

Flood Watch Somalia

Issued 19 May, 2009



FLOOD WARNING LEVEL

	Last Week	This week	Next Week
Shabelle			
Juba			

KEY TO WARNING LEVELS

- Severe Flooding Possible
- Moderate Flooding (up to 5 year return period)
- Minimal/No Flood Risk

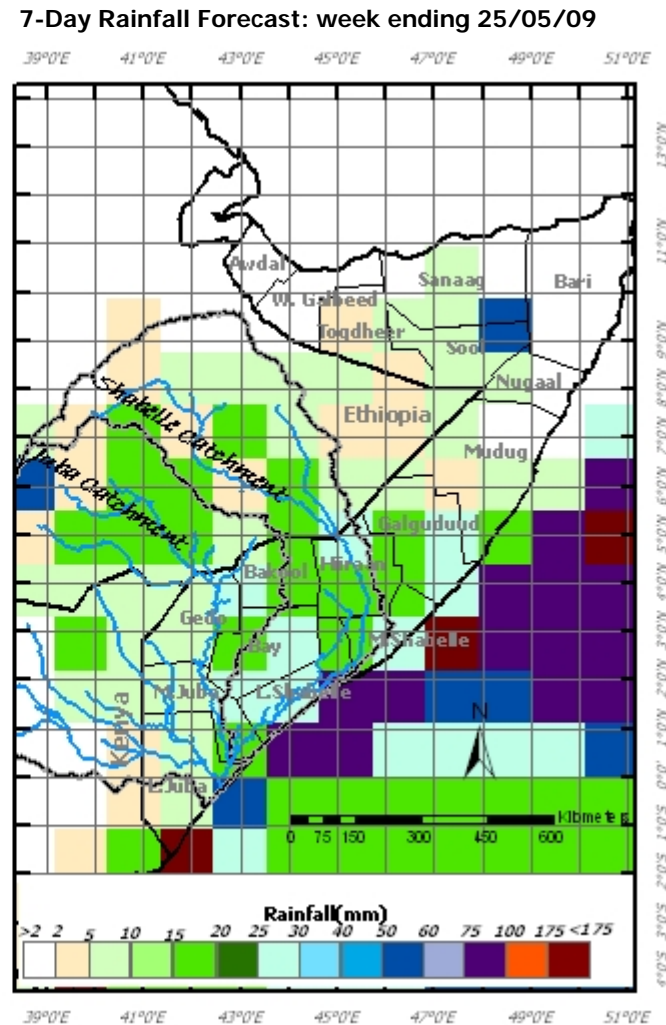
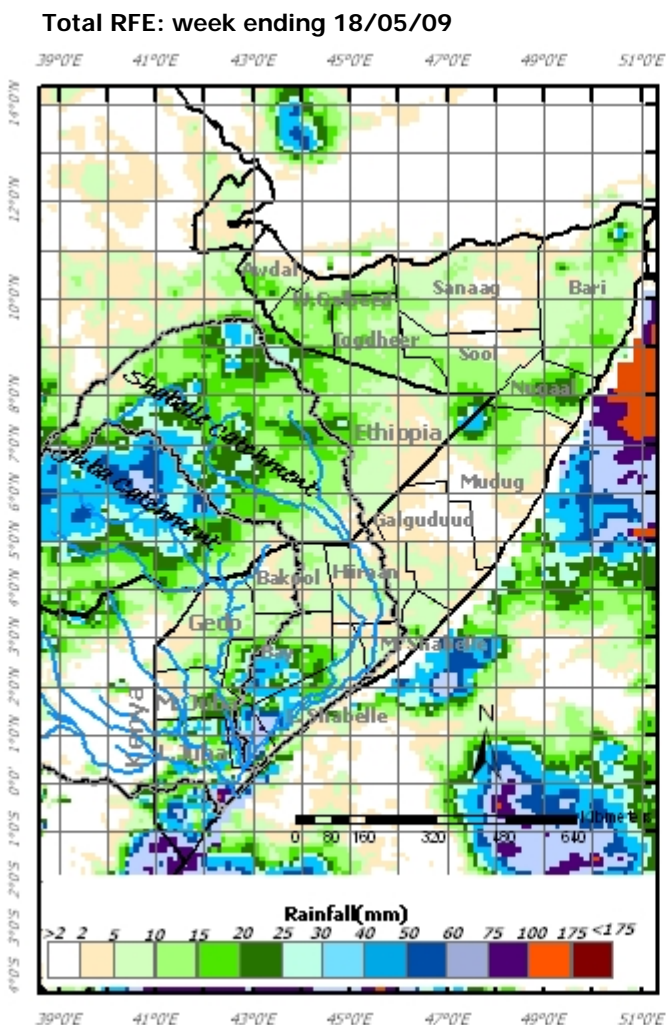
During the week ending May 18th, 2009 good to moderate rains were reported in few locations along the Juba and Shabelle rivers within Somalia — See table below.

