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Tuesday 28 September 2021

Windy and stormy conditions likely over parts of South Africa this week (29 September to 02 October 2021)

A significant change in weather conditions is anticipated over parts of South Africa this week, which may affect some communities in southern KwaZulu-Natal, the Wild Coast and adjacent inland areas of the Eastern Cape from Wednesday, 29 September 2021, where accumulated rainfall may result in the potential for localised flooding.

This change follows a two-week rainfall recess over the central interior of South Africa, which ended on Tuesday. Apart from the interior of the Western Cape, the western parts of the Northern Cape and the central and eastern parts of Limpopo where no rainfall is forecast at this stage, citizens across other parts of the country could experience scattered (60%) to isolated (30%) showers and thundershowers. Furthermore, strong winds may affect some poorly anchored informal settlements over the central areas of the country (northern Free State, North West and eastern areas of the Northern Cape).

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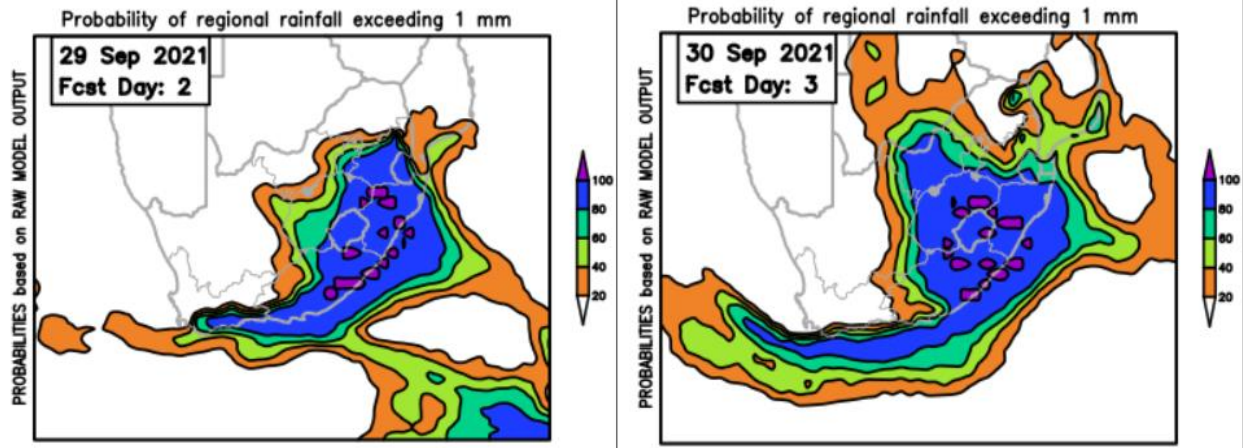


Figure 1: Ensemble Forecast for 29 and 30 September 2021. Source (SAWS).

Showery and cooler weather conditions are expected to continue over parts of the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, and the south coast and adjacent interior of the Western Cape from Wednesday to Friday, while also spreading to the central and eastern interior on Thursday.

Minor localized flooding is possible in the Thabo Mofutsanyane municipality and the eastern areas of the Gariiep District municipalities of the Free State, Alfred Nzo, OR Tambo, Joe Gqabi and Chris Hani District municipalities of the Eastern Cape, and in places over the southern parts of KwaZulu-Natal (Ethekewini Metro, Ugu, Harry Gwala, Umgungundlovu and Ilembe District Municipalities) on Wednesday and Thursday. Severe thunderstorms with hail and strong damaging winds are also possible over the eastern half of the Northern Cape as well as the western half of both the Free State and North West provinces on Thursday afternoon.

This anticipated change in weather conditions follows the development of a well-defined and slow-moving upper-air trough with persistent low-level onshore flow onto the south-eastern areas of the country.

The South African Weather Service (SAWS) will continue to monitor any further developments relating to this weather system and will issue required subsequent and timely updates.. The public is urged and encouraged to follow the SAWS weather forecasts in the media, its website: www.weathersa.co.za, all its official Social Media accounts and its WeatherSmart App.

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