



04 May 2020

FLOOD WARNING LEVEL					
River Basin/Region	This Week (04 – 10 May)	Following Week (11 – 16 May)	River Basin/Region	This Week (04 – 10 May)	Following Week (11 – 16 May)
Shabelle	Severe Flood Risk	Severe Flood Risk	Central regions	No Flood Risk	No Flood Risk
Juba	Severe Flood Risk	Severe Flood Risk	Puntland	No Flood Risk	No Flood Risk
Bay and Bakool	Moderate Flood Risk	Moderate Flood Risk	Somaliland	No Flood Risk	No Flood Risk

FLOODS UPDATE

The week that ended on 03 May saw increased rainfall in most regions in Somalia. Heavy rains led to flash floods in northern regions and riverine flooding along the Juba River in the south. The significant rains received so far, follows another above average rainy season, observed during the Deyr (October-December) 2019 season. There has been a general improvement in pasture and ground water recharge across the country.

The rainfall forecast for this week is for more rains, especially in the Juba and Shabelle river basins, while there will be a slight reduction of rains in the northern regions. Moderate to high flood risk is likely to persist at least through mid-May, threatening urban and riverine populations, including in Belet Weyne (Hiran) and Jowhar (Middle Shabelle).

Shabelle River: River levels continued to rise following heavy rains within the Shabelle River basin in both Ethiopia and inside Somalia. Mataban, Belet Weyne, Bulo Burti, Jowhar and Balcad rainfall stations recorded over 50mm in the last week. Today, the river level at Belet Weyne is 7.20m, which is just 0.10m less the high risk flood level and 1.10m less the bank-full level. The river level at Bulo Burti continued to rise slowly reaching 4.55m today. In Jowhar, the river level reached 5.30 m, which is the high-risk flood level and has remained so in the last four days. Localized flooding has been reported in Tugaarey village within Jowhar district. A similar trend has been observed in Balcad and the lower reaches of the river. The levels are expected to continue rising along the entire channel of Shabelle as more waters from the Ethiopian highlands are still streaming in. **High risk** of flooding is foreseen along the Shabelle during this week and the following week. Further, reports from the Ethiopian catchment indicate high river levels and flooding in some locations. There is therefore a high likelihood that these waters will reach in Belet Weyne in two to 5 days, which will likely exceed bank full level in the area. It is advisable that the riverine communities within Belet Weyne to prepare for possible evacuation in the course of the week. Existence of river breakages (50 points identified and reported by SWALIM in February 2020) along the Shabelle is likely to exacerbate the flooding situation unless urgent measures are taken.

Juba River: River levels were very high at the beginning of last week and started to drop slightly in the last three days in Dollow, Luuq and Bardheere monitoring stations, all within Gedo region. Flood waters started to recede back to the river in Bardheere and this has in turn led to an increase of levels in the downstream reaches where flooding continue to be observed. Using high-resolution satellite images, SWALIM identified 51 Km² of flood-affected areas along the Juba for the period 23 to 30 April 2020. The worst affected areas are found in Saakow, Buaale, Jilib and Jamame districts. Given the current high levels and rainfall forecast, there is a **High risk** of flooding along the entire Juba river channel.

In Bay and Bakool regions: Heavy rains resulted to flash floods in some areas within Bay and Bakool regions. In the last week of April, Baidoa station recorded 190mm while Dinsor recorded 110mm of rainfall. In Bakool region, 88 mm and 178 mm of rainfall were recorded in Hudur and El Berde stations respectively in the same period. Flash floods were observed in Qansadheere, Dinsor districts where around 124 Ha of crop fields comprising of Sorghum, Maize, Beans and Sesame were affected. **Moderate risk** of flooding remains in this area.

Puntland, Somaliland and Central regions: Since the beginning of the rainy season, moderate to heavy rains have been reported in many parts of the northern regions. Heavy storms in Qardho, Bari region and Burao in Togdheer region on the night of 27 April 2020 led to severe flash floods leading to massive destruction of properties and loss of lives. In Puntland, more than 10 stations in Bari, Nuugal and Mudug regions recorded heavy rains of between 50 mm to 100 mm cumulatively in the last seven days. Moderate rains have also been observed in Somaliland. This week will see a reduction of rainfall amounts in both areas with no risk of flash floods.