Station Name	Bulo Burti	Belet Weyne	Bualle	Marere	Luuq	Badade	Kismayo
Rainfall (mm)	56.0	23.0	0.0	32.5	0.0	12.3	27

The upper catchments of the Juba and Shabelle rivers in Ethiopia received good rains as indicated in the 7-day cumulative satellite rainfall estimate (RFE) image below.

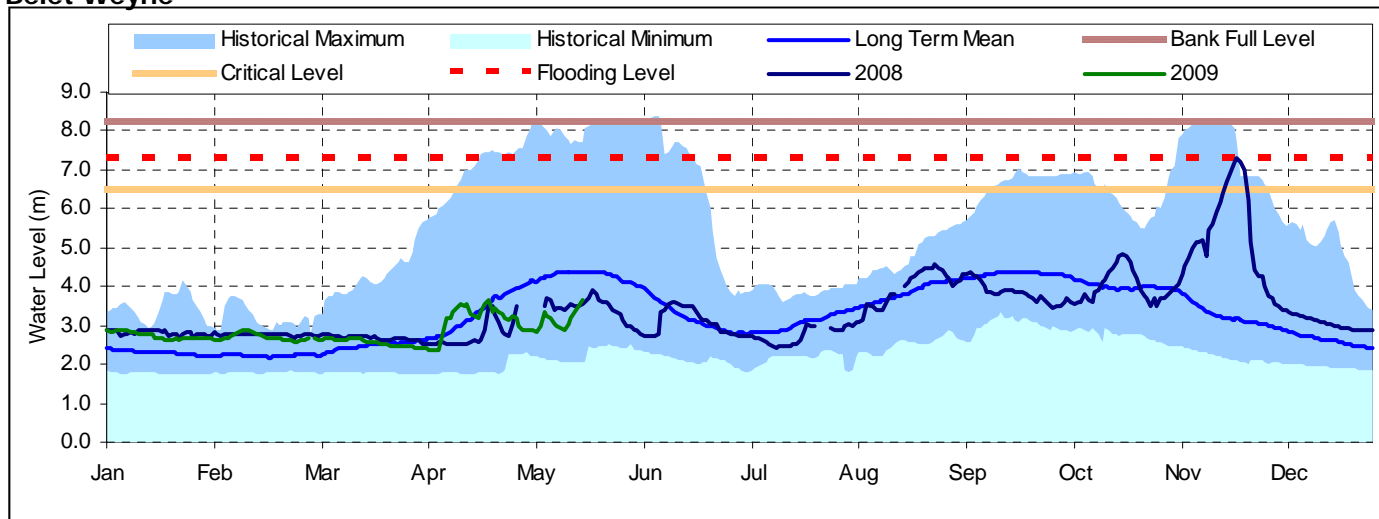
The rainfall forecast for the coming week is pointing towards light to moderate rains in the catchments, both in Ethiopia and within Somalia.

There is no risk of flooding in both the Juba and Shabelle catchments during the coming week. The river levels remained below normal during this period.



This bulletin is produced by the FAO Somalia Water and Land Information Management (SWALIM) Project, USGS and, FEWS NET Somalia.

