

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 79

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			March 2014				
	January 2014 Total	February 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro NINO3.4sst	254.4	309.6	151.4	122.1	232.5	167.1	14/33
Kwajalein NINO3.4sst	96.8	351.0	283.7	49.1	117.1	86.4	67/70

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January to March 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #75]

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 NINO3.4sst	706.4	513.2	641.6	565.3	30/33	20/40/40 (21.9)	Near Consistent
Kwajalein NINO3.4sst	731.5	202.1	318.6	236.3	69/70	27/43/31 (30.7)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #75):

NINO3.4SST Anomalies from September to November

* 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 May to July 2014

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4sst Anomalies from January to March

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro NINO3.4sst	57%	817.6	43%		0.9%	59.4%
Kwajalein NINO3.4sst	50%	705.6	50%		-1.6%	17.2%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro NINO3.4sst	39%	768.0	25%	848.3	36%	-2.0%	43.8%
Kwajalein NINO3.4sst	29%	576.1	38%	799.5	33%	-0.5%	37.5%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May to July 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro NINO3.4sst	15%	638	58%	901	27%		
Kwajalein NINO3.4sst	12%	402	21%	706	67%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014:

-Rainfall recorded for Majuro was “normal” rainfall and “above normal” for Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2014, including outlook verification:

-Rainfall outlook for January to March 2014 was “normal” rainfall for both Majuro and Kwajalein.

-Observe rainfall was “above normal” rainfall for both Majuro and Kwajalein. Verification was Near Consistent.

Outlooks for May-July 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

-Rainfall for next three months using NINO3.4SST Anomalies shows that the most likely outcome is “normal” rainfall for Kwajalein. The seasonal rainfall outlook for Majuro is mixed, with similar chances for “below normal” and “above normal” totals; “near normal” is the least likely outcome.

2. POAMA:

-The POAMA seasonal rainfall outlook for May to July 2014 shows that the most likely outcome is “normal” for Majuro and “above normal” for Kwajalein.

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: $X \geq 35$