



Pohnpei and Kosrae States Federated States of Micronesia

Early Action Rainfall Watch

The Early Action Rainfall Watch provides sector managers with a brief summary of recent rainfall patterns, particularly drought and the rainfall outlook for the coming months

Issued: 06/16/2026

ENSO Alert System Status: **El Niño Advisory**

Synopsis: El Niño conditions are present and expected to strengthen into the Northern Hemisphere winter 2026-27.

Status summary to May 2026:

In **May 2026** (1-month timescale), Very Wet conditions were observed for Oroluk, Pohnpei, Ngatik, Mokil, Pingelap and Kosrae and No Extreme conditions for Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi.

Over **March 2026 to May 2026** (3-month timescale), Very Wet conditions were observed for Oroluk, Pohnpei, Mokil, Pingelap and Kosrae. Very Dry conditions were observed over Nukuoro and No Extreme condition for Ngatik and Kapingamarangi

Over **December 2025 to May 2026** (6-month timescale), Very Wet conditions were observed over Oroluk, Pohnpei and Mokil and No Extreme conditions were observed for Ngatik, Pingelap, Kosrae, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi.

Outlook summary:

For **July 2026**, there is a Very High chance of Very Wet conditions for Pohnpei, Mokil and Pingelap and a High Chance of Very Wet conditions for Oroluk, Ngatik and Kosrae. Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi has a Low Chance of extreme conditions.

For **August 2026**, there is a High chance of Very Dry conditions for Ngatik and Nukuoro and a Medium Chance of Very Dry conditions for Oroluk, Pohnpei, Mokil and Pingelap. Kosrae and Kapingamarangi has a Low Chance of extreme conditions.

For **September 2026**, there is a High chance of Very Dry conditions for Nukuoro and a Medium chance of Very Dry conditions for Oroluk, Pohnpei, Ngatik, Kapingamarangi, Mokil, Pingelap and Kosrae.

Impacts

After the specified period the agricultural and hydrological systems listed below are likely to be impacted. Note the periods are estimates only. Allow for uncertainty associated with island size, geology and soil type. Contact your local Disaster Coordination Office for more information on impacts.



For Pohnpei State

Very Dry impact

1-month is most relevant for: Shallow rooted crops (e.g., cucumbers, bell pepper, eggplant, and cabbage), pink eye outbreak (outer islands), water hour (scheduled)

3-months is most relevant for: Sakau, Low water level in Dam, socio-economic stress, increasing cost of food crops, outer islands schools close, firing (wild fires), bush/forest fires, outer islands wells dry up, cholera and skin disease outbreak, purchase of water tanks for outer islands (1000 gallons), boiling of drinking water

6-months is most relevant for: Yam, banana, tapioca, sweet potato, wells dry up, theft and burglary, main island river and streams running low, main island schools close

12-months or more: Giant Taro, citrus trees, breadfruit, coconut, mango, betelnut, outer island migration

Very Wet impacts

1-month is most relevant for: rotting of sweet potato, eggplant, cucumber, cabbage, yam, sakau.

Landslides and floods. Water contamination of wells, rivers and streams. Relocation of communities next to rivers and streams. Marine and land transportation difficulties e.g. increased cancellation of flights, risk for fisherman, increase in pot holes and unsafe to drive. Increase in disease outbreak e.g. diarrhea, typhoid. Population increase. Ocean sedimentation.

Prolonged periods of very wet conditions can have positive impacts such as allowing small island communities to collect and store rainwater for future dry periods.

For Kosrae state

Very Dry Impacts

1-month is most relevant for: Cucumbers, cabbage, water for cooking, low water pressure, clean drinking water, household water tank, water for garden, contaminated springs

3-months is most relevant for: boil drinking water, betelnut, tomato, chili peppers, banana, yam, tapioca sweet potato, cucumber, eggplant, cabbage, pineapple and bell pepper. Fire, small streams, freshwater fish, disease

6-months is most relevant for: water tanks and rain catchment, breadfruit, taro, coconut, mango, freshwater fish migration.

