



24 October 2019

## **Typical winter days for the south-western parts, but persistent heat wave conditions over north-eastern South Africa**

A typical “winter” series of cold fronts seems to be visiting the Western Cape over the “spring” weekend with the first cold front expected to move through tomorrow (Friday 25 October 2019) morning and the second one on Sunday (27 October 2019). The cold front that is expected to move through tomorrow, Friday, will result in rain and showers settling over the south-western parts in the early hours of the morning, spreading to the east during the course of the day while clearing from the west by the night.

The bulk of rainfall is expected over the south-western parts (Fig.1) during the morning, with periods of heavy downpours, which could potentially result in localized flooding, especially in informal settlements and increase travel times on the busy morning roads. In general, between 10 to 20 mm of total rain accumulation is expected over the south-western parts, with accumulations of 30 to 50 mm over mountainous areas.

Ahead of the cold front, windy conditions are expected over most parts of the Cape provinces with strong north-westerly winds (50-60 km/h) over the southern interior. In contrast, a heat wave with persistently high temperatures is expected over the eastern parts of the North-West and Free State as well as the Lowvelds of Mpumalanga and Limpopo from Friday, the entire provinces of Limpopo, Mpumalanga and Gauteng from Saturday, continuing until at least Monday. Figure 2 below indicates that on Monday, the maximum temperature will be above 36°C for most of Limpopo and the Lowveld of Mpumalanga.

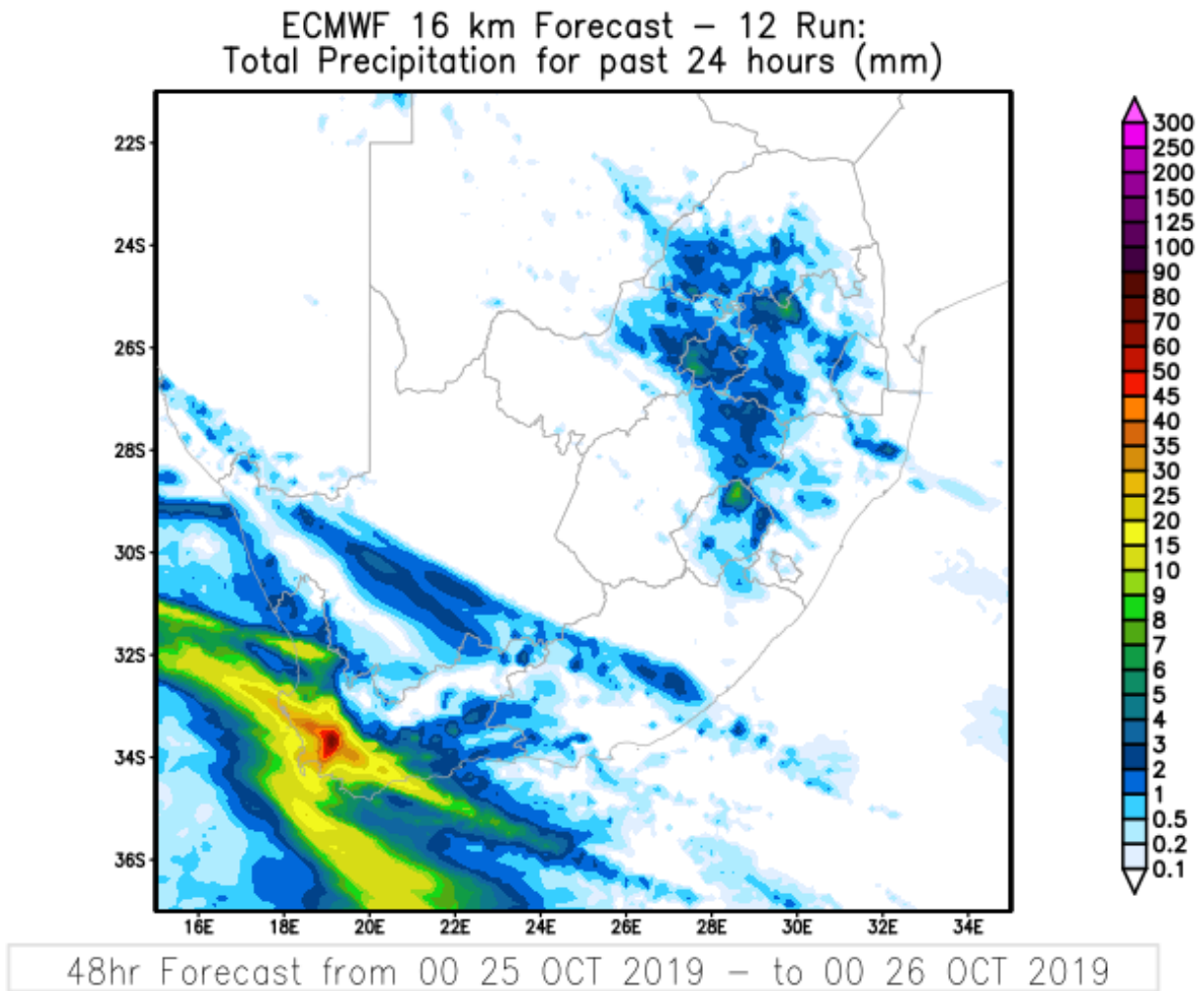
Over the southwestern parts, a bit of break in terms of rain is expected on Saturday, before the second cold front moves through on Sunday morning, which will result in rain settling over the south-western parts of the province, spreading to the east during the day and persisting into Monday.

