

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

Country Name: Samoa

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
Afiamalu	443.0	393.1	314.9	213.2	345.3	282.7	37/60
Nafanua	291.2	271.5	368.2	173.6	259.2	197.8	36/44
Apia	309.2	296.3	333.3	126.1	192.7	163.5	114/125
Faleolo	275.9	170.1	176.7	101.1	176.7	126.4	35/53

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?)
Afiamalu	1151.0	958.5	1295.1	1124.4	30/58	30/ 40 /30 (-1.3)	Consistent
Nafanua	930.9	801.9	1001.1	869.1	25/42	33/ 37 /30 (-2.6)	Consistent
Apia	938.8	658.0	832.6	763.2	99/125	30/ 38 /33 (0.0)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	622.7	477.3	616.3	536.2	36/52	38 /31/31 (-0.6)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #77): SOI values from November 2013 to January 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: SOI values from March to May 2014

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	50	589.1	50		-0.7%	55.2%
Nafanua	50	408.9	50		-2.2%	46.3%
Apia	50	347.9	50		0.9%	53.2%
Faleolo	50	289.0	50		-2.1%	26.5%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	32	461.8	34	695.4	34	-0.5%	39.7%
Nafamua	34	340.6	33	515.4	33	-1.3%	39%
Apia	33	252.4	33	423.9	34	-0.5%	33.9%
Faleolo	33	216.4	34	361.6	33	-2.4%	42.9%

**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)		
Apia	6	272	89	395	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2014: 'Normal rainfall' was recorded at Afiamalu and Faleolo stations. 'Above normal' rainfall was registered at Nafanua and Apia stations.

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

The 3 monthly total rainfall was 'Above normal' for Apia and Faleolo. Afiamalu and Nafanua stations recorded 'Normal' rainfall.

'Consistent' forecast was issued for Afiamalu and Nafanua.

'Near consistent' forecast for Apia and 'Inconsistent' for Faleolo station.

Outlooks for July-September 2014:

- 1. SCOPIC:** The seasonal rainfall outlook for July to September 2014 shows:
Little guidance for the coming season for all stations; as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal are similar.
- 2. POAMA:** 'Normal' rainfall is the most likely outcome for Apia during July – September 2014 period with 'below normal' the next most likely.

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: $X \geq 35$			