

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 103

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2016						
	January 2016 Total	February 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	350.5	280.7	460.1	395.0	590.5	513.5	29/64
Nafanua	113.4	412.3	339.7	317.7	403.6	356.1	26/44
Apia	85.6	322.4	272.6	273.6	372.5	310.8	57/127
Faleolo	114.5	161.7	273.8	182.7	245.3	215.9	44/55

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January to March 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #99]

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	1091.3	1559.7	1992.6	1770.4	12/62	38/57/5 (5.2)	Near consistent
Nafanua	865.4	1094.5	1616.2	1303.3	12/40	71/21/8 (8.2)	Consistent
Apia	680.6	1005.5	1253.7	1131.0	18/126	66/28/6 (8.2)	Consistent
Faleolo	550.0	687.7	887.9	784.9	9/53	57/19/24 (-0.8)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #99):
Nino 3.4 value from September to November 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
May to July 2016**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 value from January to March 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	75	732.9	25		3.6%	57.6%
Nafanua	61	519.6	39		-2.1%	53.6%
Apia	73	409.5	27		1.6%	54.5%
Faleolo	88	324.5	12		12.5%	71.4%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	79	621.7	13	833.7	8	8.8%	30.3%
Nafanua	62	423.6	16	579.1	22	-0.8%	32.1%
Apia	45	332.3	31	480.5	24	-3.7%	30.3%
Faleolo	69	271.5	23	382.6	8	7.5%	50.0%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	73	388	9	530	18		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2016: 'Normal' rainfall was received at both Afiamalu and Nafanua stations. 'Below normal' rainfall was registered at Apia and 'above normal' was recorded at Faleolo.

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

All stations received "below normal" rainfall for December to February period.

The outlook was "consistent" for all stations with the exception of Afiamalu recorded "near consistent".

Outlooks for May to July 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

- The outlook for Afiamalu, Apia and Faleolo stations favours "below normal", with "normal" the next most likely.
- Nafanua shows the most likely outcome is "below normal", with "above normal" the next most likely.

The confidence of the model is "moderate" to 'very low".

2. POAMA: The outlook favours "below normal" rainfall for Apia in the next coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$