

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 94

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	June 2015						
	April 2015 Total	May 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	314.0	364.6	206.1	133.1	247.4	166.7	38/62
Nafanua	119.3	296.4	100.6	104.9	136.1	118.7	15/44
Apia	165.9	251.4	112.4	86.7	147.2	116.9	60/126
Faleolo	333	143.0	27.9	58.7	113.2	80	6/54

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
April to June 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #90]

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?)
Afiamalu	884.7	747.4	951.0	840.8	28/57	40/26/34 (1.0)	Near consistent
Nafanua	516.3	547.2	729.6	630.8	16/43	36/32/32 (-3.1)	Consistent
Apia	529.7	419.4	613.4	512.0	62/126	38/32/30 (0.5)	Near consistent
Faleolo	503.0	343.6	457.2	397.0	40/52	38/35/24 (1.0)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for April to June 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #90):
Nino 3.4 values from December 2014 to February 2015**

* 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 August to October 2015

Predictors and Period used:

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	57	724.8	43		-1.9%	56.3%
Nafanua	74	560.9	26		5.8%	63%
Apia	48	440.2	52		-3.2%	39.4%
Faleolo	54	351.8	46		-3.3%	42.9%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamlau	41	596.2	22	841.4	37	-3.5%	46.9%
Nafanua	40	476.5	26	630.1	34	-3.6%	29.6%
Apia	34	366.0	35	529.4	31	-4.3%	15.2%
Faleolo	35	282.1	29	422.1	36	-3.5%	17.9%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	15	430	61	513	24		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for June 2015: “Normal” rainfall was recorded at Afiamalu and Apia. Nafanua and Faleolo received “below normal” rainfall.

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

“Normal” rainfall was observed at Afiamalu and Apia. Nafanua recorded “below normal” rainfall and Faleolo “above normal”.

For outlook verification, “near consistent” for Afiamalu and Apia with an exception of Nafanua being “consistent” and Faleolo “inconsistent”.

Outlooks for August to October 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook for Afiamalu and Nafanua shows the most likely outcome of “below normal” with “above normal” rainfall the next most likely.

The outlooks for Apia and Faleolo offer little guidance for the coming season as the chances of “above normal, below normal” and “normal” rainfalls are similar.

The confidence of the model is “very low” for all stations.

2. POAMA:

“Normal” rainfall is favoured for the coming season for Apia.

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: $X \geq 35$