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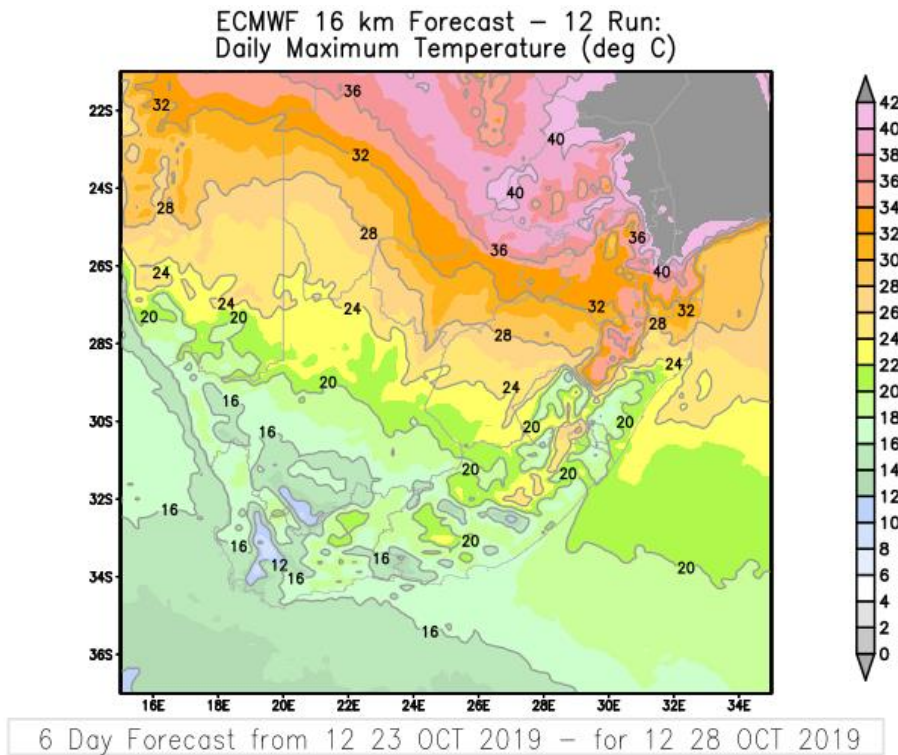
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Pooling of water on the roads is likely as soil will already be saturated from Friday’s rain. This could cause traffic disruptions during peak morning traffic in the affected areas on Monday morning. In addition, cold conditions will be felt across most parts of the Western Cape province on Monday into Tuesday, with a high pressure system ridging behind the front, circulating the cold air.



**Figure 1:** 24-hour rainfall as projected by the ECMWF model for Friday 25 October 2019



**Figure 2:** Predicted maximum temperatures for Monday 28 October 2019 by ECMWF

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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