

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 101

**Country Name:** Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2016						
	November 2015 Total	December 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	135.4	173.5	28.2	149.9	233.1	206.2	36/62
KWAJALEIN	253.5	99.1	51.3	58.3	115.2	83.7	23/72

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall November 2015 to January 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #97]

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?)
MAJURO	337.1	728.8	917.0	836.9	1/62	61/28/11 (5.8%)	Consistent
KWAJALEIN	403.9	525.3	648.5	595.5	22/71	49/23/28 (-0.8%)	Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November to January 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #97):

2 month NINO3.4 August to September 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  
March to May 2016**

**Predictors and Period used:** 2 month NINO3.4 December 2015 to January 2016

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	64%	748.4	36%		-0.1%	49.2%
KWAJALEIN	74%	498.6	26%		3.0%	58.5%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	49%	622.2	33%	884.9	18%	-0.3%	19.7%
KWAJALEIN	67%	380.0	17%	621.3	16%	3.7%	23.1%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for  
March to May 2016**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	82%	567.0	9%	879.0	9%		
KWAJALEIN	94%	272.0	5%	568.0	1%		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for January 2016:**

Below normal was recorded at both Majuro and Kwajalein for January 2016.

### **Accumulated rainfall for November to January 2016, including outlook verification:**

Rainfall over the last three months was recorded again below normal at both stations. The SCOPIC outlooks for the last three months were consistent for both stations.

### **Drought:**

Moderate to severe drought for both stations. Both stations are experiencing water rationing due to the large population on each islands.

**Note:** The RMI president has declared a State of Emergency for the RMI and the government is working closely with the US Embassy to handle the situation.

### **Outlooks for March to May 2016:**

#### **1. SCOPIC:**

Seasonal rainfall outlook for the next 3 months shows below normal rainfall, the most likely outcome for both Majuro and Kwajalein. The next most likely outcome is normal rainfall.

#### **2. POAMA:**

The most likely outcome outlook for the next 3 months also shows below normal rainfall for both stations. The next most likely outcome is normal rainfall.

**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:  $X \geq 35$