

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

Country: Vanuatu

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)				
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola (1971-2025)	167.9	360.4	334.6	315.7	448.6	379.9	21/54
Pekoa (1971-2025)	154.7	301.5	485.2	243.2	355.0	290.3	46/56
Lamap (1961-2025)				163.4	270.6	212.9	
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield (1972-2025)	79.3	191.4	268.4	211.5	325.6	257.2	32/55
Port Vila (1953-2025)	95.0	171.0	206.5	200.4	325.4	243.2	26/74
Whitegrass (1972-2025)	38.7	54.6	112.4	114.0	223.6	168.2	19/54
Aneityum (1952-2025)	116.2	134.4	144.8	156.8	351.6	246.7	24/74

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

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
<b>Northern Region</b>						
Sola (1971-2025)	862.9	Below normal	1041.5	1355.1	1186.8	8/51
Pekoa (1971-2025)	941.4	Above normal	603.9	819.0	627.6	42/54
Lamap (1961-2025)			436.6	551.3	478.6	
<b>Southern Region</b>						
Bauerfield (1972-2025)	539.1	Normal	451.1	699.5	602.8	24/53
Port Vila (1953-2025)	472.5	Normal	442.9	672.9	573.9	28/73
Whitegrass (1972-2025)	205.7	Below normal	262.5	415.6	331.6	12/53
Aneityum (1952-2025)	395.4	Below normal	432.7	686.8	601.5	19/73

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

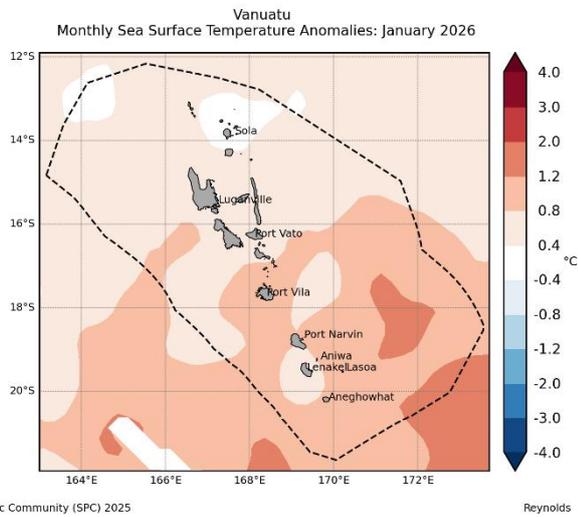
Monthly: March 2026	Seasonal: March to May 2026
<p><b>Rainfall (Image 1)</b></p> <p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p><b>Rainfall (Image 2)</b></p> <p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
<p><b>Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):</b></p>	<p><b>Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):</b></p>
<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>
<p><b>Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):</b></p>	<p><b>Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):</b></p>
<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>	<p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for March to May 2026</p> <p>Base period: 1981-2010 Model: ACC135-52 Model run: 09/02/2026 Issue: 11/02/2026</p> <p>13°S, 14°S, 15°S, 16°S, 17°S, 18°S, 19°S</p> <p>167°E, 168°E, 169°E, 170°E</p> <p>Below normal (%) Near normal (%) Above normal (%)</p> <p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2026 Bureau of Meteorology supported by CSIRO</p> <p>-- -- ILL border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).</p>

## Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

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

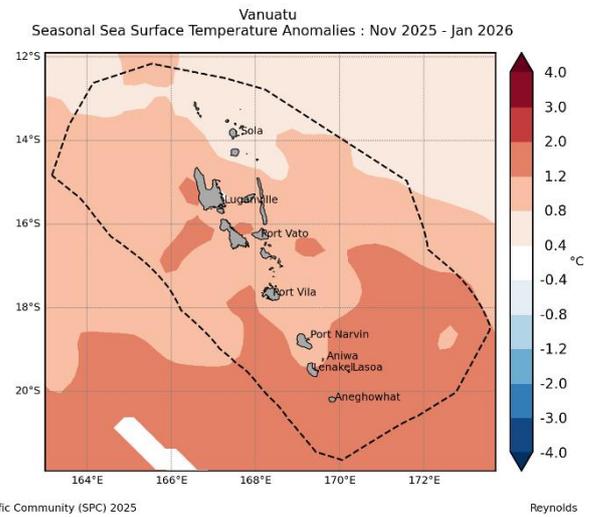
#### Monthly: January 2026

#### Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 1):

