

SOMALIA WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Valid From 9th to 15th Oct 2024

Moderate rainfall expected over central parts of Somaliland, light rains over isolated areas in Puntland and dry conditions over Central and Southern parts of the Country.

Review of Weather for the Period 1 – 7 October 2024

During the review period, moderate rainfall was observed in some parts of Somaliland with light rainfall in some parts of Puntland (Graph 1) and the rest of the country remaining generally dry. Moderate rains of between 50.0 mm and 100.0 mm were observed in the following individual stations: Harirad (55.0 mm) and Borama (65.0 mm) in Awdal region; Dhahar (55.0 mm) in Sanaag region; and Dhubato (57.0 mm), Cada (58.0 mm) and Hargeisa (64.0 mm) in Woqooyi Galbeed region. The rains over the following individual stations were particularly intense cumulating to over 100.0 mm: Amoud (110.0 mm) and Baki (164.0 mm) in Awdal region and Gacan-libah (124.0 mm) in Woqooyi Galbeed region. Following the climatological eastward spread, rains spread towards Puntland with the following individual stations recording light rains of between 20.0 and 50.0 mm: Carmo (20.0 mm) in Bari region, Buhoodle (27.5 mm) and Xudun (38.0 mm) in Sool region.

The Juba and Shabelle River catchments have generally remained dry within Somalia and in the lower reaches across the country. Light rains have been observed in the far upper catchments in Ethiopian Highlands.

Forecast of the Weather for the Period 9 to 15 October 2024

Based on the seasonal forecast, the onset of Deyr rains is expected over Puntland and southmost parts of the country. According to NOAA-NCEP GFS, moderate rainfall expected over central parts of Somaliland, light rains over isolated areas in Puntland and dry conditions over Central and Southern parts of the Country. The spatial spread of the forecast rainfall conditions are as follows:

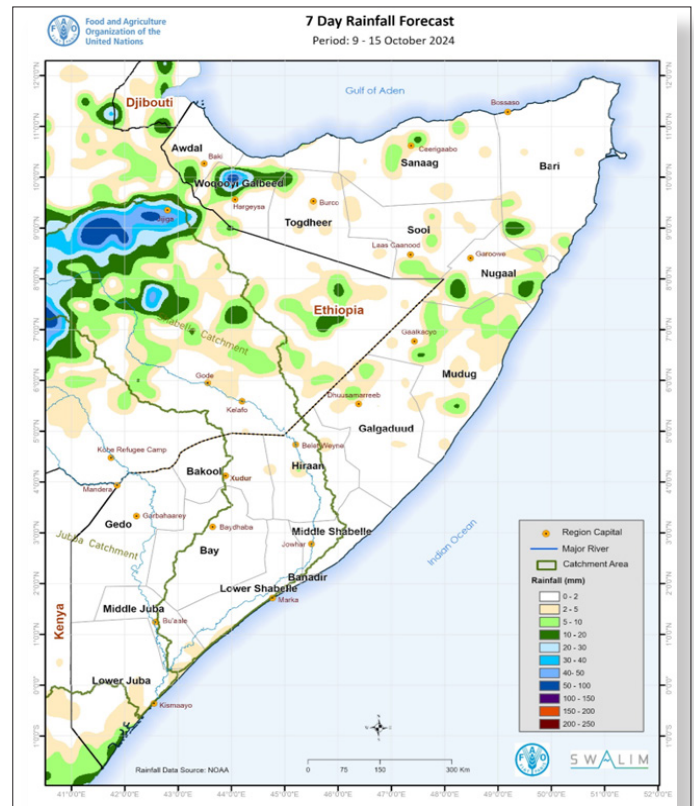
Moderate rainfall of between 50.0 and 100.0 mm is forecast over northern parts of both Gebiley and Hargeisa districts spreading outwards particularly at the districts' border areas.

Light rainfall of less than 50.0 mm is expected in the rest of the areas in Gebiley district and northern parts of Hargesisa district; Borama district in Awdal region; Sheikh district in Togdheer region; isolated areas in northern Sanaag particularly around Ceerigaabo; southern parts of both Qardho and Bandarbeyla districts in Bari region; isolated areas in Burtinle and Eyl districts in Nugaal region and coastal parts of both Badhaadhe and Kismaayo districts in Lower Juba region. There are also chances of light rains in very isolated areas in Sool and Mudug regions and Dhuusamarreeb district in Galgaduud region.

Dry conditions are likely over rest of the inland areas of the country including most places over Gedo, Middle Juba, Lower Juba, Bay, Bakool, Middle Shabelle and Hiraa regions. Similar conditions are likely over most parts of the Juba and Shabelle River catchments within Somali and across in Ethiopia.

