

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

Country Name: Samoa

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
Afiamalu (1967-2013)	1664.7	589.4	443.0	395.0	606.3	478.0	26/61
Nafanua (1965-2013)	1188.2	336.7	291.2	320.0	416.8	360.7	10/42
Apia (1890-2013)	965.1	331.3	309.2	272.9	381.5	310.6	63/125
Faleolo (1957-2013)	496.3	273.3	275.9	178.3	242.1	212.4	44/53

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 #74]

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	2697.1	1548.3	2103.8	1729.0	52/58	28/36/36 (4.0)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	1816.1	1086.0	1611.0	1303.3	34/40	25/37/38 (8.4)	Consistent
Apia	1605.6	1003.8	1253.5	1131.0	115/125	28/35/37 (6.4)	Consistent
Faleolo	1045.5	690.3	884.2	784.9	45/53	30/35/35 (1.0)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2013 to January 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #73): SOI Values from Sept to Nov 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
May to July 2014**

Predictors and Period used: SOI values from January to March 2014

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	51	755.1	49		5.2%	57.9%
Nafanua	51	519.6	49		0.7%	53.7%
Apia	51	409.5	49		0.3%	48.4%
Faleolo	51	336.3	49		1.3%	52.9%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	32	619.5	33	852.5	35	7.3%	47.4%
Nafanua	34	437.9	34	577.4	32	-0.1%	31.7%
Apia	33	331.0	34	480.1	33	-0.8%	29.8%
Faleolo	35	273.0	34	391.5	31	-0.7%	39.2%

**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)		
Apia	42	486	42	628	16		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014: 'Above average' was registered at Faleolo. 'Average' rainfall was recorded at Afiamalu and Apia station and 'Below average' was recorded at Nafanua.

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

The 3-monthly total rainfall was "Above normal" for all stations.

"Consistent" forecast was issued for Nafanua and Apia. "Near Consistent" forecast was issued for Afiamalu and Faleolo.

Outlooks for May-July 2014:

1. SCOPIIC: The seasonal rainfall outlook for May-July 2014 shows little guidance for the coming season, as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal are similar for all stations.

2. POAMA: 'Below-normal' and 'Normal' outcome has equal chances of occurrence for Apia during the May - July 2014 period, with above normal 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: $X \geq 35$