Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 85

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			September 2014				
	July 2014 Total	August 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro	571.25	244.60	379.22	248.6	365.2	308.2	42/61
Kwajalein	301.75	142.49	241.04	229.4	302.7	273.4	28/70

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
July to September 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #81]

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	1195.07	830.1	973.0	900.7	56/61	32/**35**/33 (-2.6%)	Near Consistent
Kwajalein	685.28	727.2	848.1	774.9	16/70	29/35/**36** (3.8%)	Inconsistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #81):

Nino3.4SST Anomalies March to May 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 November 2014 to January 2015

Predictors and Period used: Nino3.4SST August to September (2months)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	55%	837.0	45%		3.4%	65.6%
Kwajalein	55%	596.4	45%		3.3%	50.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	37%	733.9	34%	917.5	29%	3.8%	43.8%
Kwajalein	38%	529.3	33%	649.3	29%	4.7%	34.4%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for November 2014 to January 2015

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro	12%	860	9%	1053	79%		
Kwajalein	52%	712	18%	808	30%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2014:
Rainfall recorded at Majuro and Kwajalein in September was above normal and normal respectively with totals of 248.6mm for Majuro and 229.4mm for Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for July to September 2014, including outlook verification:
Rainfall for the last three months was above normal at Majuro and below normal at Kwajalein. The July to September SCOPIC outlook was near-consistent for Majuro and inconsistent for Kwajalein.

Outlooks for November 2014 to January 2015:

1. SCOPIC:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for Majuro and Kwajalein for the next three months using Nino3.4SST anomalies offers little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal are similar.

2. POAMA:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for the next three months using POAMA shows that the most likely outcome is above normal for Majuro and below normal for Kwajalein. The second most likely category is below 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 ≤ X < 5 Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10 Good: 10 ≤ X < 15 High: 15≤ X < 25

Very High: 25 ≤X < 35 Exceptional: X ≥ 35