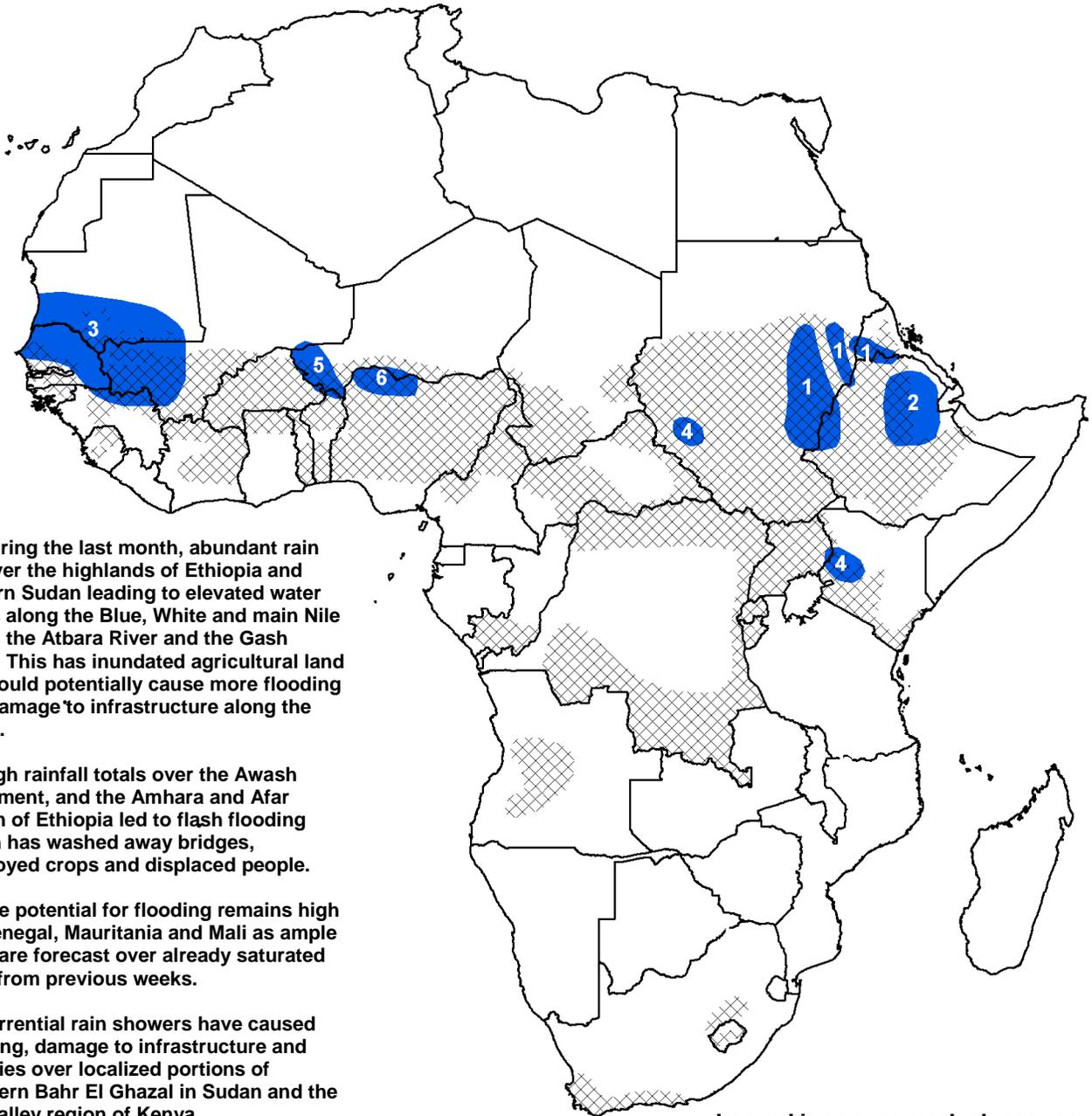


- In addition to high river levels across Ethiopia and Sudan, localized torrential rainfall over western Sudan and Kenya led to flooding and damage to infrastructure across east Africa.
- Widespread abundant rains fell over West Africa, with particularly high rainfall totals over western Mali.



