



MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
RSE «KAZHYDROMET»

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CENTER

CASPIAN SEA WEEKLY BULLETIN 3

January 16, 2026, Friday

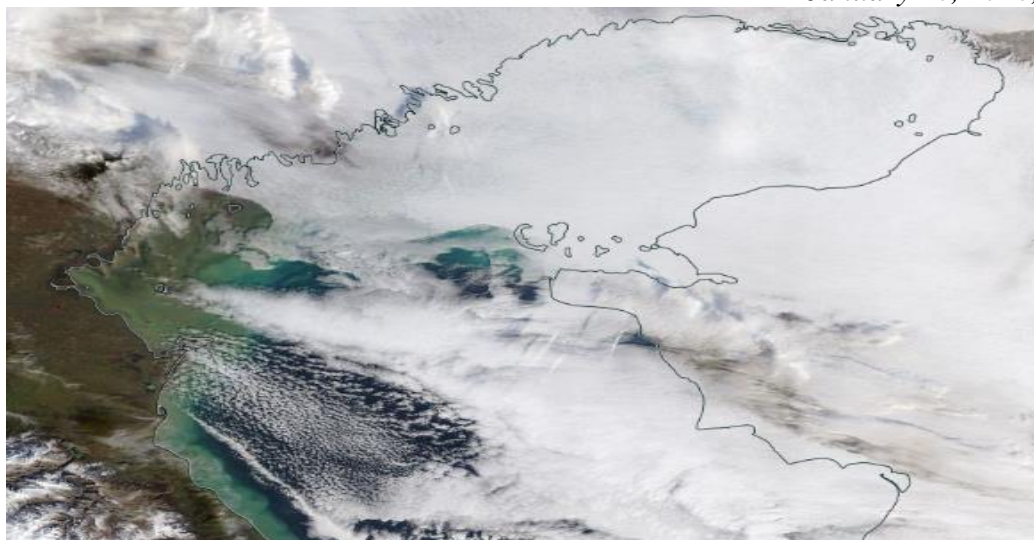


Fig.1 Space image of the Caspian Sea, January 11, 2026 (NASA/GSFC)

**FORECAST OF LEVEL AND SURGE PHENOMENA IN THE MIDDLE
PART OF THE CASPIAN SEA ON JANUARY 15 – 20, 2026**

SEA LEVEL.

In the period on January 15 – 20, the sea level is expected to fluctuate around the mark of minus 29.61 m BS. The range of fluctuations in sea level is from minus 29.05 m to minus 29.98 m.

Figure 2 shows a graph of the predicted sea level values at various points in the Middle part of the Caspian Sea.

SURGEY PHENOMENA.

In the area of Fort Shevchenko, Saura, Peschanyi, Fetisovo and Makhachkala, surge events are not expected, sea level fluctuations will not exceed **14 cm**.

At the **Fetisovo** station, wind-driven sea level fluctuations of up to **14 cm** are expected, and at the **Aktau** station — up to 14 cm

