baardheere (Gedo), Afmadow (Lower Juba) and Bu'aale (Middle Juba) are also expected to stay dry.

Upstream catchments (outside Somalia): Over the Ethiopian part of the Shabelle catchment, about 57% of the area is forecast to receive 20 mm or more. This includes moderate rains (50–100 mm) over some areas and localized heavy (100–150 mm) in the Jijiga–Harar highlands. Over the Ethiopian Juba (Genale–Dawa) catchments, light rains of below 50 mm are expected over most parts with very isolated chances of above 50 mm. The Kenyan part of the Juba catchment is forecast to remain largely dry.

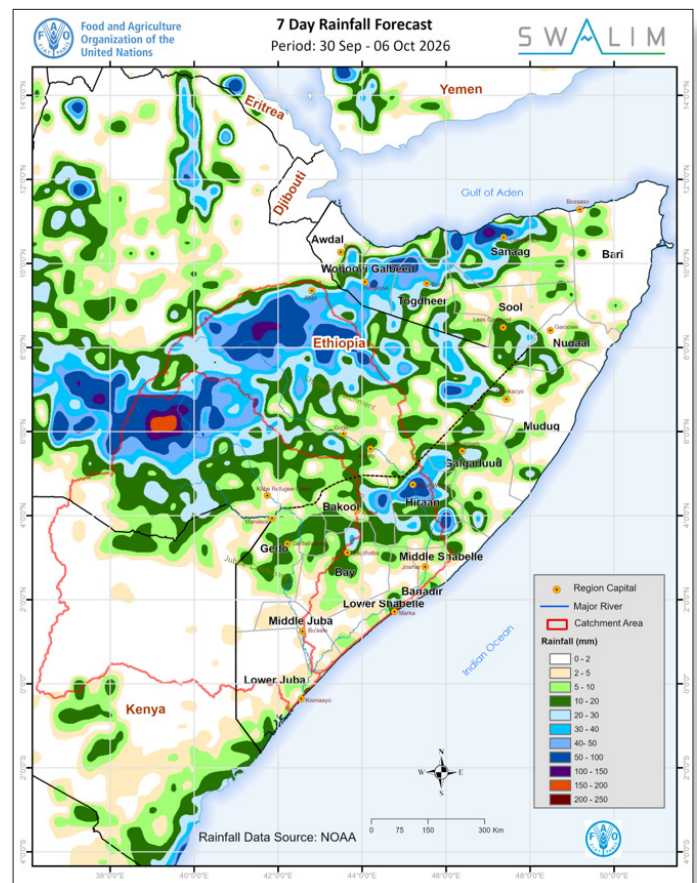


Figure 4: Cumulative rainfall forecast, 30 September to 6 October 2026

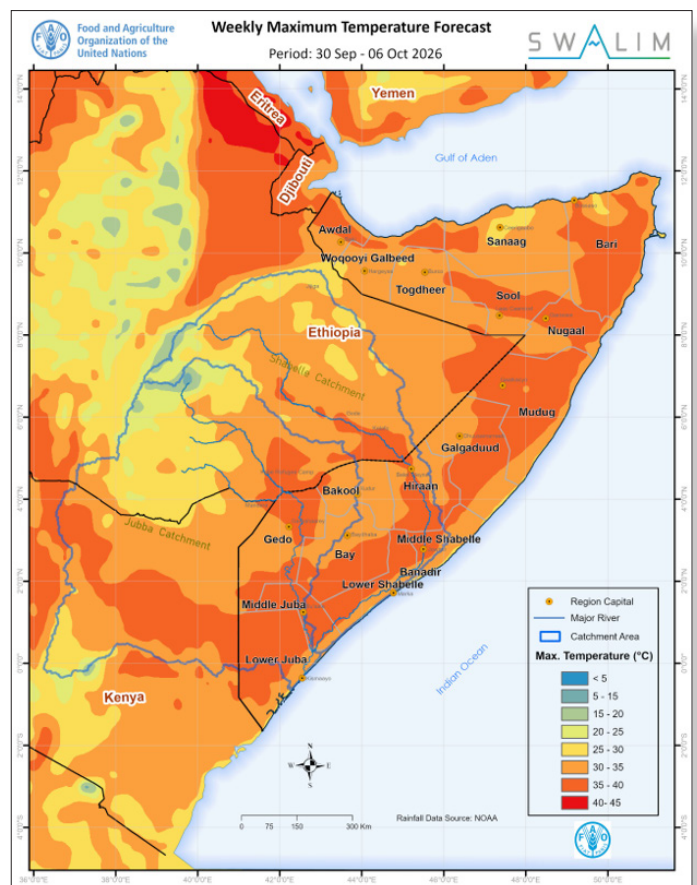


Figure 5: Maximum temperature forecast, 30 September to 6 October 2026

This rainfall is expected to mark a clear Deyr onset over the north-western highlands, Togdheer and Hiraan, with a patchier start over Bakool, Bay, Gedo and western Galgaduud. It is expected to bring little relief to coastal Mudug, eastern Galgaduud, Nugaal's coast, or the moderate-drought districts of Middle and Lower Juba and Sablaale. The heavy upstream totals are the main driver of the expected river rises.

Temperature Forecast

Maximum Temperature

Daily maxima of 35°C to 40°C are forecast across the southern and central lowlands, the eastern plateau and the Gulf of Aden coast.

30°C to 35°C is forecast over the northern highlands, Togdheer, Sanaag, Bakool and parts of the Shabelle valley. 25°C to 30°C is confined to the highest ground near Ceerigaabo and Gebiley.

