

Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 221

Country: Palau

Part 1: Recent climate

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Nov-2025	Dec-2025	Jan-2026				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Koror (1951-2025)	336.6	194.8	170.4	188.9	315.0	233.0	19/75

TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for November 2025 to January 2026

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
Koror (1951-2025)	701.8	Below normal	784.5	958.5	869.3	19/75

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for March and March to May 2026

Monthly: March 2026	Seasonal: March to May 2026
Rainfall (Image 1)	Rainfall (Image 2)
<p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):	Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):
<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):	Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):
<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1961-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 Model run: 02/02/2026 Issued: 04/02/2026</p> <p>7.81°N 7.61°N 7.41°N 7.21°N 7.01°N</p> <p>134.23°E 134.43°E 134.63°E 134.83°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>-- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>

Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

Monthly/Three months: January and November 2025 to January 2026

<h4>Monthly: January 2026</h4>	<h4>Last three months: November 2025 to January 2026</h4>
<h4>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 1):</h4>	<h4>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 4):</h4>
<p>Palau Monthly Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies: January 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 Reynolds</p>	<p>Palau Seasonal Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies : Nov 2025 - Jan 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 Reynolds</p>
<h4>Sea level anomaly (Image 2):</h4>	
<p>Palau Monthly Sea Level Anomaly: January 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 Generated using E.U. Copernicus Marine Service Information: https://doi.org/10.48670/moi-00149</p>	
<h4>National daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):</h4>	<h4>Pacific daily coral bleaching alert (Image 5):</h4>
<p>Palau Coral Bleaching Alert: 7 February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 NOAA</p>	<p>Pacific Islands Coral Bleaching Alert: 7 February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 NOAA</p>

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for March and March to May 2026

Monthly: March 2026	Seasonal: March to May 2026
Monthly sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 5):	Seasonal sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 6):
<p>Palau Monthly Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies: March 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 ACCESS-S2</p>	<p>Palau Sea Surface Temperature Seasonal : Feb - Apr 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 ACCESS-S2</p>
Monthly sea level anomaly (Image 7):	Seasonal sea level anomaly (Image 8):
<p>Palau Sea Level Anomaly: March 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 ACCESS-S2</p>	<p>Palau Sea Level Anomaly Seasonal : Feb - Apr 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 ACCESS-S2</p>
National 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 9):	Pacific 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 10):
<p>Palau 4 Week Coral Bleaching Outlook: 23 February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 NOAA</p>	<p>Pacific Islands 4 Week Coral Bleaching Outlook: 23 February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025 NOAA</p>

Summary Statement

Monthly and last three months: January/November 2025 to January 2026 statement

The rainfall for January and the past three months was below normal over Koror.

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for March and March to May 2026

Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements

The rainfall for March 2026 and the next three months is very likely to be above normal over majority of the country.

Maximum and minimum temperatures during March 2026 and averaged over March to May 2026 are very likely to be above normal over Palau.

Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement

Monthly and last three months: January/November 2025 to January 2026

January sea surface temperatures (SSTs) around northern Kayangel were 1.2 to 2.0°C above normal and SSTs around the remaining islands were 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal.

Averaged over November 2025 to January 2026, sea surface temperatures around the main islands were 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal and SSTs around the southwest islands were 0.4 to 0.8°C above normal.

January sea levels around majority of Palau were 100 to 200 mm above normal, and sea levels around Sonsorol and Pulo Anna were 60 to 100mm above normal.

A coral bleaching Watch status is currently in effect for the southern main islands as of February 7.

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for March and March to May 2026

Ocean Variable statement

March 2026 sea surface temperatures around majority of Palau are predicted to be 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal and SSTs around Sonsorol are predicted to be 0.4 to 0.8°C above normal.

Averaged over March to May 2026, sea surface temperatures around Palau are predicted to be 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal.

March 2026 sea levels around the main islands and Sonsorol are predicted to be 100 to 200 mm below normal.

