



Samoa Ocean Outlook

January 2019

Issue: 08



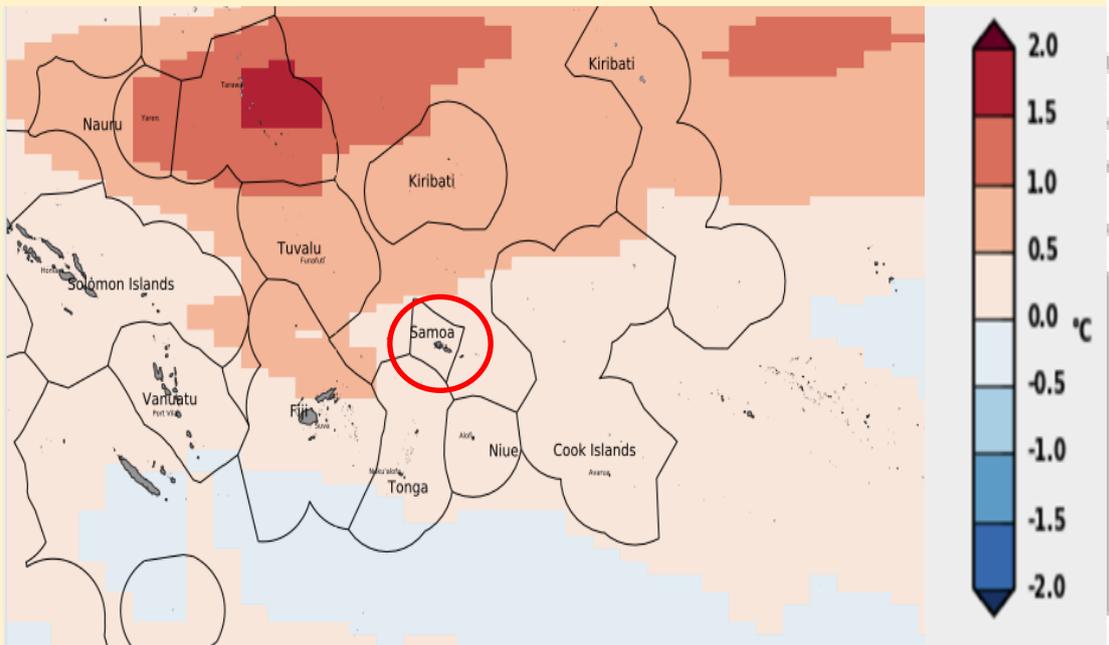
Summary

Issue Outline:

- Ocean Summary
- Ocean Temperature
- Convergence Zone
- Coral Bleaching
- Sea Level Forecast

- January Sea Surface Temperatures is expected an increase of 0.0-0.5°C.
- Convergence Zone expected to position South of the Islands.
- Coral bleaching status remains at Warning, with an El Niño alert, both to be expected in the coming months.
- Samoa anticipates a 0-50mm rise in sea level in the next 3 months.

Sea Surface Temperature Forecast Anomaly



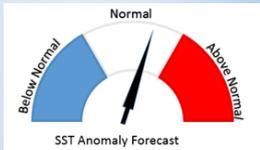
The prediction for the month of January suggests a 0.0°C-0.5°C increase in Sea Surface Temperatures for the Samoa region, while the northern parts of the South Pacific Ocean will experience even warmer conditions.

Climate Status:

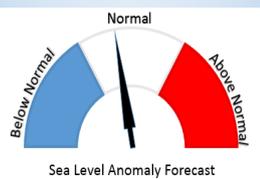
ENSO Update: ALERT



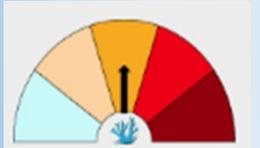
Sea Surface Temperature:



Sea Level Forecast:



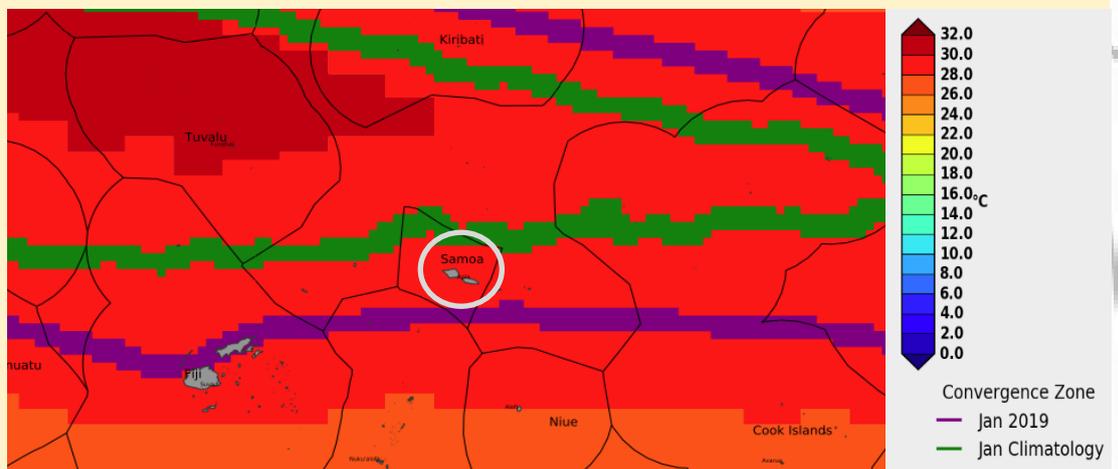
Coral Bleaching Forecast:



Alert Level

- No Stress
- Bleaching Watch
- Bleaching Warning
- Bleaching Alert Level 1
- Bleaching Alert Level 2

Sea Surface temperature forecast with convergence zone



The eastward propagation warm Sea Surface Temperatures have shifted the current Convergence Zone (purple) further south of the group, and stays south of the average CZ position for the month of January (green). *N.B Convergence zones are where cold and warm water meet, and are rich in nutrients, attracting lots of fish.*