Current River Levels

After the unusual rise in the water levels along the Shabelle River in September, the level at Belet Weyne dropped from flood risk in the first week of October. A steady rise has however been noted beginning with 5.35 m observed on 7 October 2024 to 5.78 m observed on 9 October 2024.



Map 1: Cumulative rainfall forecast over Somalia between 9 and 15 October 2024

This level is equivalent to last year's and above the LTM but sufficiently below moderate flood risk level.

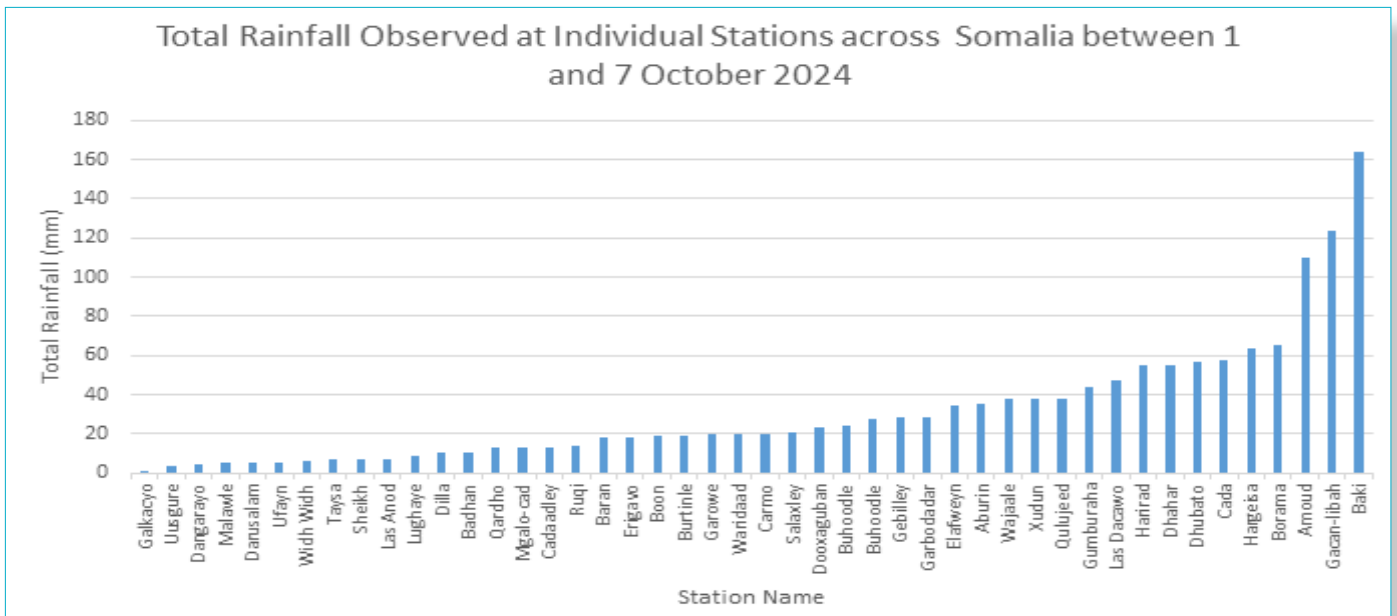
Although a noticeable peak was also observed along the Juba River in September, the water levels remained far much below flood risk levels. The levels were slightly above both 2023 and LTM levels in September but have since subsided in October.

Figures 1 and 2 show the current river levels against the Short Term Mean and 2023 levels for Belet Weyne and Luuq stations respectively.

Impacts Associated with the Weekly Weather Forecast

The general dry conditions with chances of light rainfall over some parts of the Juba and Shabelle River catchments within Somali and across in Ethiopia, implies that river levels will be sustained below flood risk levels. The water volumes along the river stretches are continuously being monitored for that might be occasioned by run off from past rains in the uppermost parts of the catchments in Ethiopian Highlands and scheduled dam operations.

The forecast moderate rainfall over the agropastoral livelihood zones in the central parts of Somaliland, coupled with the relatively good Gu and Karan rains over most parts of the region are likely to lead to continued replenishment and recharge of surface and groundwater water sources, and better soil moisture retention offering an opportunity for sustained livelihood activities. While these conditions are ideal for such agropastoral livelihoods as land clearance paving way for Deyr seasonal crop planting, it is advisable that short season crops and fodder should be considered in view of the forecast below normal rains.



