

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 104

**Country Name:** Republic of the Marshall Islands

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	April 2016						
	February 2016 Total	March 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	80.5	33.8	52.1	204.2	322.4	241.9	4/62
KWAJALEIN	11.7	26.7	28.7	119.2	203.1	146.8	6/72

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall February to April 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #100]

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	166.4	559.2	784.6	652.7	5/62	55/38/7 (5.3%)	CONSISTENT
KWAJALEIN	67.1	260.7	434.2	364.1	5/72	64/30/6 (8.5%)	CONSISTENT

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #100):

2 MONTH NINO3.4SST NOV-DEC 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  
June to August 2016**

**Predictors and Period used:** 2 MONTH NINO3.4SST MAR-APRIL

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	56%	876.5	44%		-1.5%	50.0%
KWAJALEIN	73%	730.8	27%		0.5%	53.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	37%	818.7	30%	962.4	32%	-1.9%	11.3%
KWAJALEIN	24%	672.1	42%	824.2	34%	-1.3%	19.7%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	94%	806.0	5%	902.0	1%		
KWAJALEIN	52%	665.0	27%	830.0	21%		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for April 2016:**

Below-normal rainfall was recorded at both Majuro and Kwajalein for April 2016 with very low skill at Majuro and low skill at Kwajalein.

### **Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2016, including outlook verification:**

Rainfall over the last three months was also recorded below-normal rainfall at both stations. The SCOPIC outlooks for the last three months were consistent for the 2 stations.

### **Drought & Impacts:**

- Ongoing drought at most parts of the RMI including the 2 main stations, Majuro and Kwajalein.
- However, as the 2015-16 El Niño has decayed some of the stations in the RMI have experienced wet conditions and had some rain.
- Food crops and water supplies in most parts of the RMI are still affected by the El Niño and are still on monitored.

### **Outlooks for June to August 2016:**

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

For Majuro, The seasonal rainfall outlook for June to August 2016 shows a near equal likelihood of below-normal and above-normal. Normal rainfall is the least likely.

For Kwajalein, the seasonal rainfall outlook for June to August shows the most likely outcome is normal, with above-normal rainfall the next most likely. Below-normal rainfall is the least likely category.

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

The seasonal rainfall outlook for June to August favours below-normal rainfall at both Majuro and Kwajalein with normal rainfall the next most likely category. Above-normal rainfall is the least likely at both stations.

**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:  $X \geq 35$