

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

**Country Name:** Samoa

**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
Afiamalu	460.1	749.6	420.6	134.0	236.7	167.8	48/63
Nafanua	339.7	585.7	464.1	102.0	135.3	118.4	44/46
Apia	267.2	650.0	389.9	87.4	147.2	115.9	127/127
Faleolo	273.8	397.0	199.3	58.3	111.2	78.4	43/35

**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?)
Afiamalu	1630.3	1003.8	1296.9	1153.2	53/62	55/14/31 (-3.7)	Near consistent
Nafanua	1389.5	792.9	972.0	869.1	37/44	56/9/35 (-1.0)	Near consistent
Apia	1307.1	662.4	834.4	763.2	114/127	68/5/27 (1.8)	Near consistent
Faleolo	870.1	483.6	622.0	546.9	53/54	27/24/49 (-2.6)	Inconsistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for March to May 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #101): Nino 3.4 value from November to January 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:** Nino 3.4 value from March to May 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	51	590.2	49		-1.6%	50.8%
Nafanua	49	404.0	51		-1.7%	41.9%
Apia	56	345.3	44		1.3%	54.8%
Faleolo	51	280.5	49		-2.0%	11.8%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	38	461.8	29	671.9	33	-1.4%	31.1%
Nafanua	32	302.7	28	507.7	40	-1.9%	41.9%
Apia	37	250.3	31	423.3	32	-0.2%	37.3%
Faleolo	35	213.5	36	359.3	30	-2.3%	31.4%

**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)		
Apia	12	267	24	430	64		

## **Summary Statements**

**Rainfall for May 2016: "Above normal" rainfall recorded for all stations.**

**Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2016, including outlook verification: All stations observed 'normal rainfall'.**

**The outlook verification was "near consistent" for all stations except Faleolo recorded "inconsistent".**

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

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

- Apia and Afiamalu outlook shows the most likely outcome is "below normal" with "above normal" the next most likely.
- The outlook for Nafanua shows the most likely outcome is "above normal" with "below normal" the next most likely.
- The outlook for Faleolo is mixed, with the similar chances for "normal" and "below normal" totals.

#### **2. POAMA: "Above 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:  $X \geq 35$