RAINFALL FORECAST

Forecasts for the next week shows an intensification of rainfall within the Juba and Shabelle basins both in Ethiopia and Somalia. Heavy rains are expected in middle Galgaduud region in the next 48 to 72 hours and this may lead to flash floods in the area. Foreseen heavy rains in Lower Juba are likely to lead to further flooding in the region.

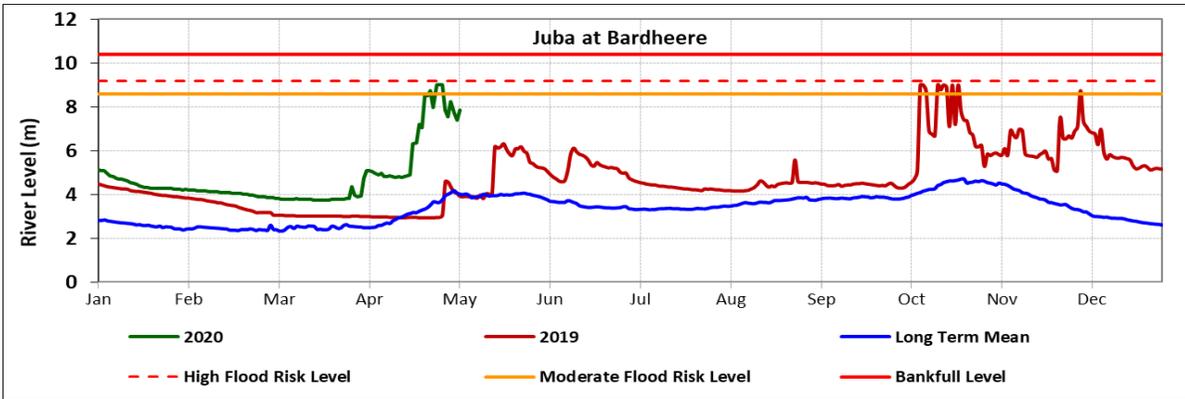
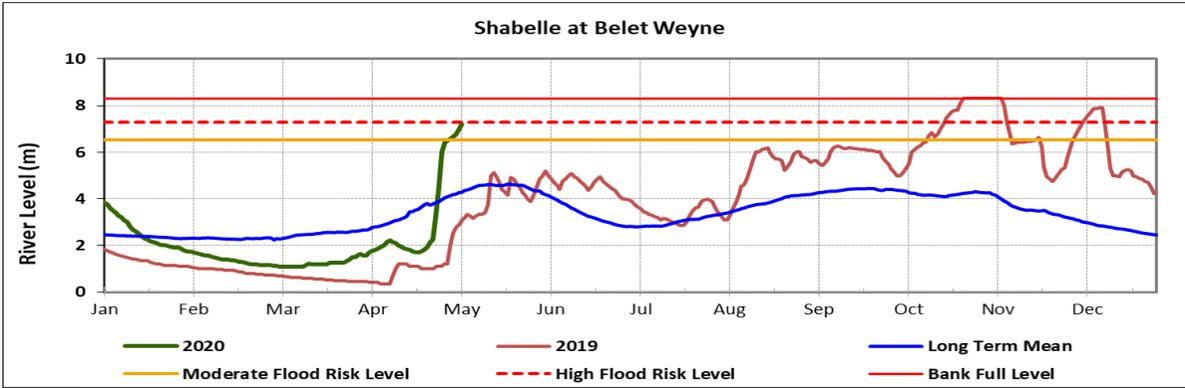
FLOODS AND RAINS UPDATE

