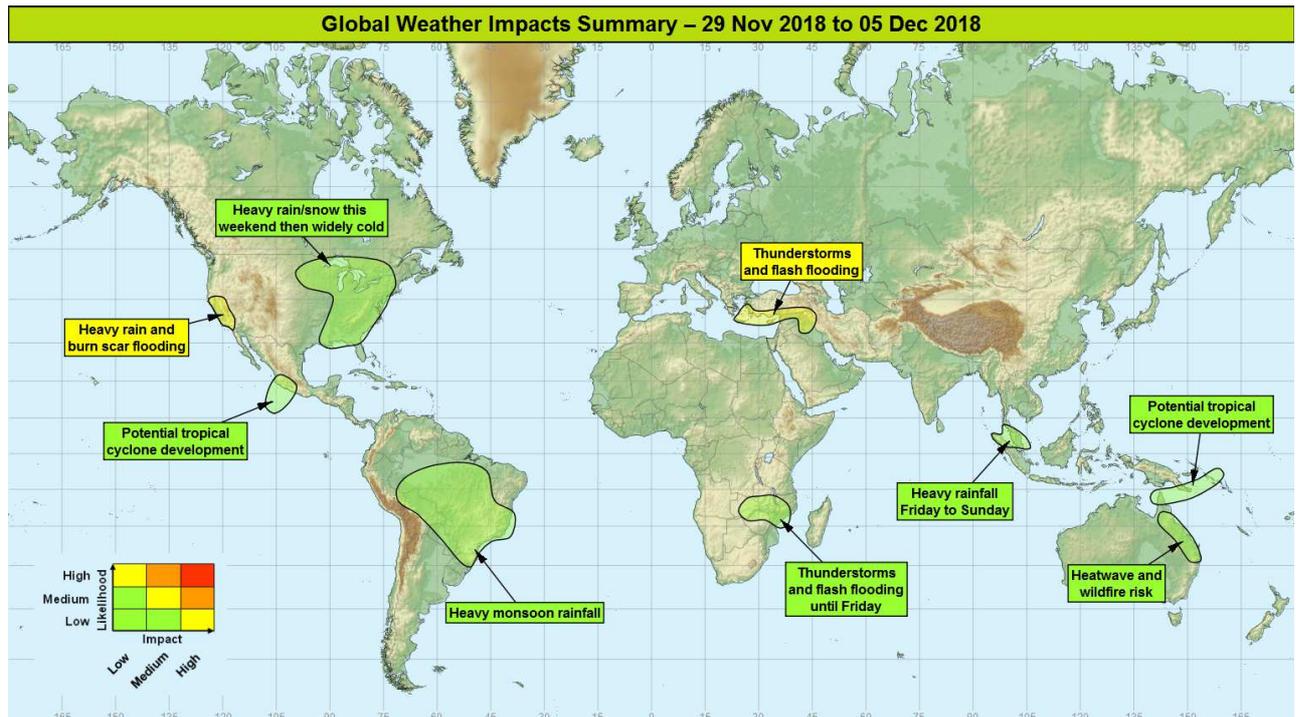


Global Weather Impacts – Thursday 29th November to Wednesday 5th December 2018

Issued on Thursday 29th November 2018

HEADLINES

- Unsettled in the eastern Mediterranean and Levant with a risk of flash flooding.
- Heavy rain to affect California on Thursday and Friday with a risk of flooding and mudslides around recent wildfire burn scars.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

There are no active tropical cyclones at present.

Potential Tropical Cyclones

Northeast Pacific and southwest Mexico

Weather

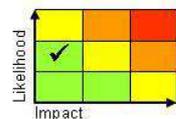
There is a low likelihood of a tropical cyclone developing to the southwest of Manzanillo, Mexico. Irrespective of development, shower and thunderstorm activity associated with this system is expected to affect the Mexican states of Guerrero, Michoacan, Colima and Jalisco through Thursday and Friday with the potential for 100-200 mm over 24 hours.