1). During the last month, abundant rain fell over the highlands of Ethiopia and eastern Sudan leading to elevated water levels along the Blue, White and main Nile River, the Atbara River and the Gash River. This has inundated agricultural land and could potentially cause more flooding and damage to infrastructure along the rivers.

2). High rainfall totals over the Awash catchment, and the Amhara and Afar region of Ethiopia led to flash flooding which has washed away bridges, destroyed crops and displaced people.

3). The potential for flooding remains high for Senegal, Mauritania and Mali as ample rains are forecast over already saturated soils from previous weeks.

4). Torrential rain showers have caused flooding, damage to infrastructure and fatalities over localized portions of Northern Bahr El Ghazal in Sudan and the Rift Valley region of Kenya.

5). The return of heavy rains to central Mali, Burkina Faso and western Niger have raised water levels along the Niger River to high levels endangering areas along the river bank.

6). Heavy rains have caused flooding, fatalities and damage to crops in the Katsina and Sokoto regions of Nigeria. With abundant rains forecast, flooding potential remains high.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.



Copious amounts of rain fell over western Mali and eastern Guinea during the previous week.

A broad area of West Africa observed heavy rains (> 50 mm) during the past week. The highest rainfall totals (> 100 mm) fell over western and southern Mali. The above-average precipitation was not located just in Mali as portions of southern Mauritania, Guinea, western Burkina Faso, western Niger, eastern Nigeria, northern Ghana, northern Togo and northern Benin observed greater than 75 mm of rain. Heavy rainfall across the Sokoto and Katsina regions of northern Nigeria led to flooding, fatalities and damage to crops and infrastructure. The abundant rains over western Niger, Burkina Faso and central Mali have raised water levels along the Niger River close to flood level potentially endangering surrounding areas. In contrast, rainfall over coastal Cote D'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria was light as less than 10 mm of precipitation was observed (Figure 1). This continued a dry month for coastal and central Nigeria where rainfall deficits are greater than 50 mm.

