

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 90

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	February 2015						
	December 2014 Total	January 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	426.4	626.4	534.7	398.8	651.3	518.2	33/62
Nafanua	171.0	437.4	382.6	308.5	466.6	396.1	21/43
Apia	190.1	370.2	348.6	269.8	401.0	339.2	69/126
Faleolo	378.4	188.3	238.1	187.1	277.2	235.7	29/54

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall December 2014 to February 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #86]

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	1587.5	1621.3	2195.6	1924.8	20/61	40/40/20 (11.5)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	991.0	1078.3	1535.8	1257.3	14/42	40/39/21 (17.5)	Consistent
Apia	908.9	898.9	1240.3	1069.6	32/92	39/32/29 (10.4)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	804.8	713.9	960.6	869.0	24/52	36/35/29 (-1.4)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2014 to February 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #86):

Nino 3.4 values from August to October 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
April to June 2015**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 values of December 2014 to February 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	56	840.8	44		1.6	59.4
Nafanua	54	630.8	46		-0.9	53.6
Apia	55	512.0	45		0.9	59.4
Faleolo	61	397.0	40		6.3	73.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	40	747.4	26	951.0	34	1.0	43.8
Nafanua	36	547.2	32	729.6	32	-3.1	28.6
Apia	38	419.4	32	613.4	30	0.5	28.1
Faleolo	38	343.6	35	457.2	27	1.0	50.0

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
April to June 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	12	486	39	628	49		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2015:

'Normal' rainfall was recorded across all stations.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2014 to February 2015, including outlook verification:

Afiamalu and Nafanua received **'below normal'** rainfall whereas Faleolo and Apia recorded **'normal'** rainfall in December 2014 to February 2015 period.

All stations were **'near consistent'** with the outlook with an exception of Nafanua being **'consistent'**

Outlooks for April to June 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

- The outlook for Afiamalu station shows **'below normal'** rainfall is the most likely outcome with **'above normal'** rainfall the next most likely.
- For Faleolo station there is near equal likelihood of **'below normal'** and **'normal'** rainfall with **'above normal'** the least likely.
- The outlook for Apia and Nafanua stations offers little guidance as the chances of **'above normal'**, **'normal'** and **'below normal'** are similar.
- Outlook confidence ranges from **'low'** to **'very low'**.

2. POAMA:

'Above normal' rainfall is favoured for Apia station in the coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$