

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 100

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	December 2015						
	October 2015 Total	November 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	321.8	864.7	656.4	425.5	647.9	522.5	43/64
Nafanua	193.0	768.7	463.1	319.1	456.4	392.8	29/42
Apia	155.1	713.2	373.6	276.7	428.2	364.0	68/126
Faleolo	181.1	152.7	261.5	206.1	307.9	265.8	27/54

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall October to December 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #96]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Afiamalu	1842.9	1160.5	1412.6	1258.3	53/63	64/28/8 (7.0)	Inconsistent
Nafanua	1424.8	774.2	1022.5	900.8	38/41	48/48/4 (12.1)	Inconsistent
Apia	1241.9	716.8	899.5	817.7	114/126	57/27/16 (1.6)	Inconsistent
Faleolo	596.3	537.8	693.7	611.6	53/54	39/40/21 (-2.3)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for October to December 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #96):
Nino 3.4 value from June to August 2015**

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for February to April 2016

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 value from October to December 2015.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	1419.2	54		-3.1%	51.5%
Nafanua	66	1048.3	34		-1.4%	58.6%
Apia	83	924.8	17		6.2%	66.7%
Faleolo	9	629.9	91		15.1%	64.3%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	48	1235.2	24	1548.1	28	-3.7%	18.2%
Nafanua	65	910.7	17	1126.4	18	2.2%	34.5%
Apia	72	802.8	22	1012.4	6	8.0%	48.5%
Faleolo	19	589.7	22	692.1	59	0.2%	28.6%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for February to April 2016

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	67	795	12	1108	21		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2015: Afiamalu and Nafanua recorded “above normal” rainfall whereas Apia and Faleolo station received “normal” rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2015, including outlook verification:

All stations received “above normal” rainfall with the exception of Faleolo recorded “normal” rainfall.

The outlook verification was “inconsistent” for all stations except for Faleolo which recorded “consistent” forecast.

Outlooks for February to April 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

- The outlook for Faleolo favours “above normal”, with “normal” the next most likely.
- The outlook for Afiamalu and Nafanua favours “below normal” rainfall, with “above normal” the next most likely.
- The rainfall outlook for Apia station favours “below normal”, with “normal” the next most likely.

The confidence ranges from “very low” to “moderate”

2. POAMA:

- Apia favours “Below normal” rainfall for Feb-Apr 2016 period.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$

Low: $0 \leq X < 5$

Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$

Good: $10 \leq X < 15$

High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$

Exceptional: $X \geq 35$