

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 81

**Country Name:** Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

| Station (include data period) |                  |                  | May 2014 |                       |                       |                      |         |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|
|                               | March 2014 Total | April 2014 Total | Total    | 33%tile Rainfall (mm) | 67%tile Rainfall (mm) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Ranking |
| Majuro                        | 151.38           | 589.28           | 192.53   | 175.9                 | 289.1                 | 256.8                | 13/33   |
| Kwajalein                     | 283.72           | 448.70           | 136.14   | 165.3                 | 271.1                 | 206.9                | 20/70   |
|                               |                  |                  |          |                       |                       |                      |         |
|                               |                  |                  |          |                       |                       |                      |         |
|                               |                  |                  |          |                       |                       |                      |         |

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall March to May 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #77]

| 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    | 933.19            | 529.3                 | 765.9                 | 648.5                | 27/33   | 30/35/35<br>(-0.3)              | Near-Consistent  |
| Kwajalein | 868.56            | 375.5                 | 596.9                 | 488.0                | 62/70   | 28/36/36<br>(3.5)               | Near-Consistent  |
|           |                   |                       |                       |                      |         |                                 |  |
|           |                   |                       |                       |                      |         |                                 |  |
|           |                   |                       |                       |                      |         |                                 |  |

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #77):

NINO3.4sst Anomalies from Nov 2013-Jan 2014

\* 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 2014**

**Predictors and Period used:** NINO3.4 sst Anomalies March-May 2014

| Station   | Below<br>Median<br>(prob) | Median<br>Rainfall<br>(mm) | Above<br>Median<br>(prob) |  | LEPS  | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|-------|----------|
| Majuro    | 52%                       | 874.8                      | 48%                       |  | -0.8% | 62.5%    |
| Kwajalein | 50%                       | 774.9                      | 50%                       |  | -1.5% | 54.7%    |

| Station   | Below<br>Normal<br>(prob) | 33%ile<br>rainfall<br>(mm) | Normal<br>(prob) | 66%ile<br>rainfall<br>(mm) | Above<br>Normal<br>(prob) | LEPS  | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------|----------|
| Majuro    | 35%                       | 780.7                      | 32%              | 970.2                      | 33%                       | -3.1% | 40.6%    |
| Kwajalein | 33%                       | 727.2                      | 34%              | 848.1                      | 33%                       | -0.7% | 40.6%    |

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

| Station   | Lower Tercile (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Middle Tercile (prob) | 66%ile rainfall (mm) | Upper Tercile (prob) |  |  |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Majuro    | 33%                  | 806                  | 43%                   | 902                  | 24%                  |  |  |
| Kwajalein | 30%                  | 665                  | 61%                   | 830                  | 9%                   |  |  |

### **Summary Statements**

#### **Rainfall for May 2014:**

- Rainfall was recorded normal rainfall for Majuro and below normal for Kwajalein.

#### **Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2014, including outlook verification:**

- Above normal rainfall was recorded for March to May for both Majuro and Kwajalein. Verification was Near-Consistent.

#### **Outlooks for July-September 2014:**

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

- The seasonal rainfall outlook for next three months using NINO3.4sst offers little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal, and below normal are similar.

##### **2. POAMA:**

- The POAMA seasonal rainfall outlook for June to August 2014 shows that the most likely outcome is normal rainfall for both Majuro and 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:  $X \geq 35$