



09 March 2019

## **Stormy weather to be expected over parts of South Africa: 09 to 12 March 2019**

Parts of the country can expect stormy weather as from today Saturday, 09 March 2019, until Tuesday, 12 March 2019. A steep upper-air trough west of South Africa is expected to develop into a cut-off low (COL) system along the west coast of South Africa on Sunday. This will result in heavy rainfall producing thunderstorms, which could result in localised flooding as well as potentially large amounts of small hail. The affected provinces will be the Western Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, and the Highveld and escarpment areas of Mpumalanga spreading to Northern Cape and Free State on Monday as the COL intensifies. Possible impacts from these expected conditions include road flooding that could result in travel disruptions and damage to infrastructure as well as drought relief in places.

The South African Weather Service would hereby like to alert the public at large with the following alerts:

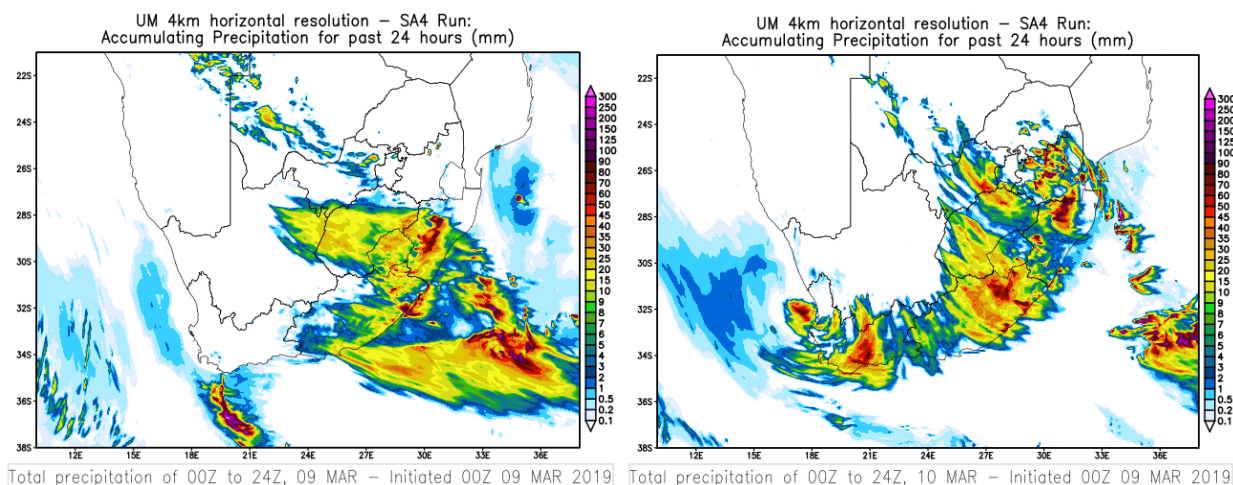
### Watches:

1. Severe thunderstorms are expected over the central and eastern interior of the Eastern Cape as well as the southern parts of KwaZulu-Natal today (Saturday) and over the Highveld and along the escarpment areas of Mpumalanga tomorrow (Sunday).
2. Heavy rainfall leading to localized flooding is expected over the southern and western parts of KwaZulu-Natal as well as the east coast and adjacent interior of the Eastern Cape tomorrow (Sunday).
3. Localized urban flooding is expected over western parts of the Garden Route, eastern parts of the Cape Winelands, and the Overberg Districts of the Western Cape tomorrow (Sunday) into Monday.

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**Figure 1.** Predicted 24-hour accumulation of rainfall (at left) as generated by the 4km Unified Model (UM) for Saturday 09 March 2019 and (at right) for Sunday 10 March 2019. Note the orange and red shades (in the region of 30 to 50 mm) indicated along the eastern escarpment of the Eastern Cape and south-western parts of KwaZulu-Natal today and the Highveld areas of Mpumalanga, KwaZulu-Natal, eastern parts of the Eastern Cape and parts of the Western Cape tomorrow (Sunday). Source: SAWS.

The cut-off low system is expected to move south along the south-west coast of South Africa on Monday, with scattered showers and thundershowers persisting over the central, southern and south-eastern parts of South Africa, and possible heavy downpours over the southern half of the Free State, the eastern part of the Northern Cape, the northern part of the Eastern Cape and the south-western parts of the Western Cape. The system is expected to weaken and move south of the country on Tuesday, with a significant reduction in rainfall across the country.

The South African Weather Service will continue to monitor any further developments relating to this weather system and will issue subsequent updates as required. Furthermore, the public are urged and encouraged to regularly follow weather forecasts on television and radio.

Updated information in this regard will regularly be available at [www.weathersa.co.za](http://www.weathersa.co.za) as well as via the SA Weather Service Twitter account @SAWeatherServic

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