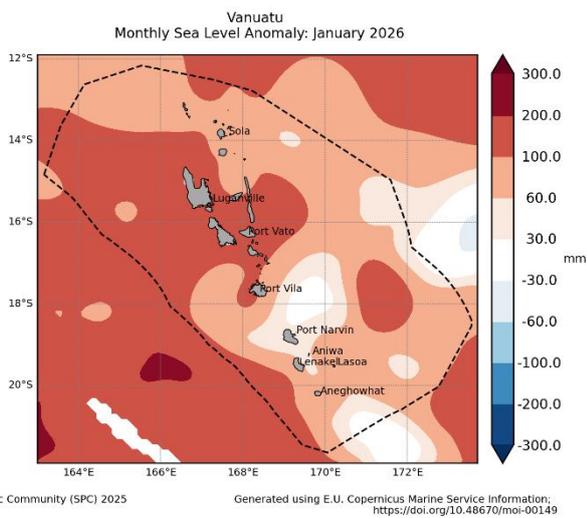


#### Last three months: November 2025 to January 2026

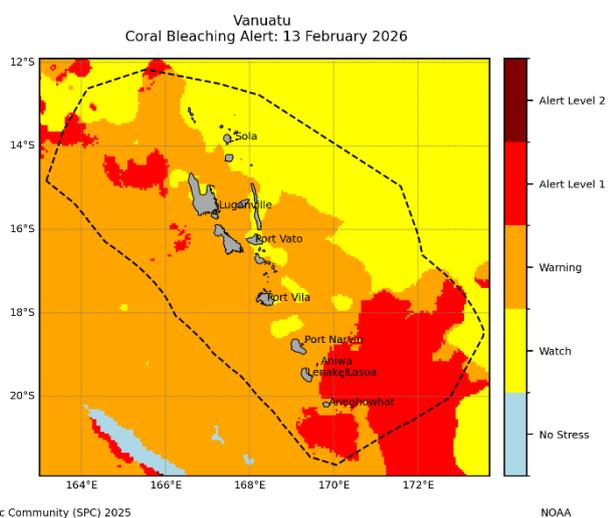
#### Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 4):



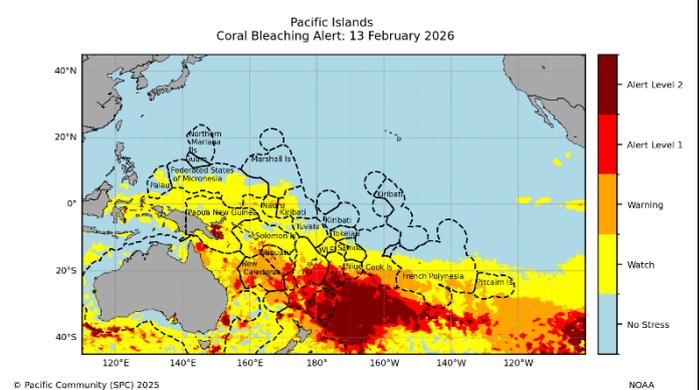
#### Sea level anomaly (Image 2):



#### National daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):



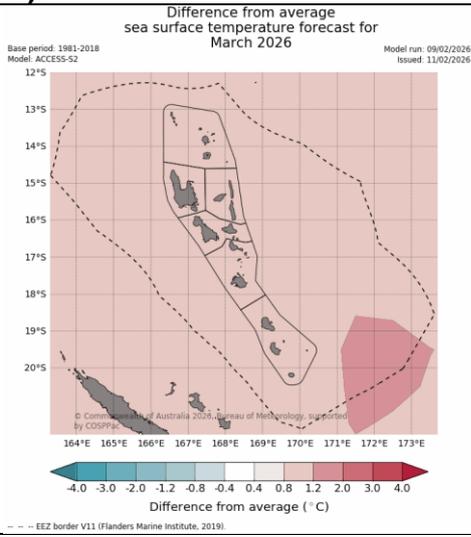
#### Pacific daily coral bleaching alert (Image 5):