12-months or more is most relevant for: tangerine, lime, sakau

Very Wet Impacts

1-month is most relevant for: rotting of shallow rooted crops, watermelon, yam, soft taro. Internal migration away from frequently flooded areas, landslides and mud slides, marine and land transportation difficulties (roads deteriorate), contamination of surface and groundwater, and contamination of streams and marine areas with human waste.

Prolonged periods of very wet conditions can have positive impacts such as allowing small island communities to collect and store rainwater for future dry periods.

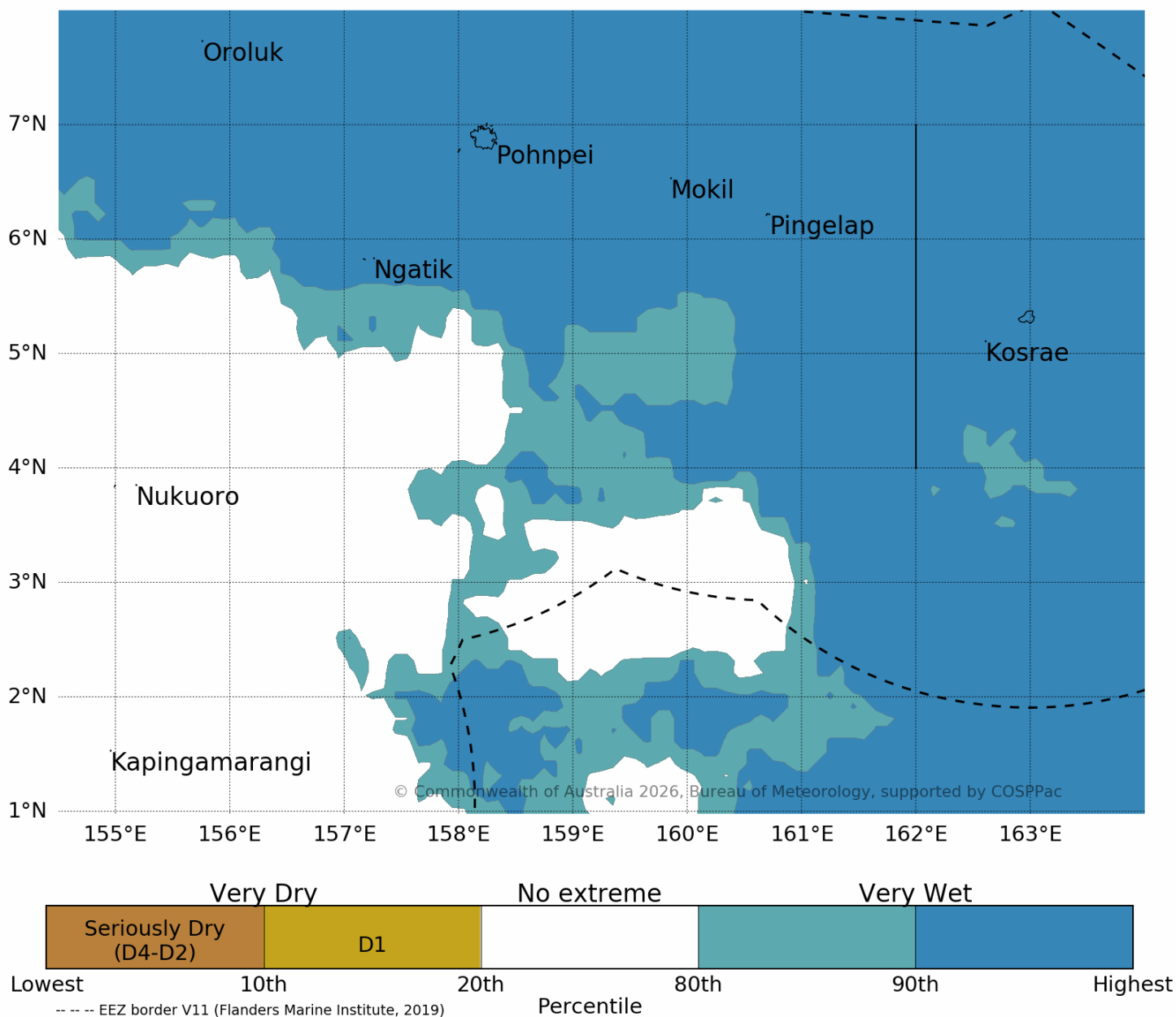
3-months is most relevant for: root system of small banana trees rot and fall over, damage to some vegetable crops. Prolonged ground saturation is associated with more frequent and severe landslides.

