

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 105

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

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	May 2016						
	March 2016 Total	April 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro	33.8	52.1	282.4	211.9	318.4	268.7	34/62
Kwajalein	26.7	28.7	96.5	164.8	272.2	206.9	16/72

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall March to May 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #101]

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	368.3	622.2	884.9	748.4	34/62	49/33/18 (-0.3%)	CONSISTENT
Kwajalein	151.9	380.0	621.3	498.6	6/72	67/17/16 (3.7%)	CONSISTENT

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #101):  
2 MONTHS NINO3.4 SST DEC 2015-JAN 2016

\* 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 July to September 2016**

**Predictors and Period used:** 2 MONTHS NINO3.4 SST APR-MAY 2016

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	52.8%	903.4	47.2%		-1.6%	32.3%
Kwajalein	43.2%	774.9	56.8%		-1.0%	53.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	37.1%	830.3	33.5%	981.2	29.5%	-1.6%	35.5%
Kwajalein	24.1%	725.3	33.6%	849.4	42.4%	-0.2%	43.9%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro	82%	926.0	13%	968.0	5%		
Kwajalein	79%	747.0	12%	852.0	9%		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for May 2016:**

Rainfall for May 2016 for RMI was recorded normal rainfall at Majuro and below normal rainfall at Kwajalein.

### **Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2016, including outlook verification:**

Accumulated rainfall for the last 3 months at both stations was recorded below rainfall. The SCOPIC outlooks verification was consistent.

### **Drought and Impacts:**

Drought in the Marshall Islands has been improving as both stations have received beneficial rain showers recently. However long term drought impacts would still exist for most areas in the region.

### **Outlooks for July to September 2016:**

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

The seasonal rainfall outlook for the next 3 month using SCOPIC shows a near equal likelihood of below normal and normal rainfall at Majuro.

For Kwajalein, the seasonal rainfall outlook favours above normal.

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

The seasonal rainfall outlook for the next 3 months using POAMA model favours below normal rainfall at both stations with normal rainfall the next most likely category. Above normal rainfall is the least likely category.

**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:  $X \geq 35$