

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

**Country Name:** Vanuatu

### 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
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola	<b>265.5</b>	<b>218.6</b>	<b>388.1</b>	337.0	490.5	432.7	23/44
Pekoa	<b>157.7</b>	<b>104.1</b>	<b>136.2</b>	184.6	284.5	240.3	6/45
Lamap	<b>163.1</b>	<b>155.7</b>	<b>156.1</b>	160.8	225.7	189.8	13/54
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield	<b>267.1</b>	<b>487.3</b>	<b>800.1</b>	162.8	281.8	193.6	43/43
Port Vila	<b>365.0</b>	<b>421.4</b>	<b>792.8</b>	147.2	268.3	185.1	63/63
Whitegrass	<b>239.3</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>43.1</b>	54.9	143.9	102.4	1/44
Aneityum	<b>178.7</b>	<b>248.5</b>	<b>176.4</b>	155.0	272.7	204.2	12/64

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall (January – March 2015)

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?)
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola	<b>872.2</b>	1011.5	1220.8	1128.8	7/43	<b>(37:32:31)</b> -2.4	Consistent
Pekoa	<b>398.0</b>	760.1	1005.0	881.0	2/45	<b>(36:27:37)</b> -2.1	Inconsistent
Lamap	<b>474.9</b>	662.3	817.1	732.9	4/54	<b>(36:36:28)</b> 0.5	Consistent
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield	<b>1554.5</b>	800.8	1035.1	984.6	42/43	<b>(43:28:29)</b> 13.1	Inconsistent

\* 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).

Port Vila	1579.2	767.9	1002.2	881.5	63/63	(41:37:22) 1.5	Inconsistent
Whitegrass	363.6	495.2	707.8	564.6	17/44	(40:33:27) -1.8	Consistent
Aneityum	603.6	756.8	992.2	887.7	8/64	(41:37:22) 0.4	Consistent

### January 2015 to March 2015

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

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #87):  
**NINO3.4 SST Anomalies, September – November 2014**

### TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIIC for May to July 2015

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies, Jan – Mar 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
<b>Northern Region</b>						
Sola	59	999.6	41		8.0	55.2
Pekoa	57	477.5	43		0.7	66.7
Lamap	56	398.2	44		1.7	62.5
<b>Southern Region</b>						
Bauerfield	56	441.0	44		0.4	60.6
Port Vila	58	408.1	42		5.0	60.6
Whitegrass	63	222.5	37		7.9	61.3
Aneityum	58	444.7	42		1.7	65.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola	36	748.7	33	1188.4	31	-1.1	17.2
Pekoa	46	352.6	19	573.0	35	5.7	48.5
Lamap	40	311.9	33	474.1	27	4.4	46.9
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield	41	314.0	34	530.4	25	5.2	45.5
Port Vila	45	351.6	27	494.9	28	7.4	42.4
Whitegrass	44	181.3	44	268.7	12	12.3	41.9
Aneityum	42	357.9	38	524.9	20	9.5	40.6

**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)		
<b>Northern Region</b>							
Sola	64	648	27	920	9		
Pekoa	5	278	90	511	5		
Lamap	5	319	90	451	5		
<b>Southern Region</b>							
Bauerfield	5	333	90	513	5		
Port Vila	5	277	90	502	5		
Whitegrass	5	156	90	234	5		
Aneityum	5	336	90	488	5		

### **Summary Statements**

#### **Rainfall for March 2015:**

- Rainfall for the past month was *below normal* for Pekoa, Lamap and Whitegrass, *normal* for Sola and Aneityum while Bauerfield and Port Vila recorded *above normal* rainfall.

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

- Rainfall for the past three months was normal for Bauerfield and Port Vila and below normal for all other stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum).
- Outlook was *consistent* for Sola, Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum, and *inconsistent* for Pekoa, Bauerfield and Port Vila.

#### **Outlooks for May to July 2015:**

##### **1. SCOPIC:**

Using Nino3.4 SST Anomalies;

- The outlook for the coming season favours below normal rainfall for Lamap, Bauerfield and Aneityum with normal rainfall being the next most likely.
- The outlook favours below normal rainfall for Pekoa with above normal being the next most likely outcome.
- The most likely outcome at Port Vila is below normal with near equal likelihood chances of normal and above normal being the next most likely.
- The outlook at Sola offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal rainfall are similar.

- The seasonal outlook for Whitegrass shows an equal likelihood of below normal and normal rainfall. Above normal is the least likely.

Overall: Below normal to normal rainfall is favoured for the coming season.

## 2. POAMA:

- The most likely outcome at Sola is below normal with normal being the next most likely.
- The outlook favours normal rainfall for all other stations (Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum).

**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:  $X \geq 35$