 Hotspots	Week in review (27 Apr – 03 May)	Week ahead (04 - 10 May)
Juba		
Upper <i>(From Dollow to Bardheere)</i>	Moderate to heavy rains recorded. River level increased Flooding reported in Bardheere district	 Moderate rainfall forecast in the coming week An increase in river levels to bank full , following the foreseen moderate to high rains in the Ethiopian highlands and inside Somalia River flooding in Bardheere to continue
Mid and Lower <i>(from Saakow to Kismayo)</i>	Moderate rains in many areas. River level very high Flooding of Buale and downstream reaches	 Moderate to heavy rainfall forecast in the coming week River flooding in Buale and downstream is likely to continue given the forecast and high river levels
Shabelle		
Upper <i>(from Belad Weyne to Jalaqsi)</i>	Moderate to heavy rains recorded in some places River level increased sharply No Flooding reported	 Moderate rains forecast in the coming week Sustained high river levels , following moderate to heavy rains forecast in Ethiopian highlands and in Somalia. Severe flooding risk likely
Mid and Lower <i>(from Jowhar to Sablale)</i>	Moderate rains recorded over the last one week. River level increased sharply at Jowhar. Flooding in Jowhar reported	 Moderate rains forecast in the coming week. Flooding expected due to the increased river levels at the upper reaches of the river, the moderate rainfall forecast and existing river breakages
Bay & Bakool		
Bay	Moderate to heavy rains over many areas. Flash floods reported in Baidoa, Bardaale and Qansadheere districts	 Moderate to heavy rains forecast. Flash floods foreseen due to expected heavy rains in the region
Bakool	Moderate to heavy rains over many areas. Flash floods reported in Huddur district	 Moderate to heavy rains forecast. Flash floods foreseen due to expected heavy rains in the region

  Deterioration,   improvement, or   no change anticipated in flood conditions.

 Heavy,  moderate,  low, or  no rainfall.

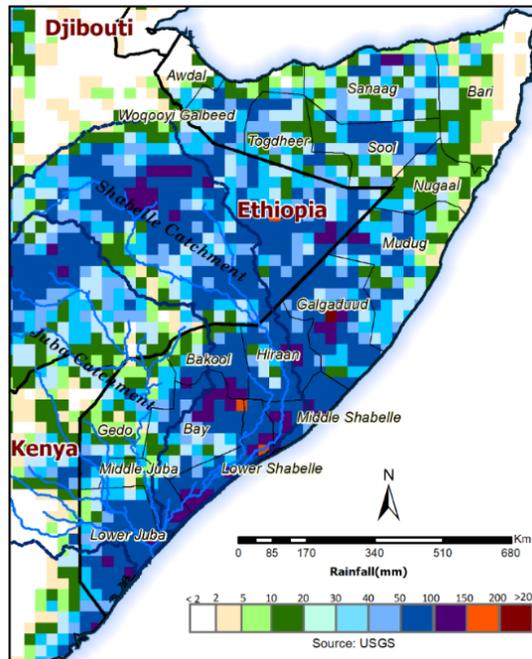
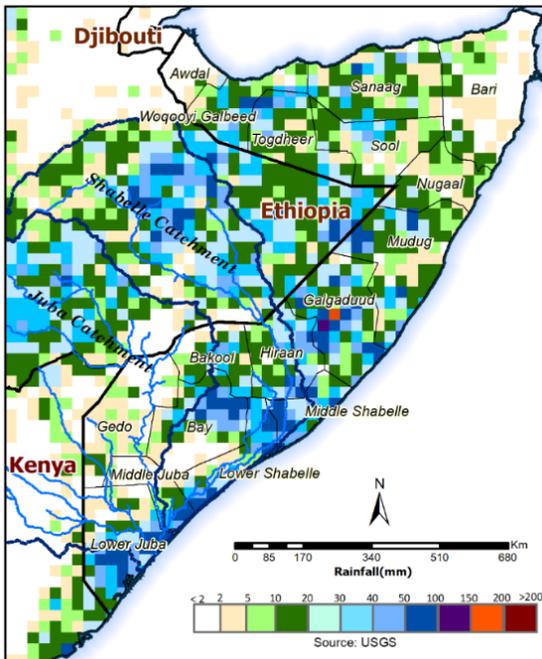
CURRENT RIVER LEVELS



RAINFALL FORECAST

Map 1: 3 day cumulated rainfall forecast (04 – 06 May 2020)

Map 2: 7 day cumulated rainfall forecast (04 – 10 May 2020) 2019



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