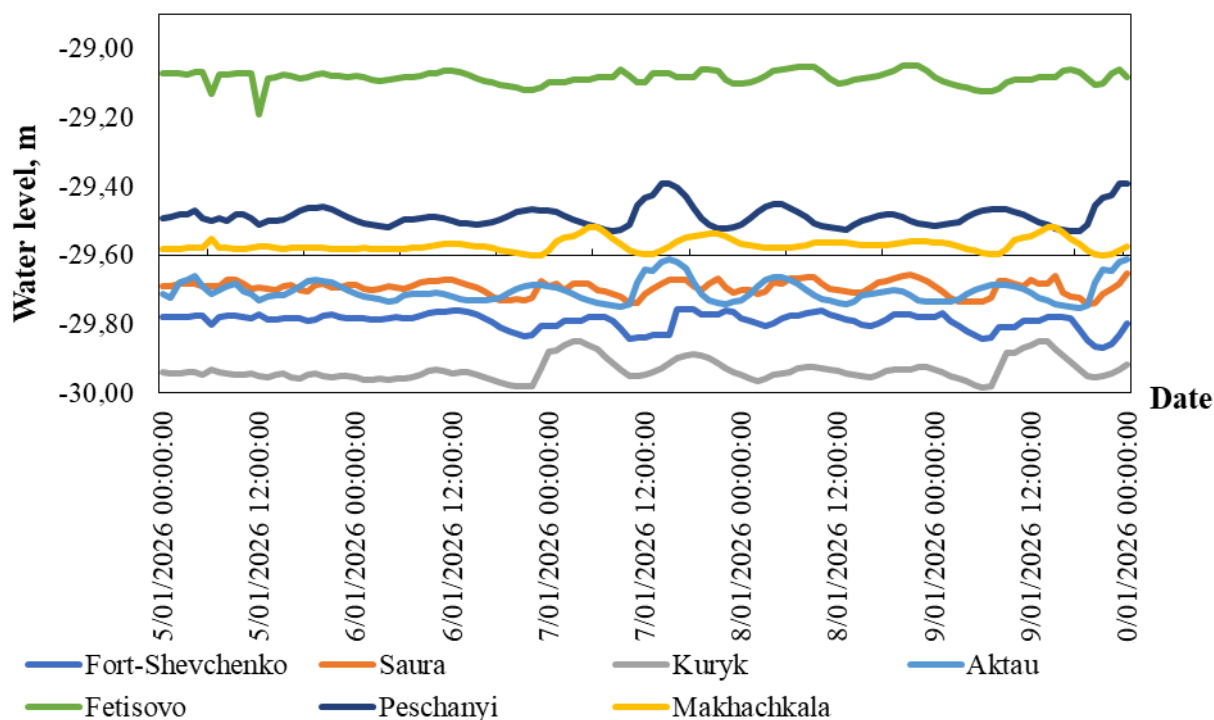


Fig. 2 Forecast of sea level in the points of the Middle Caspian

FORECAST VALUES OF SEA LEVEL FLUCTUATIONS AT VARIOUS POINTS OF THE KAZAKHSTANI COAST

Point name	Maximum		Minimum		Average
	Level, sm (m BS)	date, time, GMT*	Level, sm (m BS)	date, time, GMT*	Level, sm (m BS)
Middle Part					
Fort-Shevchenko	-176 (-29,76)	17/01/2026 16:00:00	-187 (-29,87)	19/01/2026 21:00:00	-179 (-29,79)
Saura	-165 (-29,65)	20/01/2026 00:00:00	-174 (-29,74)	19/01/2026 19:00:00	-169 (-29,69)
Kuryk	-185 (-29,85)	17/01/2026 03:00:00	-198 (-29,98)	19/01/2026 06:00:00	-193 (-29,93)
Aktau	-161 (-29,61)	17/01/2026 15:00:00	-175 (-29,75)	19/01/2026 18:00:00	-170 (-29,70)
Fetisovo	-105 (-29,05)	18/01/2026 20:00:00	-119 (-29,19)	15/01/2026 12:00:00	-108 (-29,08)
Peschanyi	-139 (-29,39)	19/01/2026 23:00:00	-153 (-29,53)	19/01/2026 17:00:00	-149 (-29,49)
Makhachkala	-152 (-29,52)	17/01/2026 05:00:00	-160 (-29,60)	16/01/2026 22:00:00	-157 (-29,57)

GMT* - Greenwich Mean Time

REVIEW CASPIAN SEA WATER STAGE FROM JANUARY 08 – 14, 2026

According to the operational data of the sea stations of Kazhydromet: Fort-Shevchenko, Aktau, Fetisovo, Saura, Peschanyi and Roshydromet (Makhachkala),

the average value of the level of the Caspian Sea, in its deep part, corresponded to minus 29.52 m, the maximum minus 29.08 m, the minimum minus 29.77 m.

***REVIEW OF ICE CONDITIONS IN THE CASPIAN SEA,
January 08 – 14, 2026***

Satellite imagery (Figure 1) and operational data from marine stations and observatories along the northern coast of the Caspian Sea indicate the formation of an ice cover.

