

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 102

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

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	February 2016						
	December 2015 Total	January 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	173.5	28.2	80.5	111.0	239.3	165.2	12/62
KWAJALEIN	99.1	51.3	11.7	37.1	91.2	67.6	51/72

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall December 2015 to February 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #98]

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	282.2	582.1	743.7	660.7	4/62	64/27/9 (6.5%)	Consistent
KWAJALEIN	162.1	317.9	432.1	381.4	17/71	82/6/12 (8.0%)	Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December to February 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #98):

2 month NINO3.4 September to October 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 April to June 2016**

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	54%	841.3	46%		-1.6%	37.7%
KWAJALEIN	70%	614.3	30%		1.3%	50.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	48%	670.4	37%	972.4	15%	0.3%	21.3%
KWAJALEIN	53%	526.0	27%	716.7	20%	0.3%	36.4%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	76%	638.0	18%	901.0	6%		
KWAJALEIN	85%	402.0	6%	706.0	9%		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for February 2016:**

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

### **Accumulated rainfall for December to February 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:**

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

**Note:** The government is continue working with the US Embassy and other partners to handle the situation as the condition is getting worse not on Majuro and Kwajalein only but other islands especially the northern atolls.

### **Outlooks for April to June 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:  $X \geq 35$