

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 83

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	July 2014						
	May 2014 Total	June 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	314.9	97.3	261.8	125.3	232.0	187.2	44/58
Nafanua	368.2	92.3	141.1	84.6	175.9	109.6	25/44
Apia	333.3	46.8	122.2	69.2	132.8	97.7	57/92
Faleolo	176.7	74.6	74.3	47.8	109.8	91.3	20/44

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall May to July 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #79]

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	674.0	589.0	804.1	673.0	29/57	34/32/34 (2.0)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	601.6	433.7	653.0	532.6	28/43	33/33/34 (-1.1)	Near Consistent
Apia	502.3	307.0	503.7	395.0	61/92	33/34/33 (-1.1)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	325.6	281.7	419.5	349.3	21/43	33/35/32 (4.1)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for May to July 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #79): SOI value from January to March 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
September to November 2014**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 value from May to July 2014

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	56.9	833.9	43.1		2.4%	53.1%
Nafanua	63.8	668.8	36.2		12.1%	63.0%
Apia	59.3	601.4	40.7		4.6%	56.3%
Faleolo	59.2	434.5	40.8		5.6%	66.7%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	716.5	36	1034.5	18	22.2%	56.3%
Nafanua	44	552.0	37	745.9	19	9.2%	44.4%
Apia	42	493.2	39	692.1	19	9.1%	43.8%
Faleolo	38	376.4	30	517.6	32	-0.1%	37%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	15	430	27	513	58		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for July 2014:

All rainfall stations recorded “**Normal**” rainfall with an exception of Afiamalu which was registered as “**Above Normal**” rainfall.

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

The 3- monthly total rainfall was “**Normal**” for all rainfall stations.

“**Near Consistent**” forecast was issued for all rainfall stations (i.e Afiamalu, Nafanua and Apia) with an exception of Faleolo rainfall station which was “**Consistent**”.

Outlooks for September to November 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

- The most likely outcome for Afiamalu, Apia and Nafanua rainfall stations are “**Below Normal**” with “**Normal**” the next most likely.
- Little guidance for the coming season for Faleolo as the chances of “**Below Normal**”, “**Normal**” and “**Above Normal**” are similar.
- The confidence of the model outlook for Afiamalu is ‘high’, Nafanua and Apia is ‘moderate’ and Faleolo scores ‘low’ skill.

2. POAMA:

- “**Above Normal**” rainfall is forecast for Apia for September to November 2014 period.

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: $X \geq 35$