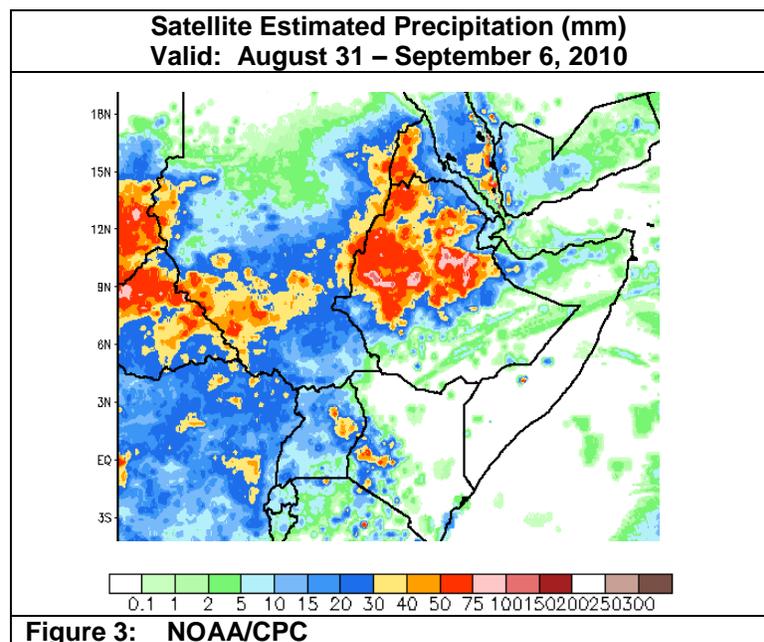
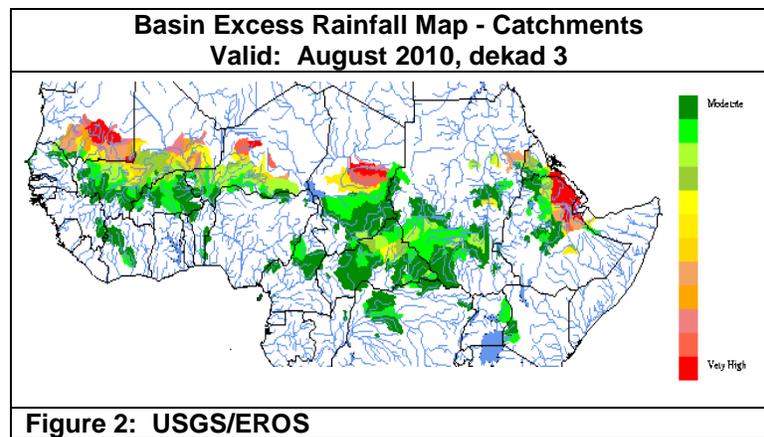
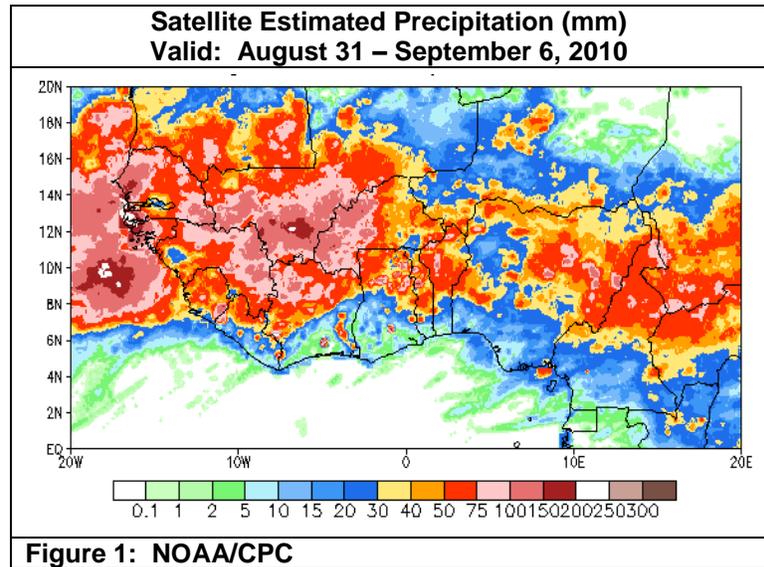
The anomalous rains over southern Mauritania during the past week and the third dekad of August have led to a high risk for flooding according to an analysis of excess rainfall. There is a moderate flood risk for Mali, Burkina Faso and eastern Niger due to continued above-average rainfall over the previous dekad (Figure 2).

Next week, ample rains (> 50 mm) are expected across southern Mali, Senegal, Mauritania, Guinea, and southern and northwestern Nigeria. The rainfall over already saturated soils in Senegal, Mauritania, Mali and Nigeria could potentially cause flooding.

Localized heavy rainfall over western Sudan, western Kenya and eastern Ethiopia led to flooding.

Heavy rainfall over east Africa during the past seven days was not as widespread as previous weeks. However, isolated high rainfall totals led to localized flooding and damage to infrastructure across Northern Bahr El Ghazal in Sudan and the Rift Valley region of Kenya. The flooding risk was also high over the Afar region of Ethiopia according to rainfall analysis during the third dekad of August (Figure 2). In general, the highlands of Ethiopia observed greater than 50 mm of rain with isolated areas across the eastern Oromiya and southern Afar region receiving greater than 75 mm. Flooding in the Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya and Afar regions of Ethiopia over the past several weeks has destroyed crops, damaged infrastructure and displaced people. With the continued heavy rainfall over the highlands of Ethiopia, river levels along the Blue, White, and main Nile as well as the Atbara and Gash River remain elevated with a risk for flooding land bordering the rivers. While heavy rain was observed over Ethiopia, most of Sudan saw below-average totals (< 30 mm). Only the Bahr El Ghazal region observed greater than 40 mm of rainfall. Localized rain showers also affected areas in Kenya as greater than 50 mm fell over the Rift Valley region (Figure 3).

Rainfall over the highlands of Ethiopia is forecast to not be as heavy as recent weeks potentially minimizing flooding risks by allowing river levels to decrease across Ethiopia and Sudan. Localized ample rains (> 50 mm) are expected over the greater Bahr El Ghazal region in Sudan potentially leading to continued flash flooding.



Note: The hazards assessment map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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