Averaged over March to May 2026, sea levels around the main islands are predicted to be 100 to 200 mm below normal.

Coral Bleaching outlook indicates No Stress status for the next 4 weeks.

In brief for Teleconference

- Rainfall was below normal for January and November 2025 to January 2026.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates above normal most likely in March 2026 and above normal for total rainfall over March to May 2026.
- SSTs were above normal for January and November 2025 to January 2026. The outlook shows above normal SSTs for the next one and three months.
- Sea levels were above normal for January. Below normal sea levels are predicted for March and March to May 2026.

TABLE 3: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders (January 2026)

Product	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Disability	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Weekly Fisheries Bulletin – Jan. 6	*Various stakeholders and Social Media, see list below Table 4.	150	60	90	-	Social media Views: 401 Reach: 226 Engagement: 6 Followers:71% Non-followers: 29% Likes: 0 Shares: 0 Women: 56% Men: 44% Unknown: 0% Age, Other: 36.4%, 55-64: 20.1% 35-44: 20.4% 25-34: 23.1% Countries: Palau 82.2%, US 7.5%, Other 8.0%, and FSM 2.3%
Weekly Weather Bulletin – Jan. 6	Various stakeholders and Social Media	150	60	90	-	Social media Views: 1,315 Reach: 847 Engagement: 26 Followers:49% Non-followers: 51% Likes: 5 Shares: 3 Women: 56% Men: 43% Unknown: 1% Age, Other: 35.0%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 24.7% 35-44: 22.4% 25-34: 17.9% Countries: Palau 65.2%, US 12.8%, Other 12.2%, and Guam 9.8%
Deck Card : High Surf Advisory – Jan. 10	Social Media					Social media Views: 5,213 Reach: 3,358 Engagement: 198 Followers:45% Non-followers: 55%

						<p>Likes: 67 Heart: 1 Wow: 14 Comments: 3 Shares: 5 Women: 55% Men: 44% Unknown: 1% Age, Other: 35.2%, 55-64: 21.7 45-54: 23.0% 35-44: 20.1% 25-34: 0% Countries: Palau 73.4%, US 16.2%, Other 5.9%, and Guam 4.5%</p>
Deck Card : Small Craft & High Surf Advisory – Jan. 12	Social Media					<p>Social media Views: 931 Reach: 702 Engagement: 17 Followers:78% Non-followers: 22% Likes: 14 Heart: 0 Wow: 0 Comments: 0 Shares: 1 Women: 56% Men: 43% Unknown: 1% Age, Other: 31.7%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 22.6% 35-44: 24.4% 25-34: 21.3% Countries: Palau 83.4%, US 8.1%, Other 6.6%, and PI 1.9%</p>
Monthly Rainfall & Avg Temp for Dec. 2025	Various stakeholders and Social Media	150	60	90	-	<p>Social media Views: 1,352 Reach: 834 Engagement: 17 Followers:66% Non-followers: 34% Likes: 4 Heart: 0 Wow: 0 Comments: 0 Shares: 3 Women: 68% Men: 31% Unknown: 1% Age, Other: 31.8%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 18.8% 35-44: 23.4% 25-34: 26.0% Countries: Palau 78.7%, US 10.2%, Other 7.8%, and Guam 3.3%</p>
Weekly Fisheries	Various stakeholders	150	60	90	-	<p>Social media Views: 539 Reach: 283</p>

