



Monthly Hydrological

Bulletin Report (Mtera Dam)

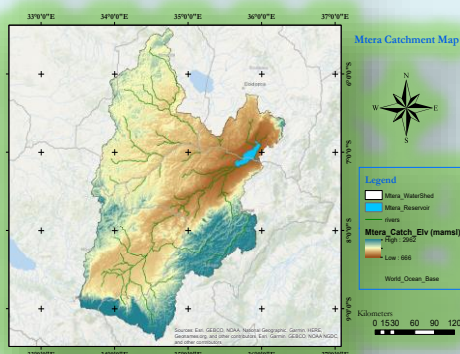
July (2026)

1 Summary of Water Status

The Mtera Reservoir receives inflows from three major gauged rivers: the Great Ruaha, Little Ruaha, and Kizigo, all of which are part of the Great Ruaha Catchment. These rivers are fundamental to hydropower generation, irrigated agriculture, domestic and industrial water supply, livestock production, and the preservation of downstream ecosystems, thereby supporting long-term environmental sustainability.

As of the end of July 2026, river inflows to the Mtera Reservoir were 95% of the long-term average (LTA) for the same month, indicating near-normal hydrological conditions. This condition resulted from average rainfall over the upstream catchments, together with effective water resources management across the Basin.

The reservoir water level remained above the long-term average throughout July 2026. As of 31 July 2026, the water level at Mtera Reservoir reached 697.76MASL, representing 100.57% of the long-term average for July. These adequate water level conditions continued to support hydropower generation, while also meeting other social, economic, and environmental water demands.



2 Weather Status

Rainfall – July 2026:

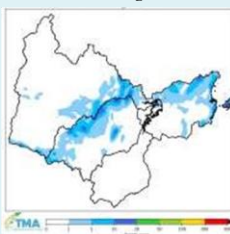
Rainfall records show that most parts of the Great Ruaha Catchment remained dry throughout July 2026. As a result, river flows continued to decrease in many rivers, especially those that rely mainly on seasonal rainfall.

Weather Outlook – August 2026:

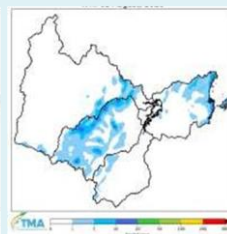
According to the weather forecast issued by the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA):

Most areas of the Rufiji Basin are expected to remain generally dry throughout August 2026.

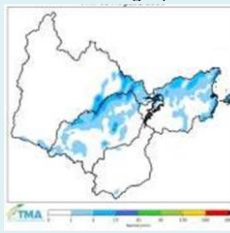
Rainfall Forecast
Week 01 August, 2026



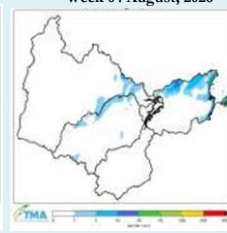
Rainfall Forecast
Week 02 August, 2026



Rainfall Forecast
Week 03 August, 2026



Rainfall Forecast
Week 04 August, 2026



3 River Flow Status

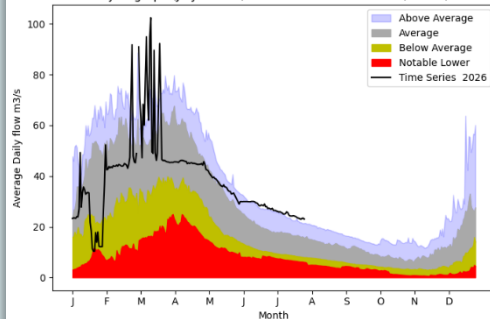
Overall, average river inflows during July 2026 reached 95% of the long-term average (LTA; 2000–2025), reflecting near-normal flow conditions. Table 1 compares the average river flows recorded in July 2026 with the long-term average for the same month.

Table 1: Water Flow Statistics Analysis – July 2026

No.	Station Code	River	Average Flow (m ³ /s) – July 2026	LTA - July (2000–2025)	Remarks
1	1KA59	Great Ruaha at Msembe	3.7	6.0	Below Average
2	1KA31	Little Ruaha at Mawande	24.7	13.3	Notable High
3	1KA42 A	Kizigo at Chinugulu	4.5	11.9	Notable Lower

In July 2026, most rivers in the Great Ruaha Catchment experienced declining flows due to the dry weather conditions. However, the Little Ruaha River at Mawande maintained flows above the long-term average as a result of effective water resources management and regulation of upstream water abstractions.

Hydrograph (July - 2026)- Little Ruaha at Mawande (1KA31)

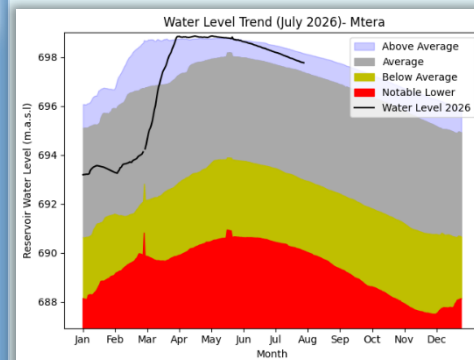


4 Reservoir Water Status

As of the end of July 2026, the water level at Mtera Reservoir was 697.76 m above mean sea level (amsl), equivalent to 100.57% of the long-term average for the month.

Interpretation

Despite the decline in inflows to the reservoir, the reservoir water level remained above the long-term average. This indicates that reservoir operations and water resources management were effective in maintaining adequate water storage. As a result, sufficient water was available to support hydropower generation while also meeting domestic, agricultural, industrial, livestock, and environmental water needs.



5 Recommendations

- Reservoir operations should continue to follow established operational guidelines to ensure adequate water storage for hydropower generation and other water demands.
- During the dry season, all water users should comply with the conditions and abstraction limits specified in their water use permits to ensure the sustainable management of available water resources.