

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 69

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			May 2013				
	March 2013 Total	April 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu (1967-2013)	422.5	510.9	274.6	211.9	345.5	283.7	28/59
Nafanua (1965-2013)	293.3	260.9	267.4	168.0	255.3	197.8	29/38
Apia (1890-2013)	271.8	187.2	304.9	125.4	192.1	163.0	111/124
Faleolo (1957-2013)	178.3	124.7	143.9	100.6	178.3	124.7	30/52

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
March to May 2013**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #65]

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	1208.0	991.8	1352.4	1162.4	33/57	34/32/34 (-1.6)	Near consistent
Nafanua	821.6	787.9	986.6	865.3	15/37	35/30/35 (-2.0)	Near consistent
Apia	763.9	654.0	834.0	762.5	63/124	34/32/34 (-0.6)	Near consistent
Faleolo	446.9	483.6	618.5	541.6	14/51	32/34/34 (-0.1)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #65): SOI values– November 2012 – January 2013

* 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 2013

Predictors and Period used: SOI values –March to May 2013

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	47.0%	588.6	53.0%		-1.0%	56.1%
Nafanua	54.0%	386.6	46.0%		-2.7%	42.9%
Apia	45.0%	347.0	55.0%		1.0%	54.5%
Faleolo	51.0%	284.8	49.0%		-2.1%	37.5%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	26.0%	461.0	40.0%	686.9	34.0%	-0.6%	40.4%
Nafanua	34.0%	324.2	40.0%	511.6	26.0%	-2.3%	38.9%
Apia	31.0%	251.9	35.0%	423.3	34.0%	-0.5%	36.6%
Faleolo	34.0%	213.5	31.0%	359.3	35.0%	-2.6%	29.2%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
July to September 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	20.0	267.0	33.0	430.0	47.0		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2013:

‘Above normal’ rainfall was recorded in Apia and Nafanua stations. ‘Normal’ rainfall was recorded at Afiamalu and Faleolo stations

Mid to low altitudes experienced wetter and moist rainfall conditions in May than the preceding month. Thus rainfall recorded at Faleolo station had changed from below normal in April to normal in May 2013.

Accumulated rainfall for March–May 2013, including outlook verification:

The 3-monthly rainfall for the March to May 2013 period was ‘below normal’ at Faleolo and ‘normal’ for the other 3 climate stations.

The forecast issued for the above-mentioned period was near consistent at all four stations.

Outlooks for July–September 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

The statistical model predicts ‘normal’ rainfall for Samoa in the next 3 months

2. POAMA:

The dynamical model favours ‘normal to above normal’ rainfall for Samoa for the July to September 2013 period.

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: $X \geq 35$