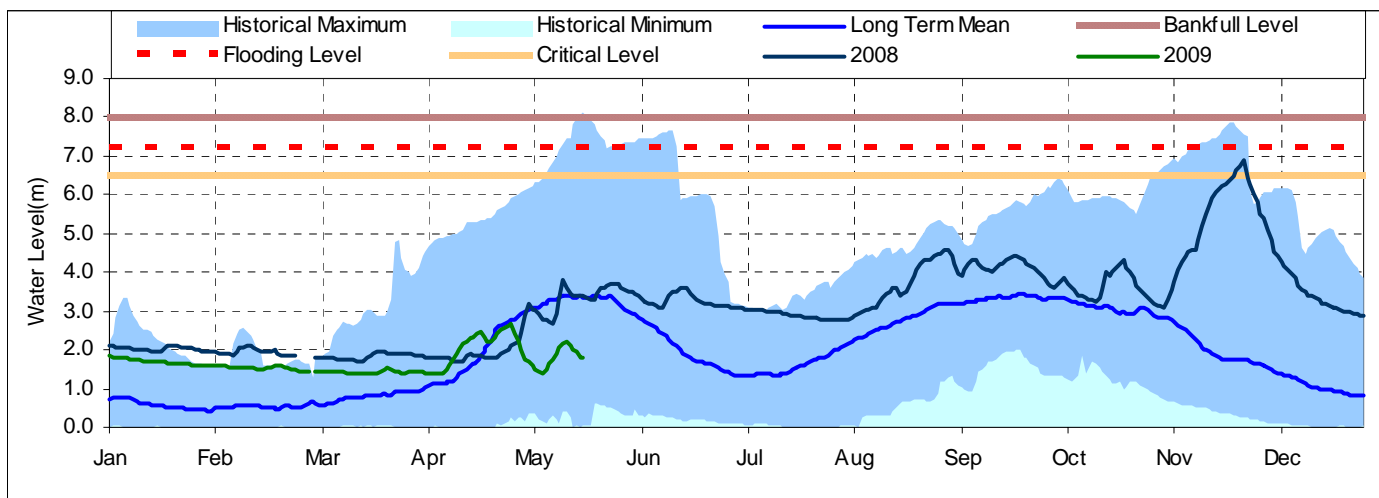
Belet Weyne



Date	Current river levels	Relative position of current river levels from:			
		Previous day	Low Flood Risk	Moderate Flood Risk	High Flood Risk
18/05/2009	3.65	0.15	2.25	2.85	3.65
17/05/2009	3.50	0.15	2.40	3.00	3.80
16/05/2009	3.35	0.15	2.55	3.15	3.95

Observed river levels at Belet Weyne increased slightly from the last week and are currently below normal at this time of the year. Today's river level is 3.65 m which is 3.65 m below the high risk flood level.

Bulo Burti



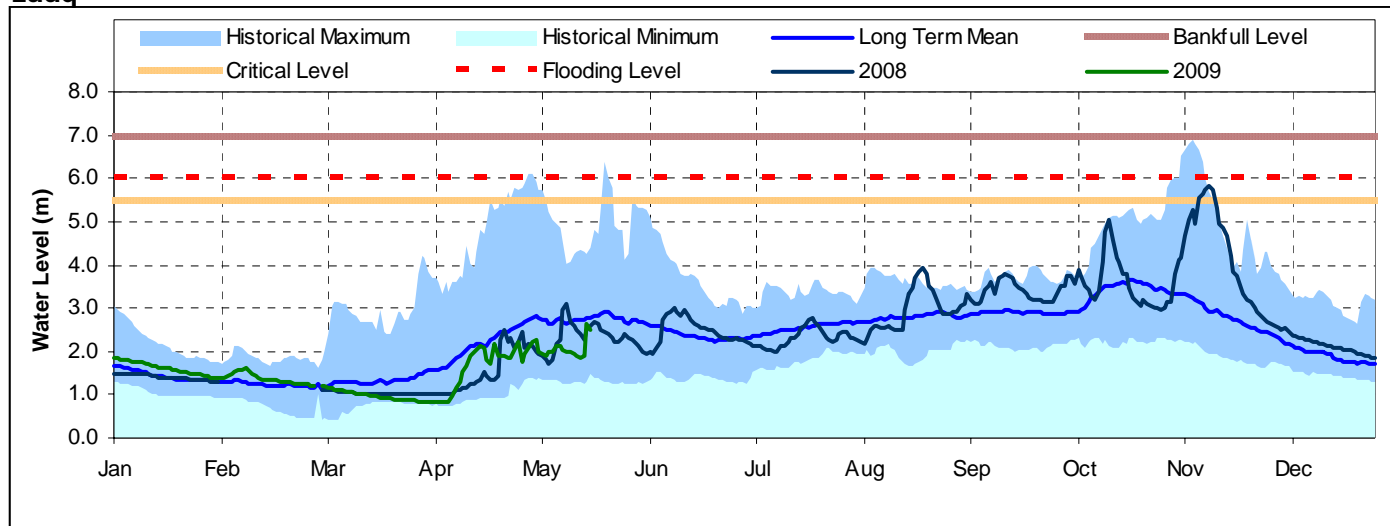
Date	Current river levels	Relative position of current river levels from:			
		Previous day	Low Flood Risk	Moderate Flood Risk	High Flood Risk
18/05/2009	1.78	-0.02	4.22	4.72	5.42
17/05/2009	1.8	-0.16	4.20	4.70	5.40
16/05/2009	1.96	-0.06	4.04	4.54	5.24

Observed river levels at Bulo Burti fluctuated during the last week with current river level at 1.78 m, which is 5.42 m below the high flood risk level.