Discussion

Strong upper level winds developing across the area of low pressure has meant the likelihood of tropical cyclogenesis has reduced over the past 24 hours.

Expected Impacts

Heavy rainfall is expected to lead to flash flooding and an increased risk of landslides across parts of southwest Mexico through the next 2-3 days.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Coral Sea, Solomon Islands and northeast Australia

Weather

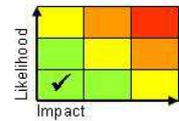
There is a low likelihood of a tropical cyclone developing in the Coral Sea this weekend. Irrespective of development, shower and thunderstorm activity associated with this system will continue to affect the Solomon Islands over the next 2-3 days before migrating towards the northern tip of Queensland early next week. Locally 100-150 mm of rain is possible over 24 hours.

Discussion

An equatorial Rossby wave near the Solomon Islands is associated with a broad area of shower and thunderstorm activity. There has been an increase in model support for a small circulation to develop as this moves into the Coral Sea this weekend, although significant development is not currently expected.

Expected Impacts

Heavy rainfall, often in a short period of time, is likely to lead to some localised flash flooding and an increased risk of landslides in parts of the Solomon Islands.



Europe

South Aegean Sea, south Turkey, Cyprus, north Syria and north Iraq

Weather

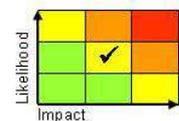
Further spells of heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected to transfer east across the region through to Saturday. Up to 100 mm of rain could fall in a 24-hour period, much of this falling in short periods of time, with large hail, waterspouts or tornadoes also possible around the Mediterranean and Aegean. Across Syria and Iraq, locally severe thunderstorms may lift some dense plumes of dust. Whilst quieter conditions are expected on Sunday, further heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected to migrate east across a similar region through next week.

Discussion

A sharpening upper trough will gradually move east through the remainder of the week and lead to further thunderstorms being triggered under a broad cold pool. A separate warm plume being drawn north from the Red Sea will be engaged across the Levant on Friday and Saturday with the greatest potential for organised convection developing here. This pattern is likely to repeat itself through next week.

Expected Impacts

Thunderstorms will lead to a continued threat of flash flooding, with additional hazards to property, infrastructure and life from a combination of large hail, frequent lightning and tornadoes/waterspouts. Landslides are also possible across more mountainous parts of Turkey and northern Iraq.



North America

California

Weather

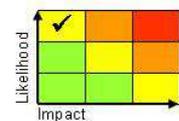
An area of low pressure will bring a combination of heavy rain, mountain snow and strong winds to California through Thursday before clearing eastward on Friday. 40-70 mm of rain is expected quite widely, with up to 150 mm locally over higher ground and is expected to fall as snow (accumulations exceeding a metre) over parts of the Sierra Nevada. Whilst drier conditions are expected to follow during Friday, a further spell of (less heavy) rain is likely over the weekend.

Discussion

A stronger than normal subtropical jet will continue to bring unsettled weather to California through the next couple of days and is likely to be a theme that continues into next week with further spells of rain affecting southwest USA. This is a pattern often associated with El Nino.

Expected Impacts

In regions affected by recent wildfires, burn scars will be at an increased likelihood of ash and mudslides as well as debris flows due to heavy rainfall. Flash flooding of urban areas and some minor disruption to air transport is also possible due to the combination of embedded thunderstorm activity and strong winds.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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North and east USA and southeast Canada

Weather

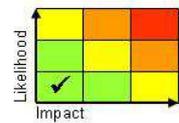
Another active spell of weather is expected to affect many parts of this region this weekend. The more southern parts of the region will see heavy rain and thunderstorms (up to 150 mm of rain in 24 hours), with more northern areas at risk of significant snowfall and potential for freezing rain. Widespread cold conditions are expected to follow across much of continental North America east of the Rocky Mountains through next week with accumulating snow expected downwind of the Great Lakes in particular.

