

Issued: 04 April 2024

KIRIBATI OCEAN OUTLOOK

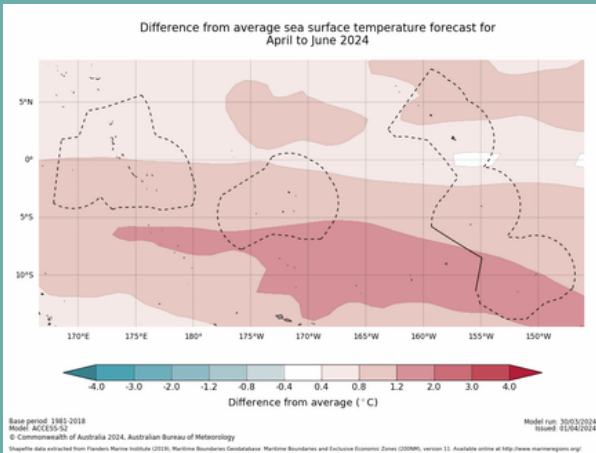


Summary

- Sea surface temperature is likely to decrease at most of the Kiribati group.
- A decreased height of sea level still anticipated for all islands of Kiribati.
- The current upwelling zone (sst and convergence zone) is predicted to cover most of the Gilbert and Phoenix group with islands in the Southern Line group.
- Alert level 2 is anticipated at the Gilbert and Phoenix group except Line group which is on Alert level 1 for coral bleaching.
- The extreme spring tides expected to occur consecutively from the 7th to 10th of April 2024 with height reaching 2.80m and more.

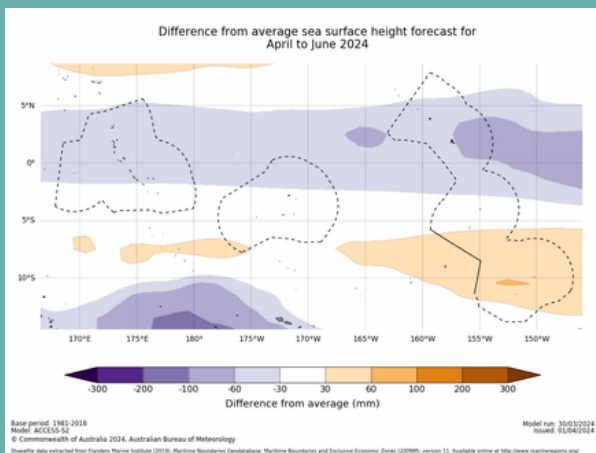


Ocean Conditions and Outlook for April to June 2024



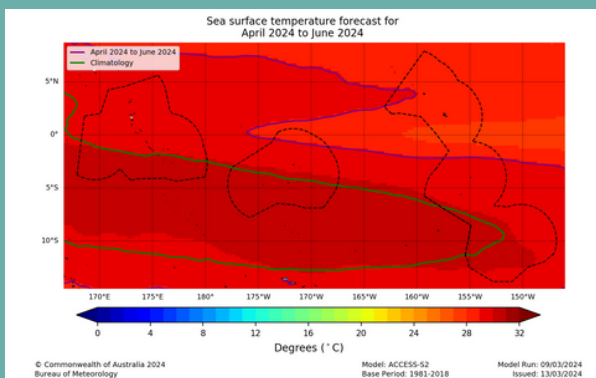
Sea Surface Temperature Forecast

There is a possibility of sea surface temperature to slightly decrease in majority of the Kiribati region by 1.2 to 0.8 degrees Celsius.



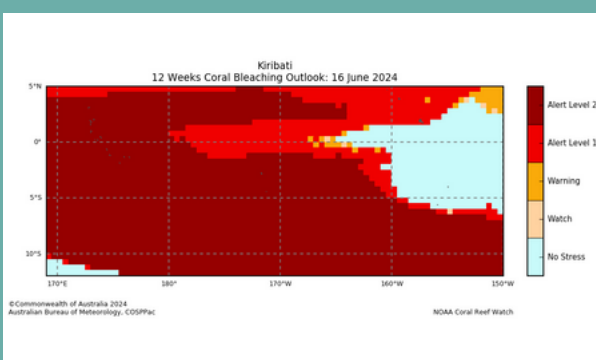
Sea Surface Height Outlook

The height of sea level is anticipated to decrease at most islands in the Gilbert and Northern Line group by 0.03 meters. Normal sea level height is expected at the Phoenix group and islands at further South of the Gilbert group.



SST and Convergence Outlook

Sea surface temperature are significantly high in the Gilbert and Phoenix groups. Convergence zone still covering the whole of Gilbert and Phoenix islands and the central and southern parts of Line islands.



Coral Bleaching Outlook

The coral bleaching outlook is expected to be on Alert 1 for all islands in the Gilbert and Phoenix group while Line islands is on Alert level 1.

Tide Outlook and Moon Phases April to June 2024


Spring tide table for April to June 2024			
Highest Tide (m)	Date	Time	
2.82m	7th April	3:49pm	
2.85m	8th April	4:27pm	
2.85m	9th April	4:46am	
2.85m	10th April	5:22am	
2.80m	8th May	4:22am	
New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter
			
9 th April 2024	16 th April 2024	24 th April 2024	2 nd April 2024
8 th May 2024	15 th May 2024	24 th May 2024	1 st & 31 st May 2024
7 th June 2024	14 th June 2024	22 nd June 2024	29 th June 2024

Table 1: Moon phases and tide levels at specific date and time.

		Offshore Fisheries	Lagoon Fishing
SST Convergence Zone & fronts	Kiribati region	Higher likelihood of warmer water tuna species skipjack and yellowfin Fish on warm side of SST fronts for natural biological hotspots	
Coral Bleaching Level	Above normal		When anchoring boats, avoid anchoring near places with coral reefs Encourage offshore fishing to alleviate stressors in the lagoon
Sea Surface height	Below normal	Be mindful when boating over shallow reefs when there is lower than normal sea levels	Be mindful when boating over shallow reefs when there is lower than normal sea levels

Table 2:
Recommended Actions for the Fisheries sectors against the available parameters.