- **Very high daily maximum temperatures ranging from 35°C to 40°C** are likely over: Middle Juba (Bu'aale, Saakow, Jilib); Lower Juba (Afmadow, Badhaadhe, and about half of Kismaayo); interior Lower Shabelle (Sablaale, Wanla Weyn, Kurtunwaarey, Qoryooley); Jowhar (Middle Shabelle); southern Bay (Buur Hakaba, Diinsoor); Gedo (Doolow, Luuq, Baardheere, Garbahaarey); Jalalaqsi and Buldo Burti (Hiraan); Cadaado and Ceel Buur (Galgaduud); Mudug (Gaalkacyo, Galdogob, Hobyo, Jariiban); Garoowe and Eyl (Nugaal); Bari (Qardho, Iskushuban, Bandarbeyla, Bossaso); Caynabo and Xudun (Sool); and the Awdal coast (Zeylac, Lughaye) and Berbera. (Map: dark orange zone)
- **High daily maximum temperatures ranging from 30°C to 35°C** are forecast over: Bakool (all districts); Baydhaba and Qansax Dheere (Bay); Belet Xaawo and Ceel Waaq (Gedo); Belet Weyne (Hiraan); Cabudwaaq, Dhuusamarreeb and Ceel Dheer (Galgaduud); Xarardheere (Mudug); Burtinle (Nugaal); Adan Yabaal, Balcad and Cadale (Middle Shabelle); Afgooye, Marka and Baraawe (Lower Shabelle); Jamaame (Lower Juba); all of Togdheer and Sanaag; Hargeysa, Gebiley, Borama and Baki; Caluula and Qandala (Bari); and Laas Caanood and Taleex (Sool). Dhuusamarreeb, Laas Caanood and Kismaayo are split almost equally between 30–35°C and 35–40°C. (Map: light orange zone)
- **Moderate daily maximum temperatures ranging from 25°C to 30°C** are likely only over the highest ground: parts of the Sanaag highlands around Ceerigaabo (about a fifth of the district) and the Gebiley highlands (about a quarter). (Map: yellow zone)

Minimum Temperature

Temperatures ranging from 25°C to 30°C are expected over the Awdal coast (Lughaye, Zeylac, Baki) and Berbera, with smaller warm-night areas around Doolow (Gedo), Caluula (Bari) and coastal Hobyo (Mudug).

