Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 92

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			April 2015				
	February 2015 Total	March 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Apia	348.6	314.4	165.9	179.5	268.3	220.7	39/126
Afiamalu	534.7	552.6	314.0	272.1	386.8	327.8	29/62
Faleolo	238.1	256.0	333.0	139.9	180.7	158.1	53/54
Nafanua	382.6	320	119.3	176.9	305.8	238.9	8/45

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
February to April 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #88]

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?
Apia	828.9	776.1	958.2	865.1	46/126	**40**/34/26 (2.8)	Near Consistent
Afiamalu	1401.3	1231.8	1549.2	1419.2	28/60	**37**/30/33 (-3.4)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	827.1	578.4	719.3	633.9	48/54	28/30/**42** (4.1)	Consistent
Nafanua	821.9	922.3	1082.2	983.6	7/43	**40**/34/26 (0.2)	Near Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #88):

Nino 3.4 values from October to December 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 June to August 2015

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 values from February to April 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Apia	44	345.0	56		-1.2%	66.7%
Afiamalu	72	607.3	28		13.4%	62.5%
Faleolo	72	292.5	28		13.1%	64.3%
Nafanua	54	413.4	46		-2.5%	42.9%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Apia	**36**	249.9	32	413.0	32	-3.8%	3.0%
Afiamalu	**51**	507.6	37	669.2	13	13.9%	50.0%
Faleolo	**43**	216.6	34	364.0	23	2.4%	46.4%
Nafanua	**43**	296.1	27	501.8	31	0.3%	35.7%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	21	272.0	**74**	395.0	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2015:

'Normal' rainfall was received at both Afiamalu and Nafanua stations. **'Below normal'** rainfall was registered at Apia and **'above normal'** was recorded at Faleolo.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2015, including outlook verification:

All stations recorded **'normal'** accumulated rainfall with an exception of Faleolo station which recorded **'above normal'** rainfall.

'Near consistent' was registered across all stations except Faleolo which recorded **'consistent'** with the outlook.

Outlooks for June to August 2015:

1. **SCOPIC:**

   -The outlook for Apia station offers little guidance as the chances of **'above normal', 'normal'** and **'below normal'** are similar.

   - The outlook for Afiamalu station favours **'below normal'** rainfall for the coming season.

   - 'Below normal' rainfall is the most likely outcome for both Faleolo and Nafanua station.

   The confidence of the model is from **'low to good'**.

2. **POAMA:**

   "Normal" rainfall is favoured for the coming season for Apia station.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: X < 0.0 Low: 0 ≤ X < 5 Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10 Good: 10 ≤ X < 15 High: 15≤ X < 25

Very High: 25 ≤X < 35 Exceptional: X ≥ 35