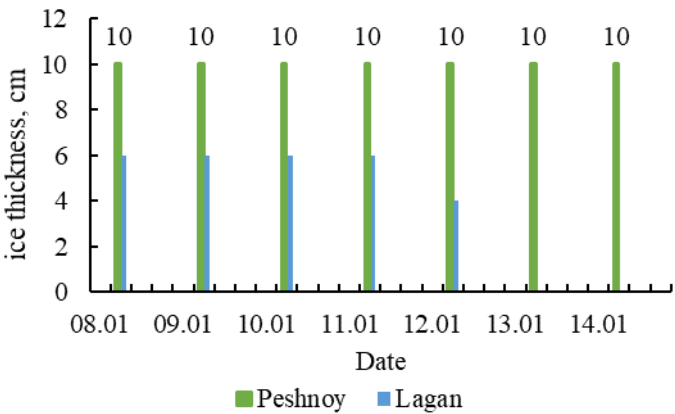


Fig. 3 Ice thickness according to operational data of marine stations

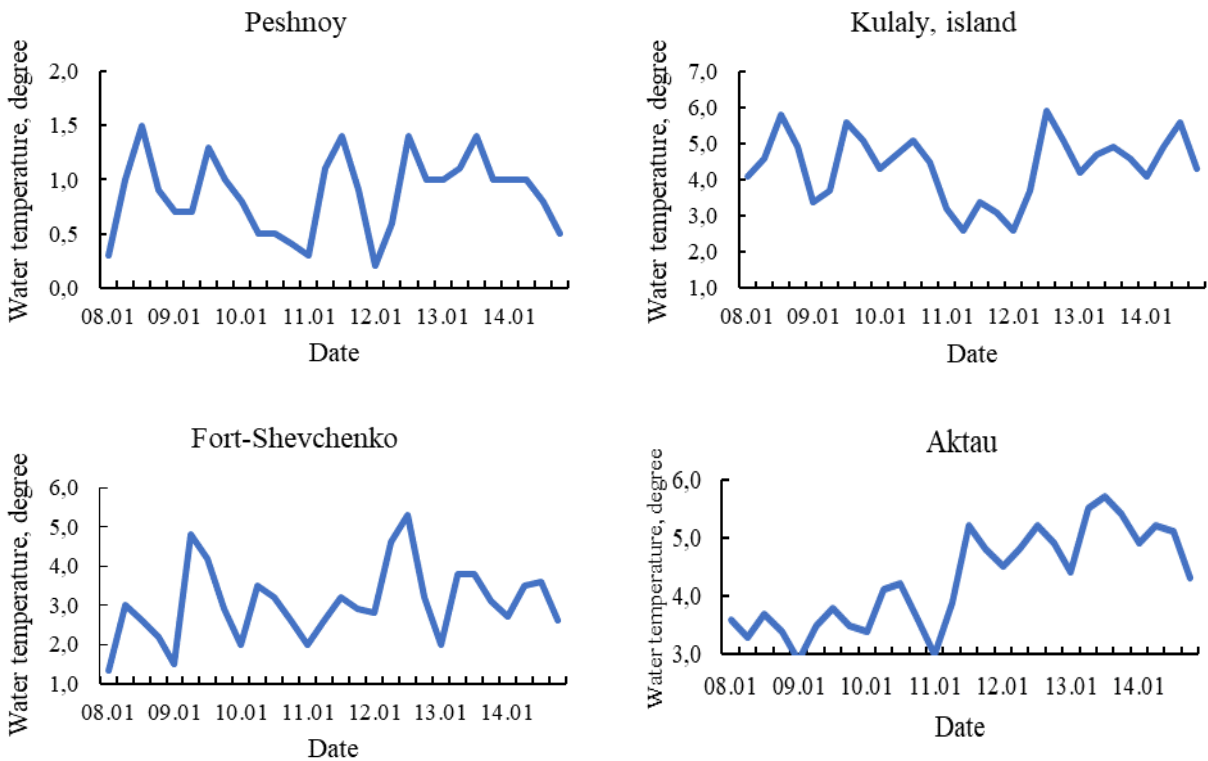


Fig. 4 Water temperature varies according operative data from Caspian Sea stations

CRITERIA OF DANGER OF THE STORM SURGES IN THE NORTHEAST COAST

	Rise/Fall, cm	Characteristic***	Consequences
Up surge	50	Critical	Flooded coast area to 5 km
	65	Danger	Flooding and flooding of dams and buildings up to 10 km
	110	Especially danger	Flooding of the coast for more than 10 km, destruction of dams and buildings
Down surge	-50	Critical	worsening navigation conditions for small ships
	-65	Danger	Worsening of navigation conditions for small and medium-sized ships
	-100	Especially danger	Ships would be aground

** The calculated characteristics were obtained using the hydrodynamic module of the MIKE 21 Flow Model, adapted in RSE "Kazgidromet" to the conditions of the Caspian Sea. Data of sea level measurements and pressure field numerical forecasting for 24 –120 hours were used in computation.*

*** At definition of characteristic marks local conditions were considered.*

**** Critical – 50 % frequency, danger – 25 % frequency, especially danger– 2 % frequency. The calculation was carried out for the period 1940-2020 according to the data of Peshnoy station.*

BS – Baltic System

The bulletin was compiled by the Department of Hydrometeorological Research of the Caspian Sea

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