

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

Country Name: SOLOMON 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
Auki (1962 – 2015)	765	204	511	171	246	219	52 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	190	234	324	79	139	109	39 of 40
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	216	160	322	87	140	121	58 of 61
Kirakira (1965 – 2015)	294	339	1191	224	349	265	49 of 49
Lata (1975 – 2015)	922	411	451	275	368	319	33 of 41
Munda (1962 – 2015)	708	228	369	207	285	245	48 of 54
Taro (1975 – 2014)	147	153	292	236	305	264	21 of 38

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall March 2015 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?)
Auki (1962 – 2015)	1481	740	940	840	53 of 53	36/31/33(-1.7)	In Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	749	442	597	527	33 of 40	43/46/11(14.3)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	698	546	702	613	41 of 61	38/37/25(2.7)	Near Consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2015)	1824	855	1011	903	48 of 48	37/36/27(0.9)	In Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2015)	1785	995	1181	1108	40 of 40	44/39/17(17.8)	In Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2015)	1306	807	1008	925	50 of 54	36/37/27(0.3)	Near Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	591	765	918	860	21 of 38	40/33/27(2.9)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #88):

Predictor: December Nino 3.4 extended -1 month

* 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 SCOPIIC for July to September 2015.

Predictors and Period used: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies May 2015.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	53	605	47		-2.0	40.0
Henderson	64	248	36		0.2	60.0
Honiara	46	270	54		-1.5	50.0
Kirakira	68	882	32		2.9	57.8
Lata	49	1113	51		-2.5	35.0
Munda	31	852	69		1.1	62.3
Taro	57	914	43		-2.1	52.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	35	569	36	708	29	-1.9	17.3
Henderson	42	225	28	316	30	-2.2	22.5
Honiara	40	242	18	326	42	-2.0	25.9
Kirakira	61	719	21	1043	18	5.3	31.1
Lata	34	923	42	1206	23	-2.0	35.0
Munda	29	764	26	922	45	-1.8	34.0
Taro	49	862	26	986	25	-0.5	30.6

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)		
Honiara	33	188	30	322	37		
Kirakira	46	570	42	923	12		
Lata	46	835	39	1197	15		
Munda	27	716	30	887	43		
Taro	40	790	33	952	27		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2015:

Rainfall is above normal for most parts of the country during the month.

In the central region, rainfall was above normal for Auki, Honiara and Henderson. For the eastern region, rainfall was above normal for both Kirakira and Lata. In the western region, Munda recorded above normal and Taro recorded normal rainfall.

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

Below normal rainfall was forecasted for most parts of the country.

Observed rainfall at Taro in the western region was consistent with its outlooks. Henderson, Honiara and Munda in the western region were Near Consistent while Auki in the central region as well as Kirakira and Lata in the eastern region were In- Consistent.

Above normal rainfall was recorded at Auki, Henderson, Honiara, Kirakira, Lata and Munda and normal at Taro.

Outlooks for July to September 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The likely outcome for Henderson, Kirakira and Taro is below normal rainfall. Normal rainfall is likely for Lata and above normal for Munda. For Auki, the rainfall outlook is mixed as the chances of below normal, normal and above normal are similar with above normal the least likely. For Honiara, the rainfall outlook is mixed as the chances of below-normal and above-normal totals are similar with normal the least likely.

2. POAMA:

The rainfall outlook for Kirakira, Lata and Taro is likely to be below normal and above normal for Munda. For Honiara, the rainfall outlook offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

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: $X \geq 35$