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

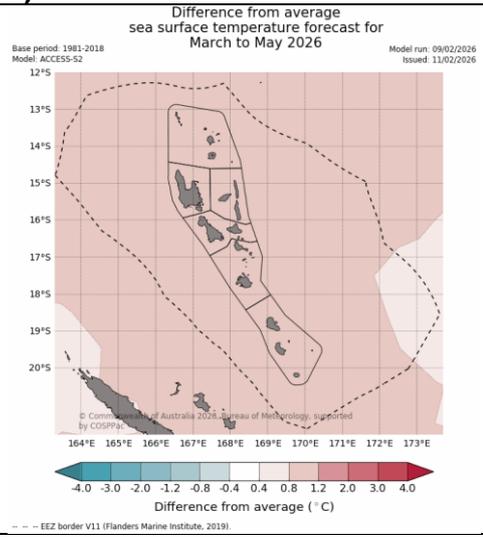
**Monthly: March 2026**

**Monthly sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 5):**

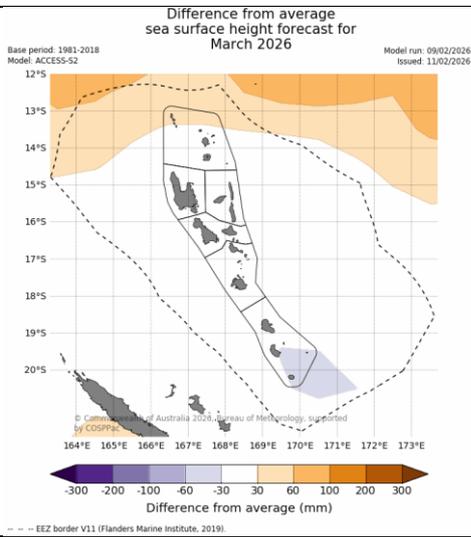


**Seasonal: March to May 2026**

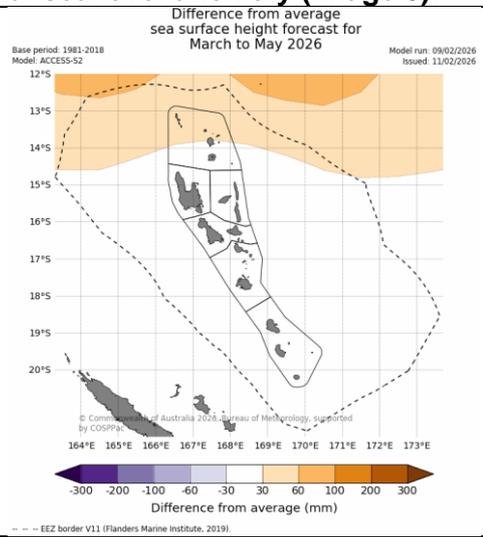
**Seasonal sea surface temperature anomaly (Image 6):**



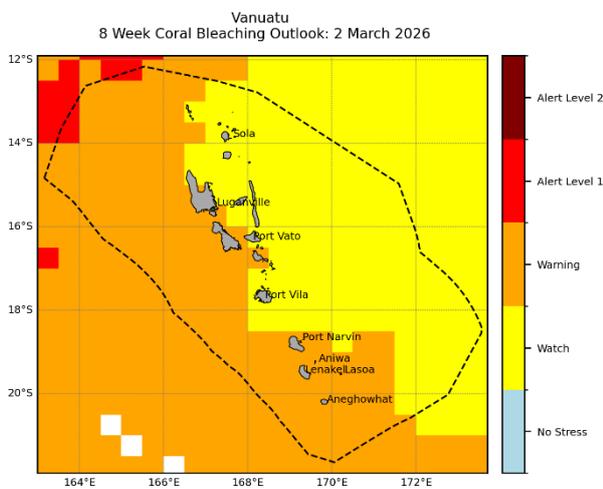
**Monthly sea level anomaly (Image 7):**