Bulletin – Jan. 13	and Social Media					Engagement: 15 Followers:74% Non-followers: 26% Likes: 0 Heart: 0 Wow: 0 Comments: 0 Shares: 0 Women: 64% Men: 34% Unknown: 2% Age, Other: 32.7%, 55-64: 18.5 45-54: 0% 35-44: 22.6% 25-34: 26.2% Countries: Palau 78.7%, US 10.2%, Other 7.8%, and Guam 3.3%
Weekly Weather Bulletin – Jan. 13	Various stakeholders and Social Media	150	60	90	-	Social media Views: 1,596 Reach: 867 Engagement: 46 Followers:68% Non-followers: 32% Likes: 3 Heart: 0 Wow: 0 Comments: 0 Shares: 7 Women: 64% Men: 34% Unknown: 2% Age, Other: 31.3%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 17.7% 35-44: 27.4% 25-34: 23.6% Countries: Palau 80.5%, US 9.0%, Other 6.3%, and PI 4.2%
Deck Card : EAR Watch – Jan. 13	Social Media					Social media Views: 2,497 Reach: 943 Engagement: 10 Followers:66% Non-followers: 34% Likes: 6 Heart: 1 Saves: 1 Wow: 0 Comments: 0 Shares: 7 Women: 67% Men: 32% Unknown: 1% Age, Other: 36.7%, 55-64: 21.7 45-54: 0% 35-44: 20.7% 25-34: 20.9% Countries: Palau 71.0%, US 10.1%,

						Other 10.0%, and PI 8.9%
Weekly Fisheries Bulletin - Jan. 27	Various stakeholders and Social Media	150	60	90	-	Social media Views: 600 Reach: 342 Engagement: 19 Followers:76% Non-followers: 24% Likes: 2 Heart: 1 Saves: 1 Wow: 0 Comments: 1 Shares: 7 Women: 55% Men: 40% Unknown: 4% Age, Other: 34.7%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 19.8% 35-44: 21.6% 25-34: 23.9% Countries: Palau 78.3%, US 9.2%, Other 7.0%, and PI 5.5%
Weekly Weather Bulletin – Jan. 27	Various stakeholders and Social Media	150	60	90	-	Social media Views: 1,338 Reach: 762 Engagement: 40 Followers:73% Non-followers: 27% Likes: 5 Heart: 0 Saves: 0 Wow: 0 Comments: 1 Shares: 5 Women: 63% Men: 35% Unknown: 3% Age, Other: 33.7%, 55-64: 0 45-54: 20.1% 35-44: 25.7% 25-34: 20.5% Countries: Palau 75.8%, US 12.6%, Other 8.3%, and Guam 3.3%
CliDEsc training for Palau WSO	WSO Staff and NIWA rep	4	0	4	-	
Total		154	60	94		

Stakeholder category	Do your products reach this group? (Y/N)	Tailored product? (Y/N)
Agriculture sector	Y	Y
Disaster Risk Reduction sector	Y	Y
Energy sector	Y	Y
Health sector	Y	Y
Water sector	Y	Y
Fisheries and Aquaculture sector	Y	Y
Tourism sector	Y	Y
Maritime sector	Y	Y
Research & education sector	Y	Y
Women's [] organisations	Y	N
National disability organisations	Y	Y
Community based organisations (e.g. councils)	Y	N
Products offered in local dialects/ languages	N	N

Table 4: Impacts of Severe weather and climate events

Dates	Phenomena/Event	Location	Image
January 23, 2026 Reported by the Ministry of Justice, social media page.	Capsized vessel; 12 passengers, 8 injured, 3 deceased, and 1 lost at sea	Angaur State	

Stakeholder Email List of 150 Total Participants=60(M)+90(F): 16 State Gov Offices, Coral Reef Research Foundation, Ministry of Health, JICA, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Pristine Paradise Palau (Visitors Authority), Palau Housing, Palau Executive Office, Palau House of Delegates, Local UNDP, Island Times, Japan Embassy, US Embassy, NEMO, Local and Regional UNEP CISPac5 PMU, Bureau of Marine Transportation, Palau Red Cross, Palau Public Utilities Corporation, PALARIS, CIP, Public Works, Division of Customs and Border Patrol, NOAA Pacific Region Headquarter, ECO Paradise Radio/TV, Palau Small Business Development Center, Bureau of Foreign Affairs-Ministry of State, Australia Embassy, Tia Belau Newspaper, Palau National Communications Corporation, and WSO Palau.