



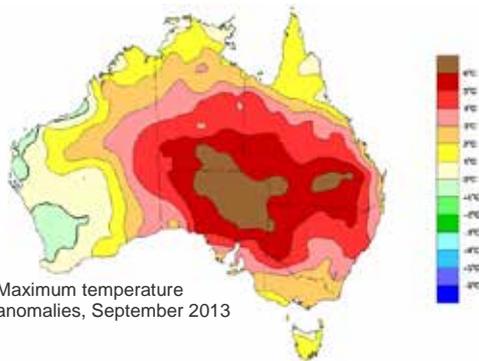
National Climate and Water Briefing Series

24 October 2013 (revised)

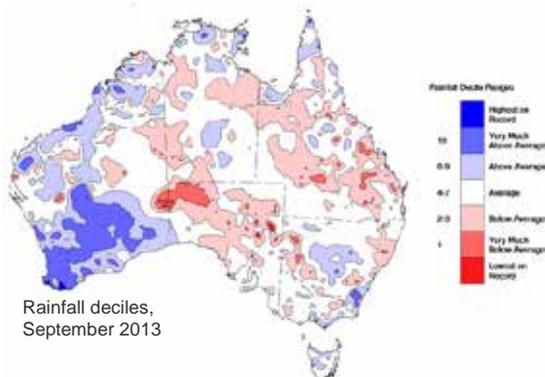
Warm conditions persisted in September with 475 temperature records* broken across Australia; warmer than average conditions are likely to continue into 2014. The outlook favours average rainfall through much of the country, but continued dry conditions in northeastern Australia. Near median or high streamflows are more likely for most of eastern Australia.

Recent conditions

- 475 heat records broken over Australia in September*
- Maximum temperature, averaged over Australia, was 3.4 °C above average—largest anomaly for any month



- September rainfall was 20% below average across Australia, but southwest Western Australia experienced 6th wettest September on record



Fire conditions

- The Southern Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook 2013–14 indicated large parts of eastern NSW and inland Queensland would face above normal fire potential through the 2013–14 fire season
- Given recent conditions, and with the odds of the current outlook favouring a warmer and drier period across much of northern and eastern Australia, fire potential remains heightened for the coming summer period

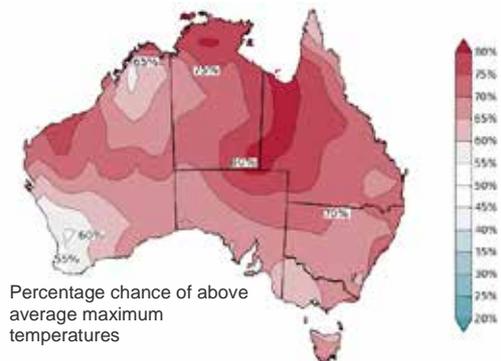
Climate Drivers

- Warmer than average sea surface temperatures around Australia
- Neutral tropical Pacific Ocean
- Neutral Indian Ocean Dipole

Climate outlook November–January

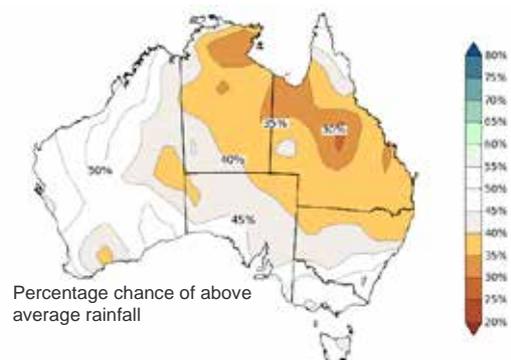
Temperature

- Warmer than normal conditions more likely for most of the country



Rainfall

- Drier than normal season more likely for most of northeastern Australia; neutral rainfall outlook for remainder of the country

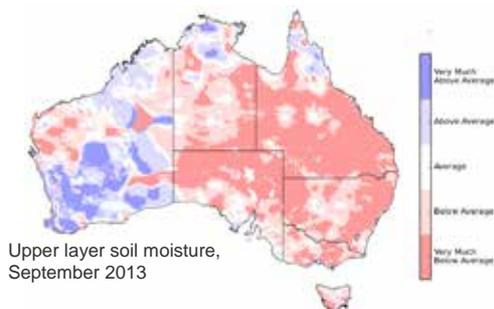


* correcting an error in the prior version

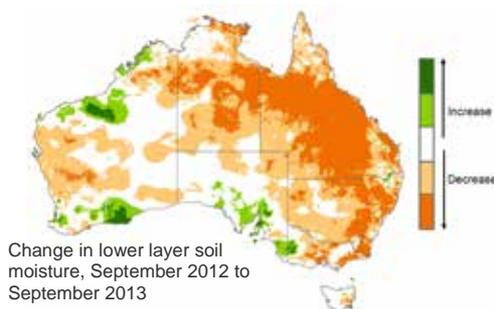
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Soil moisture

- Upper layer soil moisture is very low across eastern Australia



- Lower layer soil moisture has decreased across eastern Australia and Northern Territory since last year; effect of recent wetter La Niña years has dramatically diminished



Water storage levels

- Storage levels in most drainage divisions are lower than 12 months ago; Indian Ocean, South West Coast and South Australian Gulf drainage divisions have increased
- Cotter Dam (Australian Capital Territory) capacity increased to 78 gigalitres – new storage officially opened on 12 October

More information

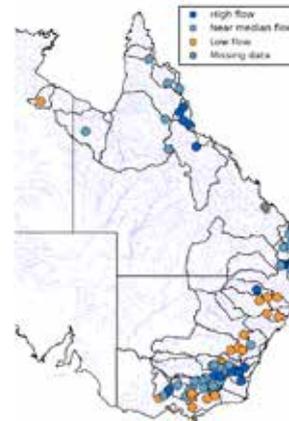
Rainfall and temperature outlook
www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead

Seasonal streamflow forecasts and Water Storage
www.bom.gov.au/water

Severe weather warnings
www.bom.gov.au

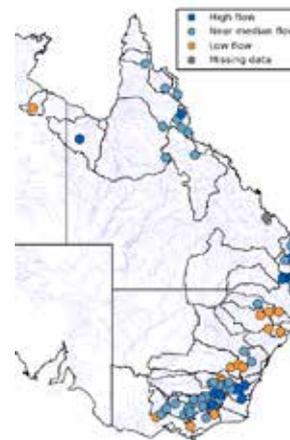
Streamflow conditions and outlook

September streamflow



- Near median or high flows observed at most Queensland locations
- Low or near median flows prevailed in southeastern Australia

Streamflow outlook October–December



- Near median or high streamflows more likely at most Queensland locations
- Near median or low flows more likely at majority of New South Wales and Victorian locations

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