

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 91

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2015						
	January 2015 Total	February 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	209.3	109.7	549.9	142.0	252.0	188.1	60/61
KWAJALEIN	59.2	100.1	593.6	49.1	117.6	86.6	70/71

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January 2015 to March 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #87]

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	868.9	487.0	682.2	581.9	53/61	46/33/21 (17.6%)	Inconsistent
KWAJALEIN	752.9	202.2	319.4	239.6	70/71	53/32/15 (32.4%)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #87):

NINO3.4 SST Anomalies (October to November 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
May to July 2015**

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 SST Anomalies (February to March) 2 months

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	52%	843.5	48%		-1.1%	55.0%
KWAJALEIN	50%	698.1	50%		-1.6%	27.7%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	33%	784.7	39%	951.1	28%	-1.0%	40.0%
KWAJALEIN	38%	582.9	28%	799.0	34%	-0.4%	40.0%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May to July 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	21%	777.0	61%	848.0	18%		
KWAJALEIN	18%	537.0	36%	698.0	46%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2015:

Rainfall for March 2015 was recorded at Majuro and Kwajalein above normal rainfall with totals 549.9m for Majuro and 593.6m for Kwajalein. Both stations had their second highest March rainfall on record.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2015, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall for the last three months was recorded above normal at Majuro and Kwajalein. The January to March SCOPIC outlook was inconsistent with observed rainfall at both locations.

Outlooks for May to July 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for May to July 2015 at Majuro and Kwajalein is mixed, with similar chances for below-normal, normal, and above-normal totals. Forecast skill is low at this time of year for both stations.

2. POAMA:

The most likely outcome is normal rainfall for Majuro, with above normal the most likely outcome for Kwajalein.

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: $X \geq 35$