- **Minimum temperatures ranging from 20°C to 25°C** are likely to dominate across nearly all of southern and central Somalia, Sool, Nugaal, Togdheer and most of Bari.

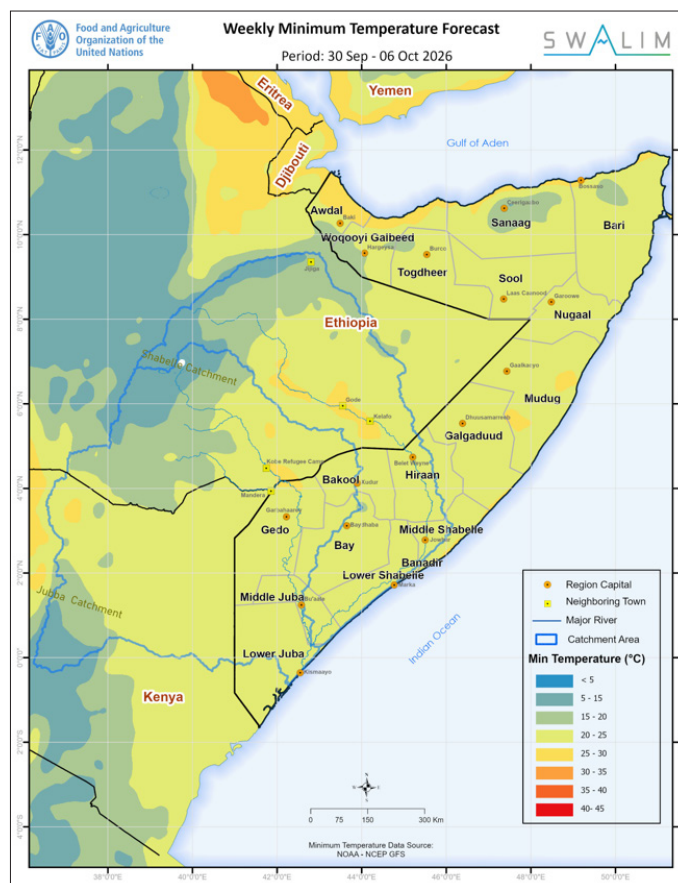


Figure 6: Minimum temperature forecast, 30 September to 6 October 2026

- **Minimum temperatures ranging from 15°C to 20°C** are expected in the northern highlands: Gebiley, the Ceerigaabo highlands, the Qandala highlands in Bari and southern Hargeysa.
- **The combination of daytime maxima of 35 – 40°C and warm nights of 20 – 25°C** across the southern and central lowlands is expected to keep heat stress high where little or no rain is forecast. This applies especially to the mild-to-moderate CDI districts of Middle and Lower Juba, Sablaale, and coastal Mudug and eastern Galgaduud.

River Levels and Flood Outlook

Shabelle River:

Deefow (upstream of Belet Weyne) is rising quickly (1.29 m → 2.73 m this week, +1.44 m). It remains 3.77 m below its moderate threshold (6.50m). The level at Belet Weyne (Figure 1) has been rising sharply, from 2.90 m on 23 September to 3.98 m today (+1.08m in seven days). This is 2.52 m below the moderate flood-risk level (6.50 m), so the likelihood of flooding remains minimal this week.

The level is 1.02 m below last year on the same date (5.00 m) and 0.53 m below the long-term mean for the date (4.51m). Buldo Burti is rising (2.33 m → 2.58 m this week). It is 3.92 m below its moderate threshold (6.50 m) and 1.78 m below last year's level on the same date (4.36 m). Jowhar is rising slightly (2.40 m → 2.48 m this week), after a short-lived peak of 2.70 m on 25–26 September. It is 2.52 m below its moderate threshold (5.00 m) and 2.60 m below last year's level (5.08 m).