Discussion

There is good model agreement for an upper trough to engage a warm plume emerging from the Gulf of Mexico with an area of low pressure tracking northeast and emerging into the North Atlantic early next week. Thereafter, there is very good agreement for a widespread cold spell to develop across the east two-thirds of North America.

Expected Impacts

Combination of heavy rain and thunderstorms in the south will be associated with an increased risk of flash flooding, some disruption to air travel in the region and localised damage to property and infrastructure from lightning, hail and possibly tornadoes. Some short-term transport disruption is possible further north due to wintry precipitation.



Central America and Caribbean

Southwest Mexico – See *Tropical Cyclones* section.

South America

Southeast Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil

Weather

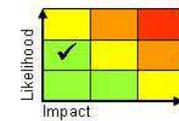
An active pulse of heavy monsoon rainfall is expected to transfer northwards from southeast Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and south Brazil into parts of central Brazil through the next 3-4 days before becoming slow-moving through next week. Some places are likely to receive 100-150 mm in 24 hours, much of this falling in short periods of time, whilst other areas may remain relatively dry.

Discussion

An active phase of the South Atlantic Convergence Zone is expected to progress northwards over the next few days, producing a possibility of severe thunderstorms in the south of this region and intense rainfall further north. This is likely being enhanced by the MJO moving through Phase 8 and should maintain above average rainfall in the region through much of next week.

Expected Impacts

Flash and river flooding possible, along with frequent lightning, large hail and tornadoes in severe thunderstorms.



Africa

Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia

Weather

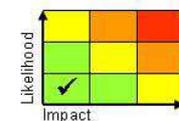
An area of thunderstorms will transfer north across this region through the next couple of days, producing intense rainfall (up to 75 mm in a few hours). Frequent lightning and large hail are also possible.

Discussion

A marked upper trough will push a cold front north from South Africa, enhancing low level convergence to trigger deep convection.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is likely to be the main impact, but frequent lightning will pose a threat to life and power networks, with damaging large hail possible.



Middle East

Syria and Iraq – See *Europe* section.

This forecast may be amended at any time

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Asia

Malay Peninsula and north Sumatra

Weather

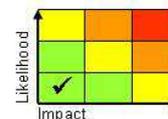
Shower and thunderstorm activity is expected to become more widespread across the region from Friday through Sunday with up to 150 mm falling in 24 hours, much of which will fall in short periods of time.

Discussion

An enhanced northeast monsoon flow (possibly as a consequence of the now dissipated Usagi) will bring enhanced deep convection onshore across the Malay Peninsula and north Sumatra.

Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding with a slight increase in the risk of landslides in more mountainous regions.



Australasia

Queensland – See *Tropical Cyclones* section.

Queensland

Weather

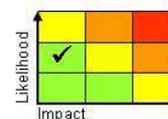
Heatwave conditions are expected to develop across a large part of Queensland, as well as some largely uninhabited parts of Northern Territories, through the remainder of this week into early next week. Fire danger ratings in the state remain high to locally severe, which although is a step down from the ‘catastrophic’ rating given earlier in the week, maintain the risk for rapid fire development and spread. Temperatures nearer normal are expected from Tuesday, although this could be preceded by locally severe thunderstorms which as well as producing strong winds and large hail, could trigger further wildfires.

Discussion

Fire weather conditions have improved compared to Wednesday but the dry and hot conditions are expected to persist over the next several days. However, an upper trough is expected to engage the resident warm plume across southern Queensland on Tuesday resulting in the triggering of thunderstorms followed by a transition to somewhat cooler conditions midweek.

Expected Impacts

Whilst the region is relatively sparsely populated, rapidly developing and spreading wildfires pose a threat to small communities. Heatwave conditions may have an adverse on human health. Thunderstorms may result in localised flash flooding and damage to property and infrastructure due to the combination of frequent lightning and large hail.



Additional information

Nil.

Issued at: 290735 UTC **Meteorologist:** Matthew Lewis

Global Guidance Unit

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