

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 89

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2015						
	November 2014 Total	December 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	612.6	426.4	626.4	549.7	773.2	653.8	25/57
Nafanua	321.9	171.0	437.5	370	705.7	466.9	20/43
Apia	387.5	190.1	370.2	311.2	478.1	379.1	44/93
Faleolo	324.8	378.4	188.3	239	388.6	320.1	10/46

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall November 2014 to January 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #85]

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	1,665.4	1425.9	1900.4	1627.9	29/57	39/38/23 (9.6)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	930.4	970.8	1410.9	1235.3	13/42	35/39/26 (22.4)	Near Consistent
Apia	947.8	882.8	1191.7	1011.6	39/92	36/33/31 (5.5)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	891.5	687.7	919.3	785.1	27/43	36/30/34 (-3.8)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2014 to January 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #85):

- **NINO 3.4 Values from July to September 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 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
March to May 2015**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 November 2014 to January 2015

[Table 4 - Complete one or both tables. Once you have made a choice continue to use the same table]

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	49	1151.0	51		-3.5%	31.3%
Nafanua	49	900.5	51		-4.0%	32.1%
Apia	54	702.1	46		-1.5%	59.4%
Faleolo	53	518.8	47		-2.5%	59.3%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	39	963.0	26	1288.7	35	-1.2%	43.8%
Nafanua	38	769.3	23	1001.4	39	-4.0%	35.7%
Apia	38	624.9	29	791.9	33	-2.2%	37.5%
Faleolo	26	461.9	39	613.8	35	-0.1%	40.7%

**TABLE 5: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	33	795	37	1108	30		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2015:

'Normal' rainfall recorded across all stations except Faleolo station which received **'below normal'** rainfall in January.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2014 to January 2015, including outlook verification:

Rainfall over the last three months was **'normal'** at all stations except Nafanua station which received **'below normal'** rainfall for the November 2014 to January 2015 period.

The SCOPIC outlooks for the last three months were **'near consistent'** for all stations.

Outlooks for March to May 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

- **'Below normal'** rainfall is the most likely outcome for Afiamalu station with **'above normal'** the next most likely.
- The outlook for Nafanua is mixed, with similar chances for **'below normal'** and **'above normal'** to occur.
- The outlook for Apia station shows a near equal likelihood of **'below normal'**, 'normal' and **'above normal'** rainfall.
- **'Normal'** rainfall is the most likely outcome for Faleolo station with **'above normal'** the next most likely.
- The confidence of the model is **'very low'** for all stations.

2. POAMA:

There is no clear guidance for Apia stations as the chances of **'below normal'**, **'normal'** and **'above normal'** are similar.

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: $X \geq 35$