

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 93

**Country Name:** Cook Islands

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	May 2015						
	March 2015 Total	April 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-May 2015)	398.4	49.9	53.1	92.3	175.5	125.6	7/78
Rarotonga (1899-May 2015)	375.0	139.1	140.5	106.5	199.0	151.0	68/86

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall March to May 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #89]

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?)
Penrhyn	501.4	381	654.2	484	40/75	27/29/44	Near-consistent
Rarotonga	654.6	510	652	575.5	59/87	41/35/24	Inconsistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #89): Dec-Jan NINO3.4

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\* 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 July to September 2015**

**Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 Apr-May**

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	13%	342.0	87%		18.4	68.8
Aitutaki	56%	179.7	44%		-1.1	51.6
Rarotonga	54%	294.0	46%		-1.4	50

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	8%	295	21%	471	<b>71%</b>	15.6	51.6
Aitutaki	<b>33%</b>	148	<b>32%</b>	254	<b>35%</b>	-1.8	15.6
Rarotonga	<b>44%</b>	255	24%	351	32%	-1.3	37.5

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	5%	254	<b>83%</b>	522	12%		
Aitutaki	5%		<b>90%</b>		5%		
Rarotonga	5%	238	<b>89%</b>	368	6%		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for May 2015:**

In May, Penrhyn recorded below normal and Rarotonga normal rainfall.

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

For March to May, Penrhyn recorded near normal rainfall and Rarotonga above normal rainfall.

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

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

The Penrhyn outlook favours above normal rainfall with normal the next most likely.

The Aitutaki outlook offers little guidance as the chances of below normal, normal and above normal rainfall are similar. For Rarotonga outlook show the most likely outcome is below normal rainfall with normal the next most likely.

#### **2. POAMA:**

The Penrhyn, Aitutaki and Rarotonga outlooks favour normal rainfall

**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:  $X \geq 35$