

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 75

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			November 2013				
	September 2013 Total	October 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu (1967-2013)	152.1	244.4	400.2	292.3	430.3	332.4	36/58
Nafanua (1965-2013)	160.1	152.1	215.7	201.7	316.1	281.3	16/43
Apia (1890-2013)	120.8	159.1	162.9	191.8	298.4	238.0	32/124
Faleolo (1957-2013)	101.6	100.9	241.8	150.8	197.5	163.9	42/52

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall September to November 2013

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #71]

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	796.7	720.1	1095.5	819.6	24/56	19/32/49 (6.4)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	527.9	558.9	748.5	669.3	8/41	30/34/36 (-2.2)	Inconsistent
Apia	442.8	495.1	682.9	593.4	31/124	15/43/42 (7.9)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	444.3	381.4	517.2	450.5	25/50	8/32/60 (13.6)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for July to September 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #70):
SOI Values from May to July 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
January to March 2014**

Predictors and Period used: SOI values from September-November

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	1729.0	54		4.7%	61.4%
Nafanua	47	1303.3	53		5.6%	61.5%
Apia	46	1131.0	54		2.4%	58.1%
Faleolo	49	784.9	51		-1.2%	53.8%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	28	1548.3	36	2103.8	36	4.0%	43.9%
Nafanua	25	1086.0	37	1611.0	38	8.4%	43.6%
Apia	28	1003.8	35	1253.5	37	6.4%	46.0%
Faleolo	30	690.3	35	884.2	35	1.0%	38.5%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
January to March 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
APIA	30	975	23	1351	47		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2013:

'Above Normal' rainfall was recorded at Faleolo Station. 'Normal' rainfall was observed at Afiamalu, Nafanua whereas Apia Station registered 'Below Normal' rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for September–November 2013, including outlook verification:

The 3-monthly total rainfall was 'Normal' for 2/4 stations namely Afiamalu and Faleolo. 'Below Normal' rainfall was observed at Apia and Nafanua station. In addition, Nafanua station is in the top 10 driest (ranked 8th) for the above mention period.

"Near Consistent" forecast was issued for 3/4 stations. Nafanua station forecast was 'Inconsistent'.

Outlooks for January – March 2014:

1. SCOPIC: 'Above normal' rainfall is forecast for the above period for Nafanua and Apia station whereas Afiamalu and Faleolo is 'Normal to Above Normal' with equal chance.

2. POAMA: 'Above-normal' is forecast for January - March 2014 period 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: $X \geq 35$