Juba River:

Dollow is rising (2.16 m → 2.54 m this week). It is 1.96 m below its moderate threshold (4.50 m) and 0.28 m below last year's level (2.82 m). Luuq (Figure 2) is rising (2.04 m → 2.34 m this week). It is 3.16 m below its moderate threshold (5.50 m), 0.52 m below last year's level (2.86 m) and 0.48 m below the long-term mean for the date (2.82 m).

Based on current observations and this week's forecast, flood

IMPACT OUTLOOK AND ADVISORIES

Flood Risk: Riverine flood risk this week is low. Every reporting station is at least 1.96 m below its moderate flood-risk level, and both rivers remain below last year's levels and the long-term mean. The direction of travel is upward, though. Belet Weyne gained over a metre in a week and Deefow gained 1.44 m, while 20 mm or more is forecast over about half of the Ethiopian catchments (locally 100–200 mm) and 50–100 mm locally around Belet Weyne. Beyond this week, the MJO moving into phases 2–3 from about 8–12 October and the wetter than normal Deyr outlook (El Niño and a positive Indian Ocean Dipole) point to a rising riverine flood risk from mid-October. The risk is greatest along the middle Shabelle (Belet Weyne, Bulu Burti, Jowhar–Balcad) and the Juba (Dollow, Luuq and the downstream reaches around Bardhere and Bu'aale. The current low levels therefore offer a limited anticipation window.

Drought and Water Stress: Drought conditions are expected to begin easing in Somaliland, where the August 2026 CDI shows mild drought in Hargeysa (0.85) and Owdweyne (0.91). Both are forecast to receive 20 – 50 mm, locally more, this week, and Gebiley (moderate, 0.76) is forecast 10 – 40 mm. Relief is expected to be patchy in central Somalia. Cadaado (0.86) and Dhuusamarreeb (0.94) are forecast mostly 5 – 20 mm, and Galdogob (0.91) 10 – 20 mm. However, Gaalkacyo (0.91), Hobyo (0.93) and Xarardheere (0.98) are forecast largely dry (0–2 mm, isolated cells). This matches repeated Radio Ergo reports of severe drought and water shortage in Harardhere, Adado and Guriel, and water stress is likely to persist there. Water stress is also expected to persist in the moderate CDI districts of Middle and Lower Juba (Bu'aale 0.72, Badhaadhe 0.74, Kismaayo 0.77), Sablaale (0.77, Lower Shabelle) and Zeylac (0.68, Awdal), all forecast 0–5 mm. Baydhaba (0.77) and Bakool are expected to receive 10–20 mm, which may begin to ease conditions. The mild drought conditions in the southern Bay districts (Diinsoor, Qansax Dheere, Buur Hakaba) are expected to persist given the forecast light rains (2 – 10 mm).

Heat Stress: Daytime maxima of 35 – 40 °C with warm nights of 20 – 25°C are forecast across Middle and Lower Juba, inland parts of Lower Shabelle, southern Bay, northern Gedo (Doolow, Luuq), Mudug, Nugaal and most of Bari. In the Juba valley, Sablaale and coastal Mudug, this heat coincides with mild to moderate drought conditions and forecast dry conditions. It is expected to speed up the drying of surface water and pasture and to increase livestock water demand.

risk along both the Shabelle and the Juba during 30 September – 6 October is assessed as low. However, forecast upstream rainfall of above 50 mm over some parts of the Ethiopian catchments and above 50 mm locally around Belet Weyne, is expected to sustain the current rise. Belet Weyne and Dollow should be watched most closely: Belet Weyne is climbing fastest, and Dollow has the smallest margin to its moderate threshold.

Warm nights of 25 – 30 °C along the Awdal coast and Berbera add to the heat load there. Radio Ergo callers in Guriel, Dollow and Hiraan specifically reported intense heat alongside drought.

Agriculture and Food Security: Observed station rainfall during 22–30 September confirms useful moisture for land preparation in several southern locations, including Bardheere (84.0 mm), Qansax Dheere (39.5 mm), Baidoa (25.0 mm) and parts of Lower Shabelle, while this week's forecast adds further rainfall potential over Hiraan, Bakool, Bay and parts of Gedo. Conditions remain uneven: Bu'aale recorded only 3.5 mm during 22–30 September, and the forecast remains relatively dry over much of the Juba valley and interior Lower Shabelle. Middle Shabelle farmers report completed harvests and the start of the new planting cycle.