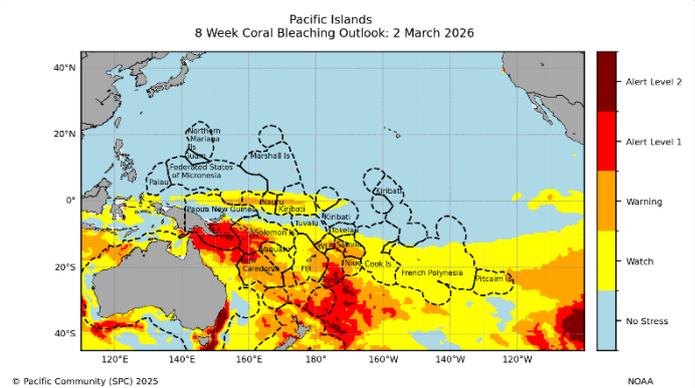
**Seasonal sea level anomaly (Image 8):**



**National 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 9):**



**Pacific 4-week Coral Bleaching Outlook (Image 10):**



## **Summary Statement**

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

The rainfall for January was above normal over Pekoa, normal over Sola, Bauerfield, Port Vila, and below normal over Whitegrass and Aneityum.

For the past three months, rainfall was above normal over Pekoa, normal over Bauerfield and Port Vila, and below normal over Whitegrass and Aneityum.

## **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 is very likely to be above normal over most of the northern and central provinces, while the southernmost islands show a transition toward near-normal rainfall conditions.

The rainfall for March to May 2026 is very likely to be above normal for most of the country, especially the northern provinces, while the far south shows a transition towards near-normal conditions.

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

## **Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement**

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

January sea surface temperatures (SSTs) around Vanuatu were 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

Averaged over November 2025 to January 2026, sea surface temperatures around Vanuatu were 0.4 to 2.0°C above normal.

January sea levels around Vanuatu ranged from near-normal to 200 mm above normal.

A coral bleaching Warning is currently in effect for the northern and central waters, while the southernmost waters of Vanuatu are in Alert 1.

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

### **Ocean Variable statement**

Sea surface temperatures for March, and averaged over March to May 2026, around Vanuatu are predicted to be 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal.

March 2026 sea levels are predicted to be near normal to slightly above normal, approximately 30 to 60 mm, across most of Vanuatu, with slightly below-normal levels, approximately 30 to 60 mm, expected over the far southern islands.

Averaged over March to May 2026 sea levels are predicted to be near normal to slightly above normal, approximately 30 to 60 mm, across most of Vanuatu.

Coral Bleaching outlook indicates Watch to Warning status for the next 8 weeks.

## In brief for Teleconference

- Rainfall was above normal at Pekoa, near normal at Sola, Bauerfield and Port Vila, and below normal at Whitegrass and Aneityum, both for January and the past three-month period.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates above normal across most of Vanuatu, particularly in the northern and central provinces, while the southernmost islands are expected to experience near-normal conditions for the March, and March to May period.
- Sea surface temperatures around Vanuatu were 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal in January and are predicted to remain 0.8 to 1.2°C above normal for March and the March to May 2026 period.
- January sea levels around Vanuatu ranged from near normal to about 200 mm above normal, while March 2026 sea levels are predicted to be near normal to slightly above normal, around 30 to 60 mm above normal, with slightly below-normal levels of about 30 to 60 mm below normal expected in some southern areas.
- A coral bleaching Warning is currently in effect for the northern and central waters, while the southernmost waters of Vanuatu are in Alert 1, and the coral bleaching outlook indicates Watch to Warning status for the next 8 weeks.

**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)
Climate Bulletin						
EAR Watch						
Monthly Climate Briefing						
Ocean Outlook						
Climate data request						
Total						

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

**Table 4: Impacts of Severe weather and climate events**