Rainfall monitoring for the last 1-6 months to the end of April 2026

1-month Rainfall status to May 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021

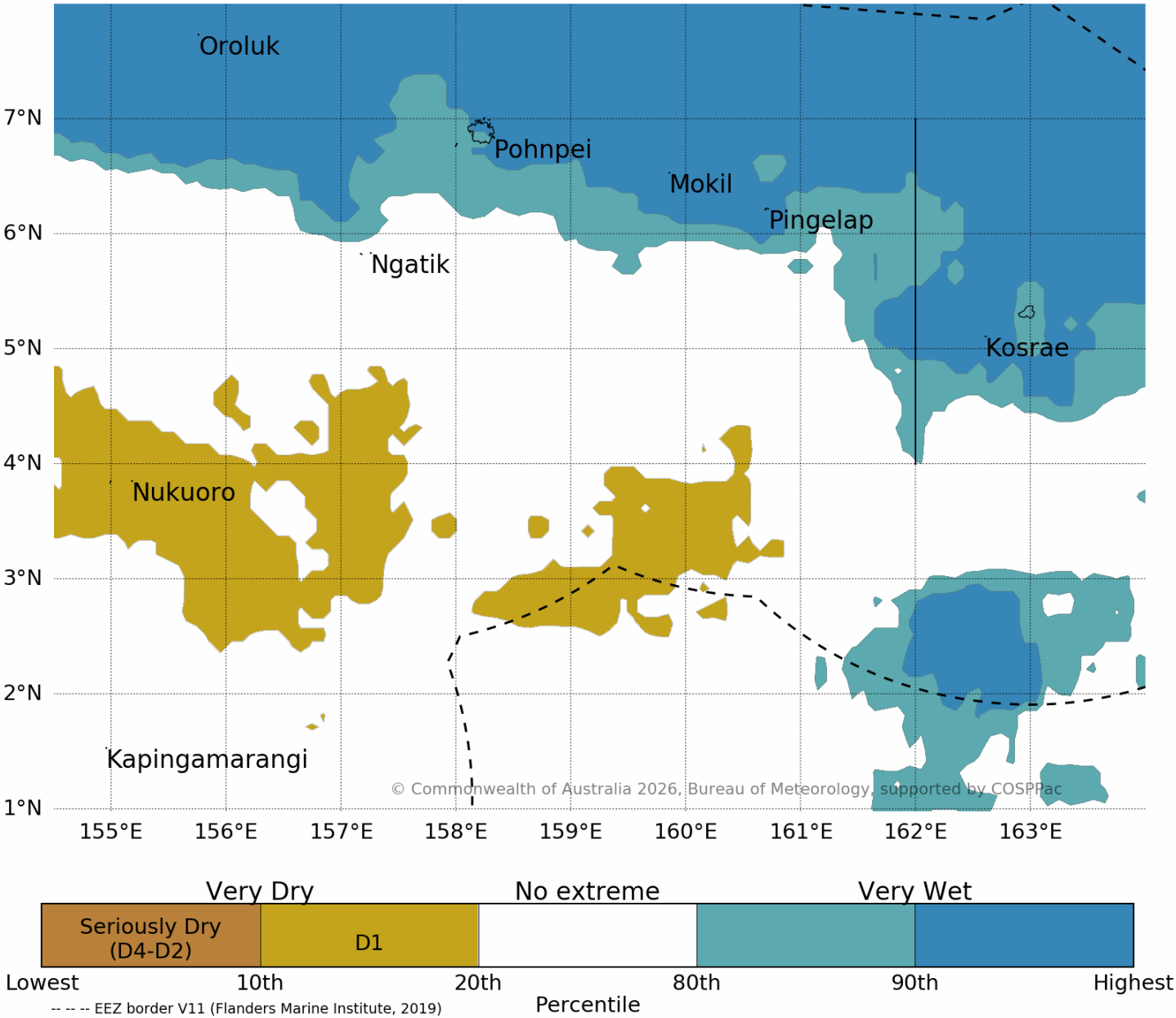
Issued: 07/06/2026



3-month Rainfall status to May 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021