Graph 1: Total Rainfall Observed at Individual Stations across Somalia between 1 and 7 October 2024

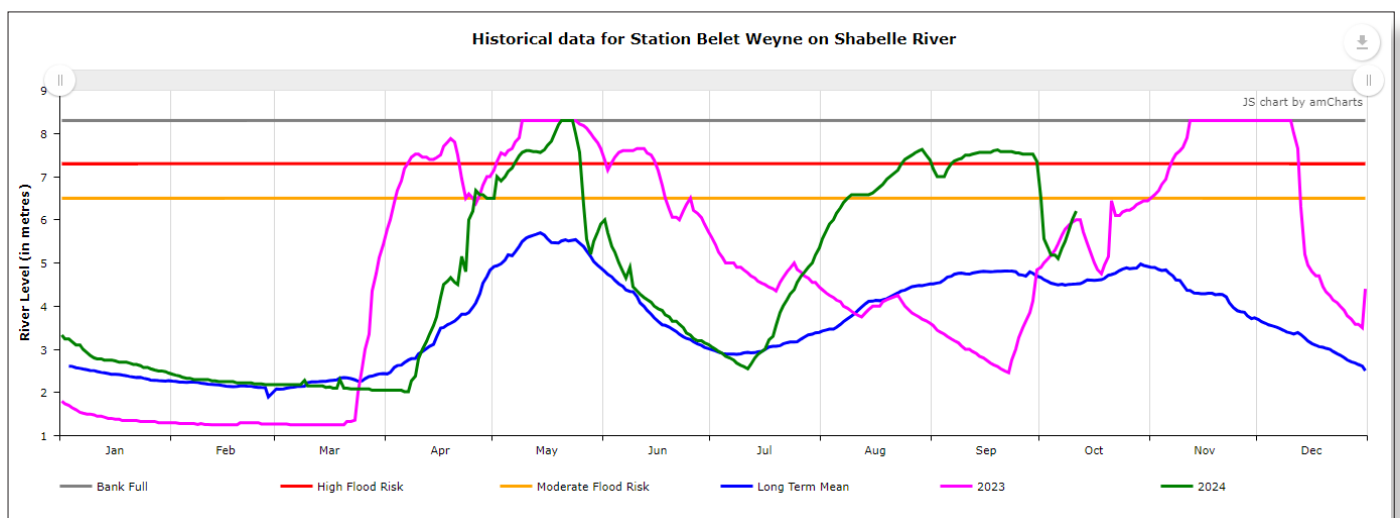


Figure 1: Shabelle river level at Belet Weyne gauging station as on 9 October 2024

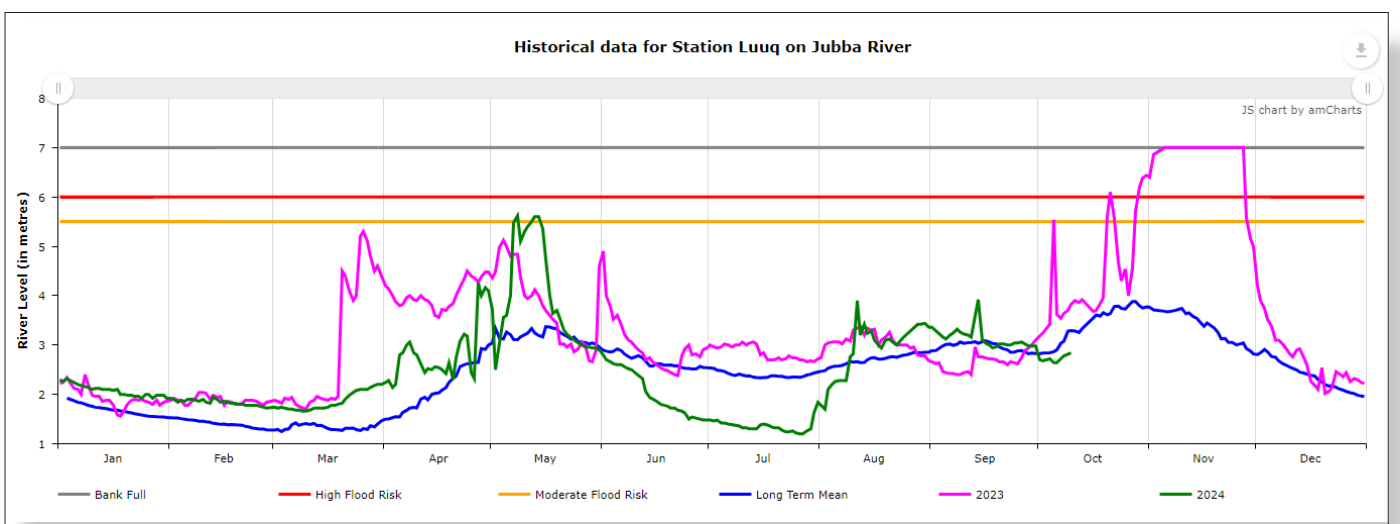
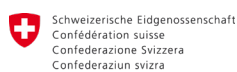


Figure 2: Juba River level at Luuq gauging station as on 8 October 2024

SWALIM is a multi-donor project managed by FAO and currently funded by The European Union, SDC, FCDO, AICS, Government of France and USAID



Funded by
the European Union



Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE