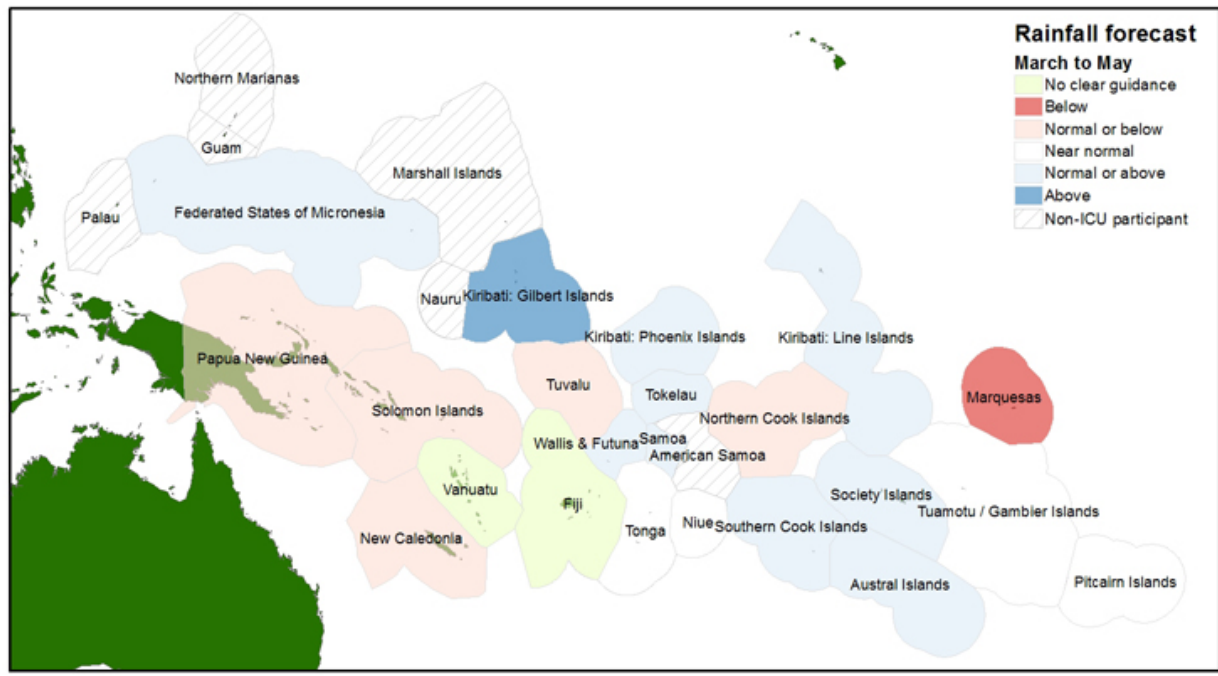


Water Watch

Based on Island Climate Update No 174, March 2015

March to May 2015 rainfall forecast



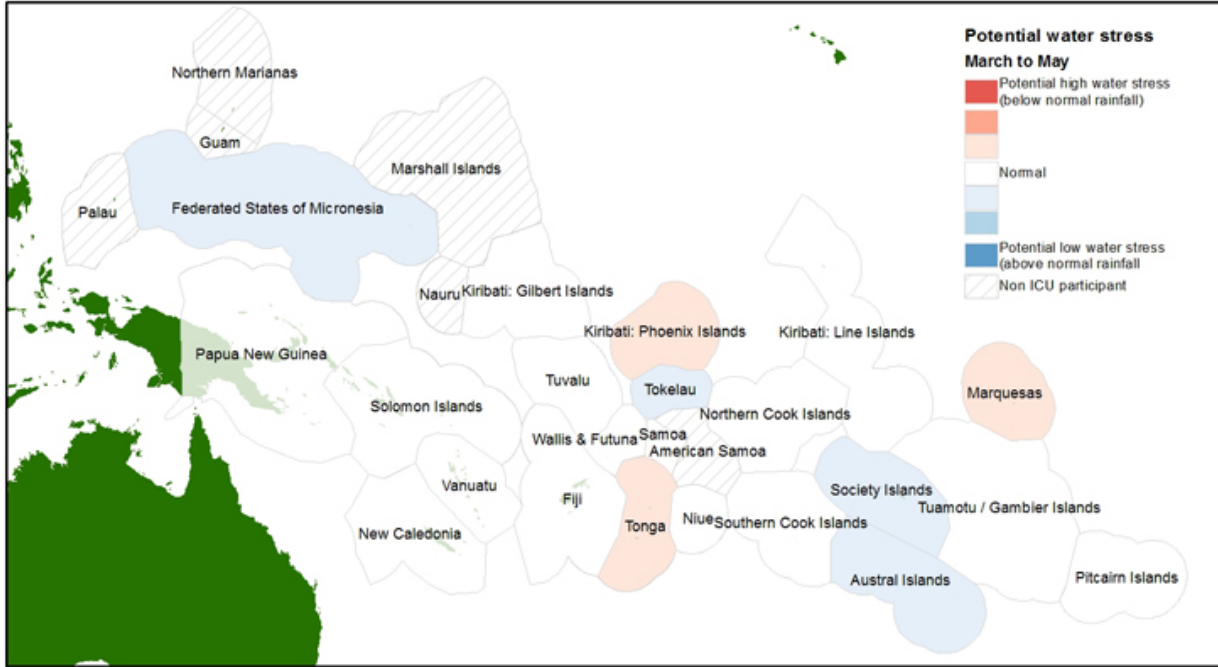
Regional drought potential advisory

Based on rainfall anomaly classification over the past six months and forecast rainfall anomaly classification over the next 3 months

Tonga: Below to well below normal rainfall experienced from August 2014- January 2015. Rainfall during February was near normal and the forecast for March to May is for near normal rainfall to continue.

Kiribati (Phoenix): Below to well below normal rainfall for 5 of the last 6 months. The forecast for March to May is for near normal or above normal rainfall.

Marquesas: Below normal rainfall experienced for 4 out of the last 7 months. The forecast for March to May is for below normal rainfall.



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The Island Climate Update is prepared as soon as possible following the end of the month, once the data and information are received from the Pacific Island meteorological services. Delays in data collection and communication occasionally arise. While every effort is made to verify observational data, NIWA does not guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the analysis and forecast information presented, and accepts no liability for any losses incurred through the use of this advisory and its contents.

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