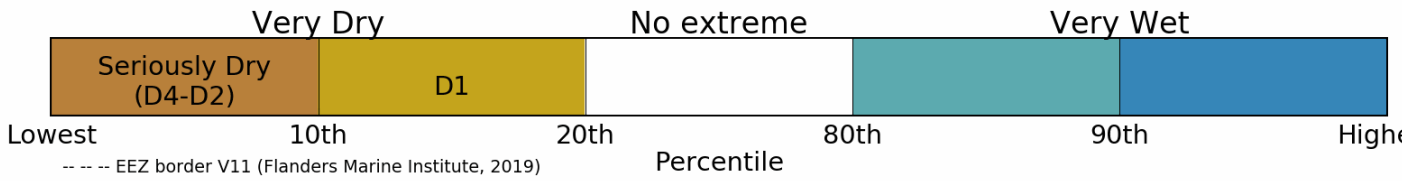
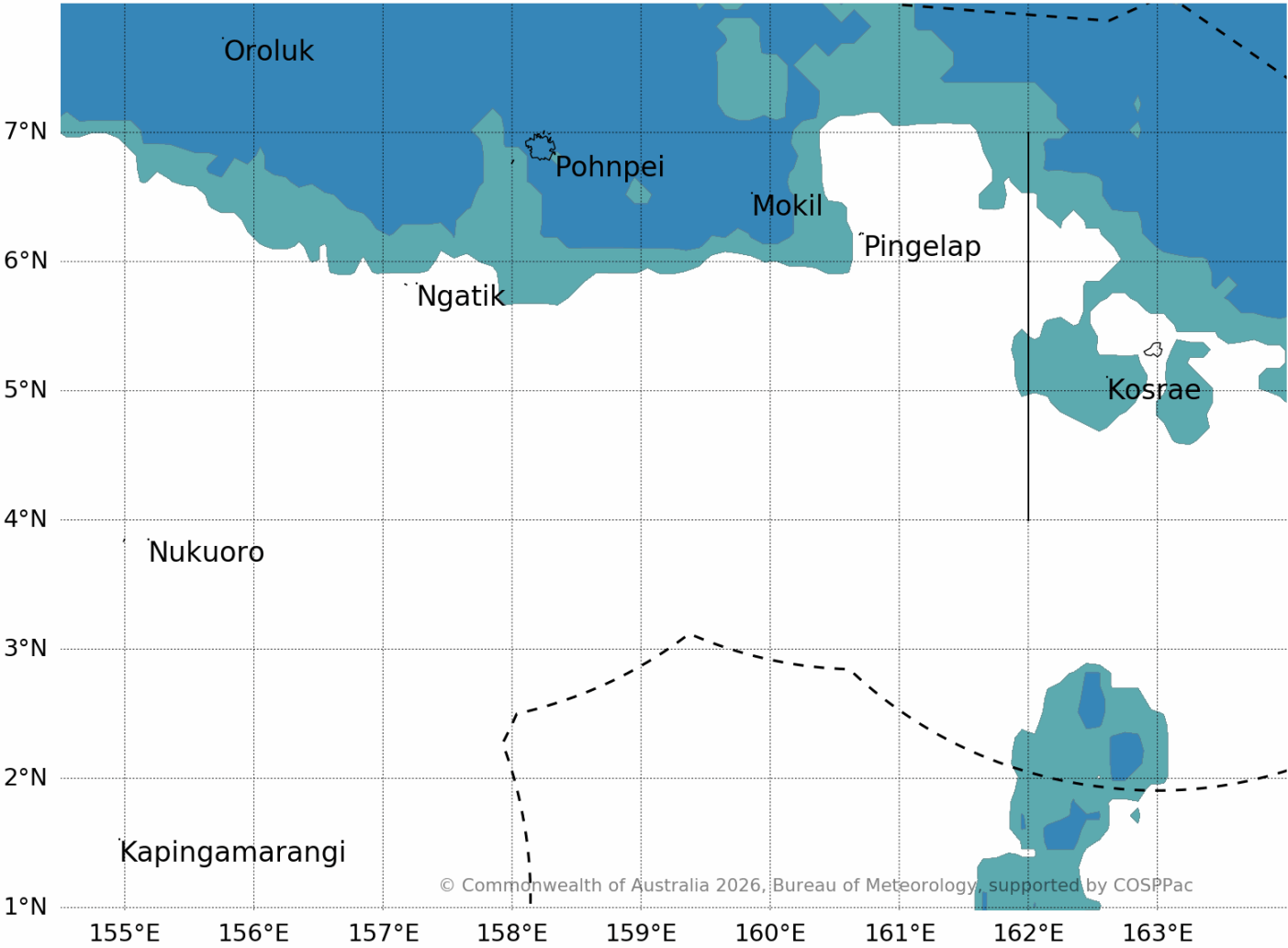
Issued: 07/06/2026