Samoa Meteorology Division-
Member of WMO

Contacts

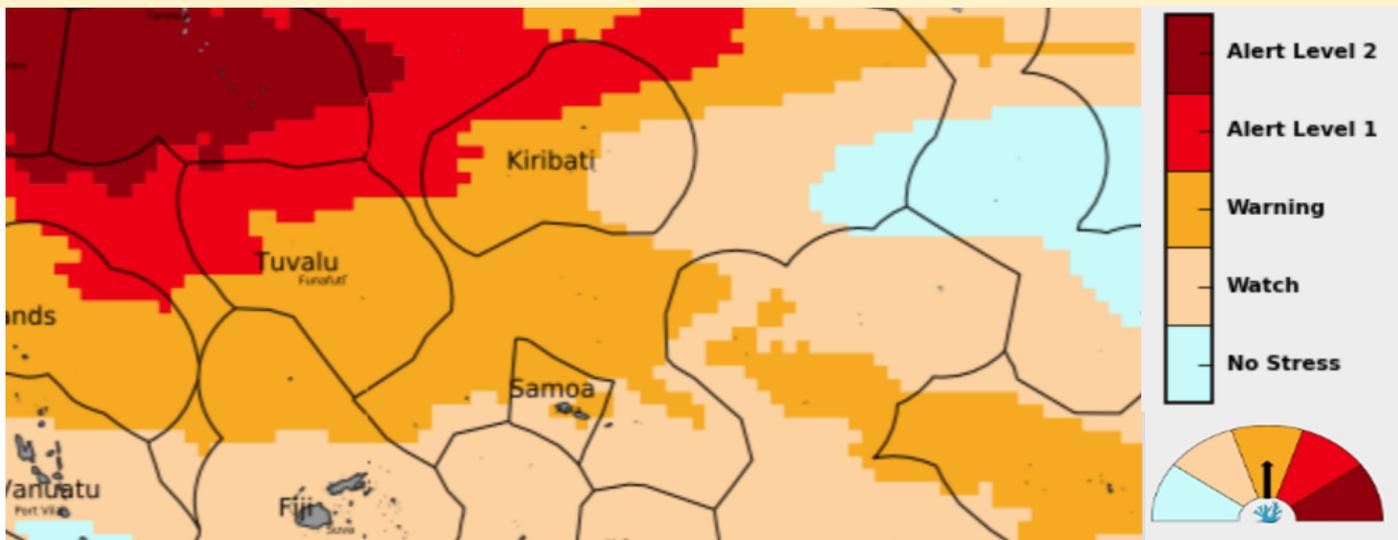
General: +685 20855,

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Website:

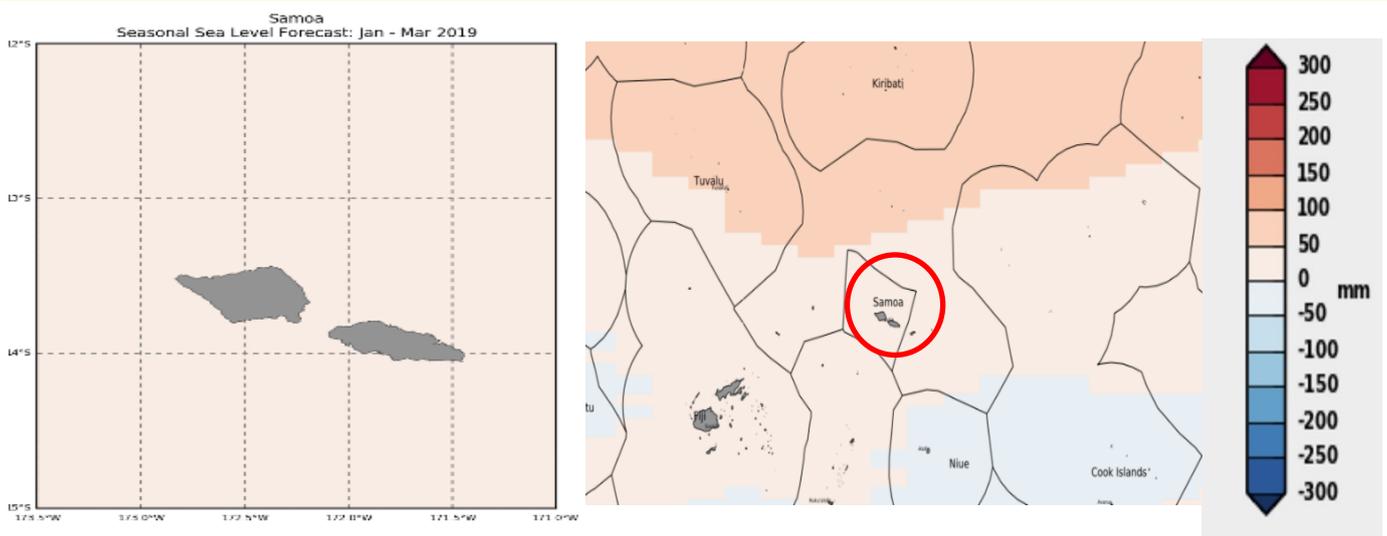
<http://www.samet.gov.ws>

Coral Bleaching



The coral Bleaching Outlook remains at “Coral Bleach Warning’ for January 2019. Due to warmer than normal sea surface temperatures migrating eastward, severe impacts on coral reefs are anticipated. Responsible sectors are advised to take precautionary actions and continue monitoring.

Seasonal Sea Level Forecast



A 0-50mm higher than normal sea levels are expected for the Samoa region in next three months (January to March 2019). Further north will be anticipating elevated sea levels as well.

This forecast is based on the combined long-term effects of temperature, salinity and wind on the water levels and do not include daily changes in tide or weather.

Major Contributors:

- Pacific Ocean Portal: oceanportal.spc.int
- Bureau of Meteorology: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>