The main agricultural risks this week are crop pests, reported widely in the Shabelle valley, Bay and Gedo, and uncertainty over planting in riverine areas, where some farmers near Dollow have stopped planting because they fear floods. The IPC analysis (July–December 2026) projects that 5.4 million people (28% of the population analysed) are likely to face Crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+) in October–December 2026. This includes 1.5 million in Emergency (Phase 4) and close to 26,000 Baidoa IDPs in Catastrophe (Phase 5), with flooding identified as a main driver. Timely planting on flood-safe land and pest control are therefore important for this season's harvest prospects.

Livestock and Rangeland: Pasture and water are expected to regenerate in Hiraan, the north-western highlands and Togdheer, and parts of Bakool, Bay and Gedo as this week's rains arrive. Regeneration is expected to be patchy in western Galgaduud, and there is little prospect of it in coastal Mudug and eastern Galgaduud.

Recovery is already reported in Middle Shabelle, Bay and Lower Juba. Conditions are likely to remain stressed in the dry Juba valley and in parts of Sanaag and Bari, where callers report livestock losses, weak animals with no market, and forced migration. Several livestock diseases were reported across Hiraan, Bay, Gedo and Middle Shabelle. With a wet, El Niño-influenced Deyr season expected, vector-borne livestock diseases, including Rift Valley fever, should be watched as surface water increases.



Advisory Recommendations

- **For riverine communities and authorities along the Shabelle (Belet Weyne, Bulo Burti, Jowhar, Balcad) and the Juba (Dollow, Luuq, Bardhere, Bu'aale):** Levels are low but rising, with heavy upstream rain forecast this week and a stronger rainfall signal from mid-October. Authorities and communities are advised to use the next one to two weeks to reinforce river embankments and close open breakages, pre-position response supplies and update evacuation plans. Because there are no operational river gauges at Bardhere and Bu'aale, communities along the middle and lower Juba should rely on the upstream readings at Dollow and Luuq, and on SWALIM alerts, for warning.
- **For farmers in Hiraan, Bakool, Baydhaba and the Garbahaarey-Luuq area of Gedo:** Rainfall this week (10–20 mm, locally 20–100 mm around Belet Weyne) may support land preparation and planting. Riverine farmers are advised to plant on higher ground where possible, to consider early-maturing varieties, and to follow SWALIM river-level updates rather than stopping planting altogether. Farmers reporting pest outbreaks are advised to seek local agricultural extension support.
- **For pastoralists in Middle and Lower Juba (Bu'aale, Badhaadhe, Kismaayo) and Sablaale:** Moderate drought and a dry, very hot forecast week are expected. Herders are advised to prioritise access to reliable water points and to monitor animal condition closely.
- **For WASH actors in Galgaduud (Adado, Guriel, Dhusamareb), Mudug (Harardhere), Nugaal (Godobjiran) and Sanaag (Yube):** Water shortages continue to be reported. Water support and borehole repair should continue until the forecast rains are confirmed to have recharged local sources.
- **For health and veterinary services in Hiraan, Bay, Gedo and the Shabelle regions:** Malaria and livestock disease reports are rising with the onset of the rains. Services are advised to scale up malaria prevention and vaccination and disease surveillance for livestock ahead of the peak Deyr rains.

Key Operational Message

River levels on the Shabelle and Juba are low but rising quickly, led by Belet Weyne (+1.08m this week), with moderate rain forecast upstream and locally. Flood risk is low this week but expected to increase from mid-October, when the MJO moves into phases that favour rain during a wetter than normal, El Niño-influenced Deyr season. The coming one to two weeks are the window for flood preparedness in riverine districts. Drought support should continue in the Juba valley, Sablaale and the dry parts of Galgaduud and Mudug.

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