6-month Rainfall status to May 2026

Data source: MSWEP
Base period: 1981-2021

Issued: 07/06/2026

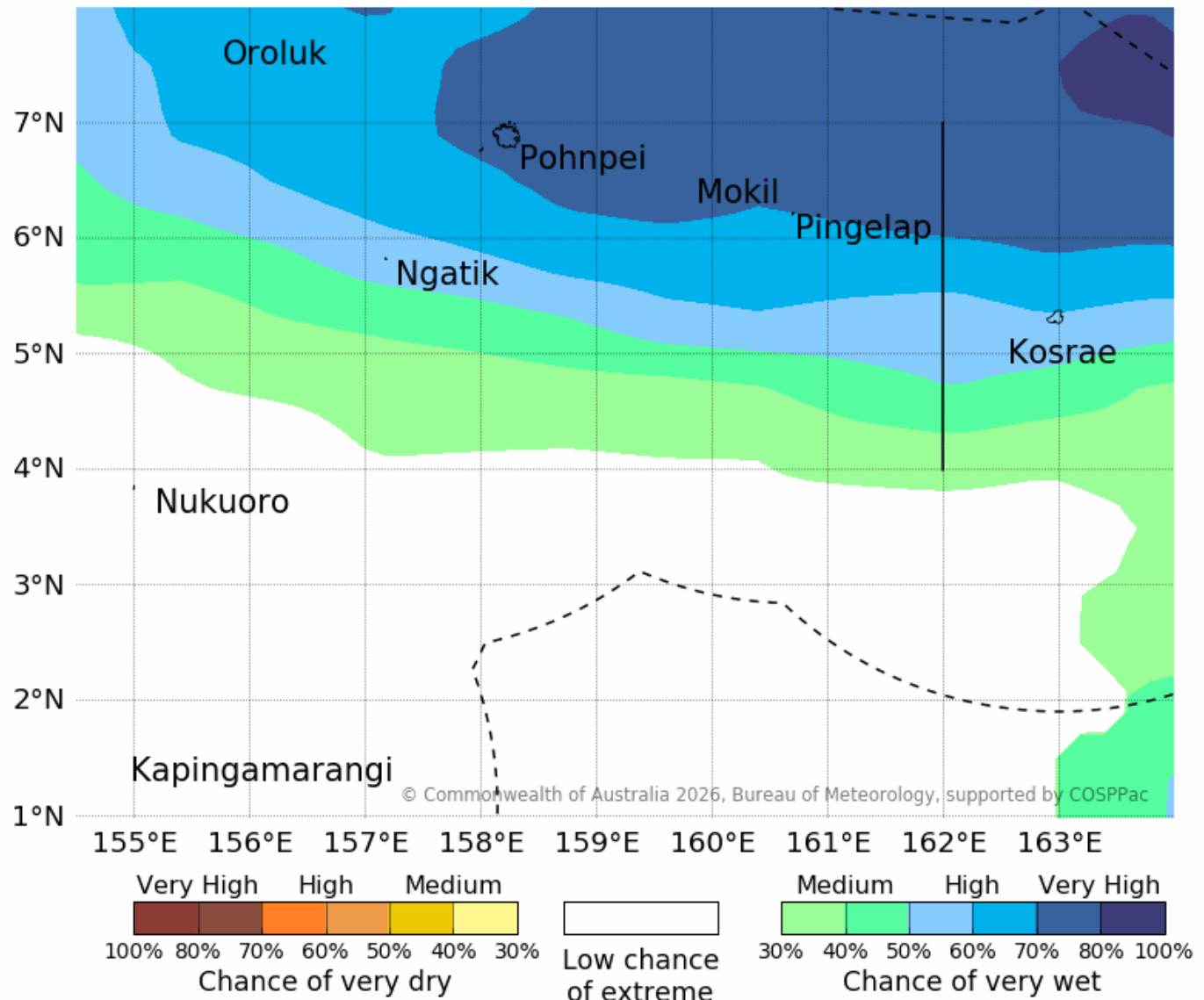


Rainfall Outlooks for July 2026 to September 2026

Chance of extreme rainfall for July 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Base period: 1981-2018

