

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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 |
| Sola | 263.8 | 35.5 | 216.2 | 166.3 | 264.7 | 239.5 | 19/43 |
| Pekoa | 63.8 | 37.6 | 191.6 | 68.2 | 137.0 | 88.1 | 39/44 |
| Lamap | 151.3 | 25.0 | 168.0 | 44.0 | 105.1 | 72.7 | 48/54 |
| Southern Region | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield | 125.4 | 41.2 | 71.9 | 40.9 | 105.2 | 61.3 | 25/42 |
| Port Vila | 135.5 | 33.7 | 142.4 | 46.7 | 104.9 | 74.5 | 46/62 |
| Whitegrass | 40.2 | 6.0 | 135.2 | 20.4 | 61.5 | 31.2 | 39/42 |
| Aneityum | 73.8 | 74.6 | 184.4 | 62.1 | 121.0 | 95.1 | 53/63 |

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?) |
|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|--|
| Sola | 515.5 | 592.1 | 848.1 | 681.4 | 10/41 | 11:51:38(8.3) | Near-consistent |
| Pekoa | 293 | 228.7 | 397.3 | 348.4 | 18/44 | 6:48:46(18.5) | Consistent |
| Lamap | 344.3 | 196.8 | 299.3 | 242.8 | 41/54 | 28:34:38(3.1) | Consistent |
| Southern Region | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield | 238.5 | 186.2 | 295.5 | 239.3 | 21/42 | 18:48:34(17) | Consistent |
| Port Vila | 311.6 | 213.8 | 336.9 | 259.1 | 38/62 | 22:51:27(3.8) | Consistent |
| Whitegrass | 181.4 | 107.4 | 187.9 | 128.5 | 28/42 | 12:50:38(15.3) | Consistent |
| Aneityum | 332.8 | 268.7 | 374.3 | 343.6 | 31/63 | 22:56:22(4.8) | Consistent |

* 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).

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #79):
March – May 2014, SST 1 & 9

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
November 2014 to January 2015**

Predictors and Period used: July – Sep, Nino 3.4

| Station | Below Median (prob) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Above Median (prob) | | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|------|----------|
| Sola | 54 | 1186.8 | 46 | | 2.6 | 51.6 |
| Pekoa | 57 | 625.1 | 43 | | 13.2 | 71.0 |
| Lamap | 55 | 478.6 | 45 | | 6.6 | 66.7 |
| Southern Region | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield | 60 | 553.3 | 40 | | 18.9 | 75.0 |
| Port Vila | 74 | 576.9 | 26 | | 38.6 | 78.1 |
| Whitegrass | 56 | 340.1 | 44 | | 2.6 | 64.5 |
| Aneityum | 54 | 604.2 | 46 | | 2.5 | 50.0 |

| Station | Below Normal (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Normal (prob) | 66%ile rainfall (mm) | Above Normal (prob) | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|------|----------|
| Sola | 37 | 1039.2 | 34 | 1357.6 | 29 | 4.1 | 41.9 |
| Pekoa | 38 | 604.7 | 39 | 822.8 | 23 | 16.5 | 54.8 |
| Lamap | 38 | 448.6 | 37 | 555.1 | 25 | 7.8 | 36.7 |
| Southern Region | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield | 41 | 450.8 | 41 | 695.5 | 18 | 21.8 | 62.5 |
| Port Vila | 43 | 447.9 | 41 | 670.3 | 16 | 25.0 | 46.9 |
| Whitegrass | 41 | 268.0 | 36 | 405.5 | 23 | 11.8 | 45.2 |
| Aneityum | 38 | 449.7 | 32 | 693.1 | 30 | 5.2 | 46.9 |

**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) | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Sola | 43 | 824 | 21 | 1228 | 36 | | |
| Pekoa | 46 | 383 | 24 | 597 | 30 | | |
| Lamap | 46 | 316 | 24 | 421 | 30 | | |
| Southern Region | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield | 33 | 327 | 40 | 499 | 27 | | |
| Port Vila | 33 | 303 | 40 | 461 | 27 | | |
| Aneityum | 5 | 286 | 77 | 413 | 18 | | |

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2014:

- Rainfall for the past month (September) was *above normal* for Pekoa, Lamap, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum, and *normal* for Sola and Bauerfield.

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

- Rainfall for the past three months was *normal* for Pekoa, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum, *Above normal* for Lamap and *below normal* for Sola.
- The July to September outlook was consistent with the observed rainfall for all stations except at Sola where it was near consistent.

Outlooks for November 2014 to January 2015:

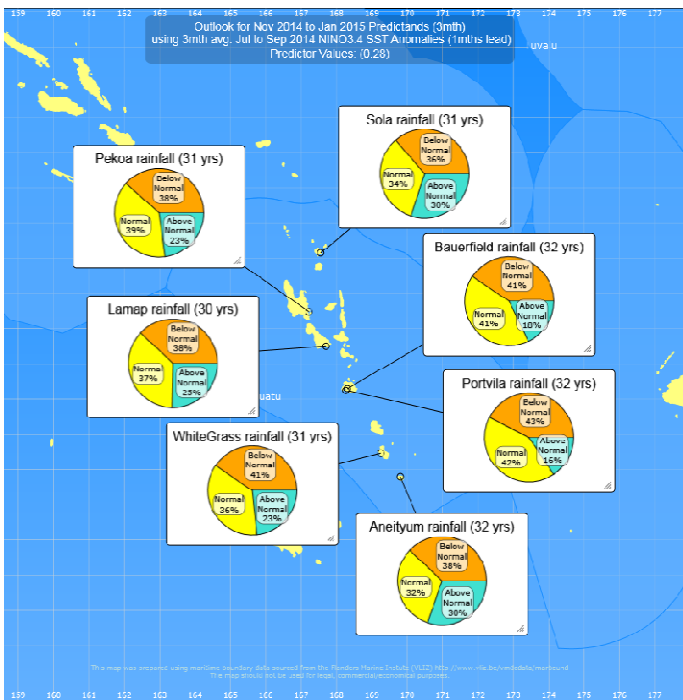
1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for November 2014 to January 2015 shows:

- For Sola and Aneityum the outlook offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.
- For Pekoa and Sola in Northern Vanuatu and Bauerfield and Port Vila in Southern Vanuatu there is a near equal likelihood of below normal or normal rainfall (with above normal the least likely).
- At Whitegrass in Southern Vanuatu, the most likely outcome is below normal, with normal the next most likely.

2. POAMA:

- The most likely outcome at Sola, Pekoa and Lamap is below normal with above normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum is normal with above 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: $X \geq 35$