

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

Country Name:

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
Afiamalu	864.7	656.4	350.5	559.1	773.2	650.5	9/63
Nafanua	768.7	463.1	113.4	358.2	726.1	447.5	2/42
Apia	713.2	373.6	85.6	358.3	492.7	399.8	2/127
Faleolo	152.7	262.5	114.5	214.6	363.8	298.7	6/56

**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?)
Afiamalu	1871.6	1445.8	1993.1	1756.6	37/62	47/51/2 (11.4)	Consistent
Nafanua	1345.2	1052.1	1490.6	1249.1	23/40	87/8/5 (12.6)	Near consistent
Apia	1172.4	955.7	1205.0	1055.4	80/126	44/41/15 (0.8)	Near consistent
Faleolo	529.7	682.0	892.5	752.2	43/54	57/34/9 (2.6)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for November to January 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #97):
Nino 3.4 value from July 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: Nino 3.4 value from November to January 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	42	1153.2	58		-3.1%	51.5%
Nafanua	66	869.1	34		3.1%	62.1%
Apia	63	763.2	37		-1.6%	60.6%
Faleolo	27	546.9	73		-1.6%	40.75

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	55	1003.8	14	1296.9	31	-3.7%	27.3%
Nafanua	56	792.9	9	972.0	35	-1.0%	37.9%
Apia	68	662.4	5	834.4	27	1.8%	51.5%
Faleolo	27	483.6	24	622.0	49	-2.6%	11.1%

**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)		
Apia	76	620	12	899	12		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2016:

All stations recorded “below normal” rainfall.

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

- “Normal rainfall” was observed for all stations whereas “below normal” for Faleolo station.
- The outlook was “consistent for Afiamalu and Faleolo stations. Apia and Nafanua recorded “near consistent”.

Outlooks for March to May 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

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

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

2. POAMA:

- “Below normal” rainfall is favoured for Apia.

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: $X \geq 35$