Model Run: 06/06/2026
Issued: 08/06/2026

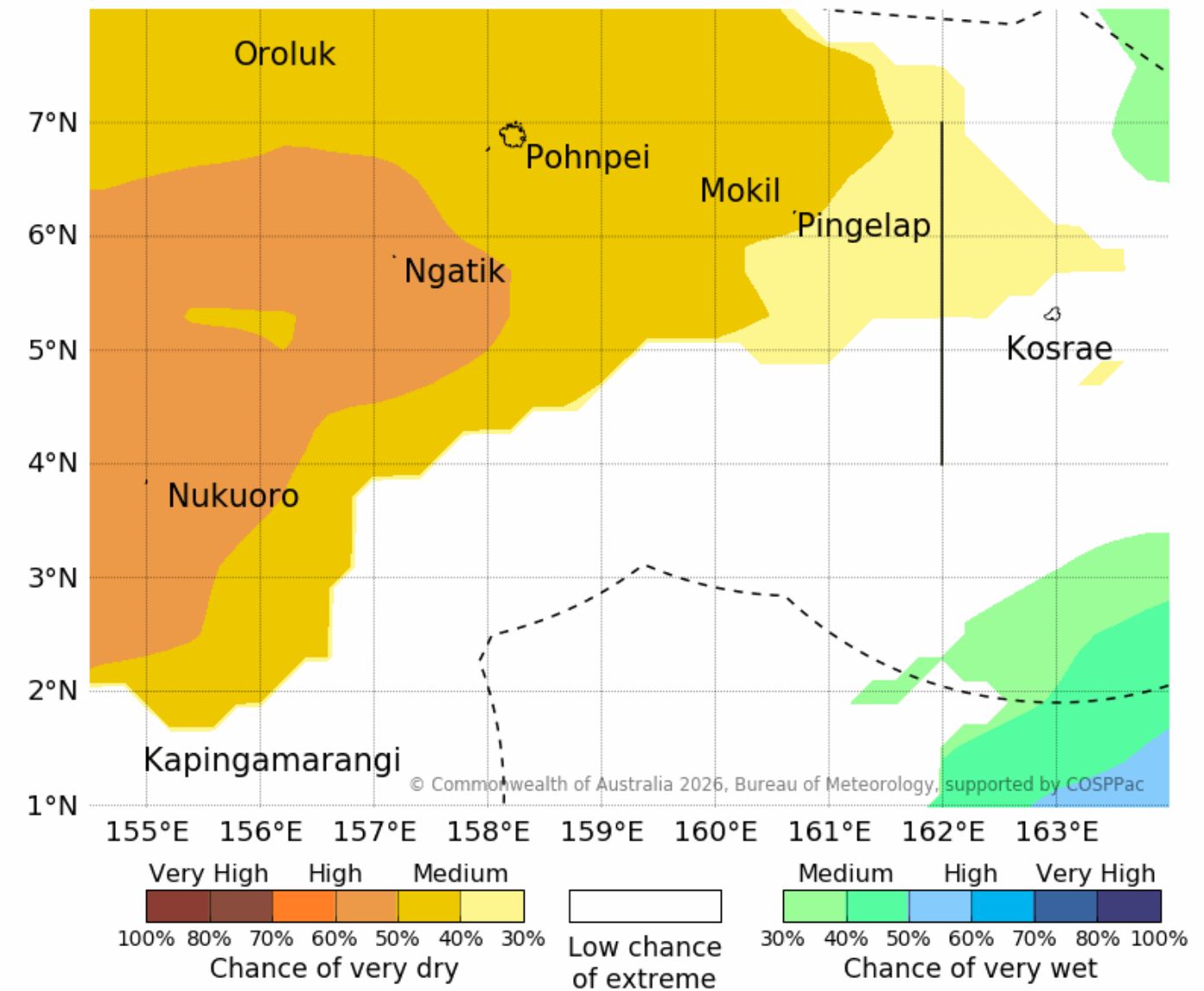


-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).

Chance of extreme rainfall for August 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Base period: 1981-2018

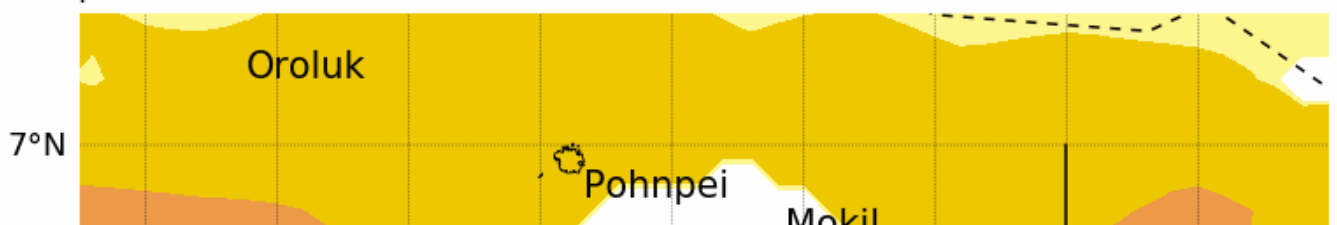
Model Run: 06/06/2026
Issued: 08/06/2026



Chance of extreme rainfall for September 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Base period: 1981-2018

Model Run: 13/06/2026
Issued: 15/06/2026



About Rainfall Monitoring

The 'rainfall status' maps are based on rainfall values from the MSWEP dataset which are then converted to the percentile index. The percentile index calculates the ranking of rainfall observed for a period against corresponding periods in the historical record for a particular timescale. MSWEP is a global precipitation product that combines rain gauges, satellite and ERA-5 reanalysis data and is provided at a 0.1° resolution. *Seriously Dry is defined as meteorological drought assessed by rainfall data only. It corresponds to rainfall for that period being in the bottom 10% of the historical record.* 'No extreme' indicates that rainfall is within the middle 60% of historical observations for the respective timescale. In other words, rainfall that is not 'extreme'. The 3-, 6- and 12-month timescales are more accurate representations of drought while the 1month timescale can be used to provide an indication of recent 'dry (or wet) spell' conditions.

About Rainfall Outlook

The 'chance of extreme rainfall' maps are based on the likelihood of Very Wet or Very Dry conditions. This is equivalent to the chance that rainfall for that forecast period will be in the top or bottom 20% of historical observations for that selected period. The darker the shading, the more likely these extreme scenarios are. The white shading refers to a low chance of extreme which means the most likely scenario for that outlook period is for rainfall to be 'near average' or slightly below average or slightly above average (not Very Wet nor Very Dry). The outlooks have been produced using the [Australian Bureau of Meteorology ACCESS-S2 model](#).

Contact the following Weather Service Office Pohnpei for further information.

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