Forecast for coming week for Shabelle

River levels along the Shabelle River remained low during this Gu season and are currently below normal through out the river channel. There is no risk of flooding during the forecast period.

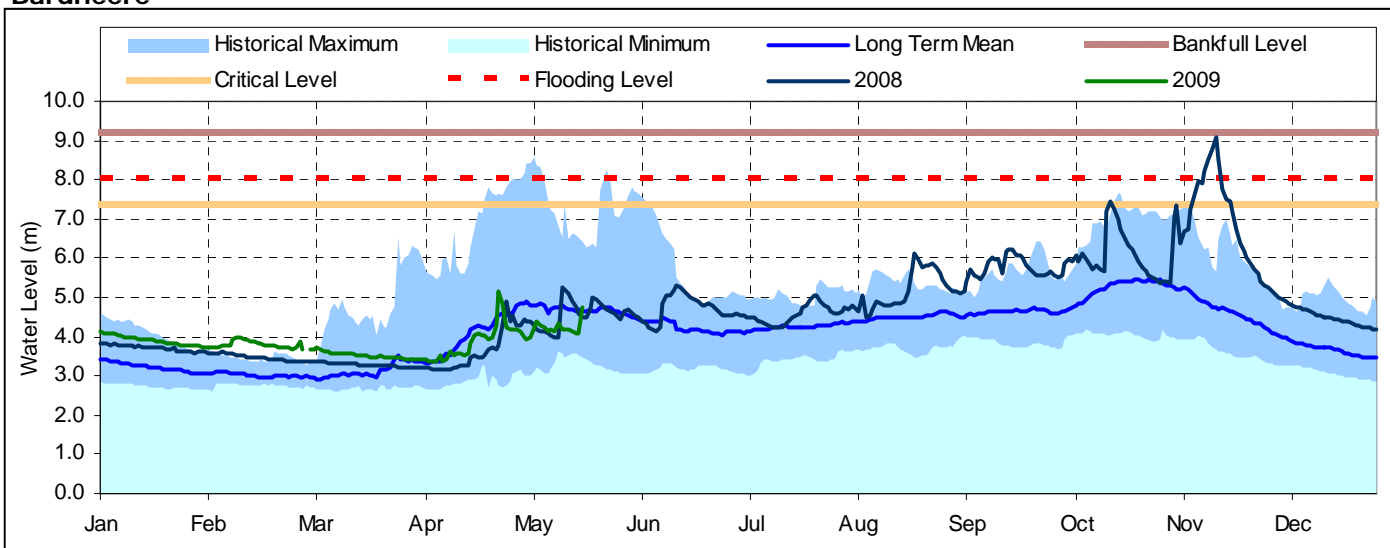
Luuq



Date	Current river levels		Relative position of current river levels from:			
	Levels	Previous day	Low Flood Risk	Moderate Flood Risk	High Flood Risk	
18/05/2009	2.48	0.15	2.72	3.02	3.52	
17/05/2009	2.63	-0.74	2.57	2.87	3.37	
16/05/2009	1.89	-0.03	3.31	3.61	4.11	

River levels at Luuq slightly decreased over the last week, before increasing slightly towards the end of the week. The current river level is 2.48, which is below normal during this time of the year.

Bardheere



Date	Current river levels		Relative position of current river levels from:			
	Levels	Previous day	Low Flood Risk	Moderate Flood Risk	High Flood Risk	
18/05/2009	4.75	0.67	2.27	2.67	3.27	
17/05/2009	4.08	-0.02	2.94	3.34	3.94	
16/05/2009	4.10	-0.02	2.92	3.32	3.92	

Observed river levels at Bardheere remained fairly stable over the last week, but increased towards the end of the week. Today's river level is at 4.75 m which is 3.27 m below the high flood risk level.

Forecast for coming week for Juba

River levels along the Juba remained low during this Gu season and are currently below normal throughout the river channel. There is no risk of flooding during the forecast period.