

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 95

**Country Name:** Samoa

**TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall**

Station (include data period)	July 2015						
	May 2015 Total	June 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	364.6	206.1	145.1	128	238.3	191.6	24/59
Nafanua	296.4	100.6	9.5	86.1	172.4	117.8	2/45
Apia	251.4	112.4	4.6	69.3	132.3	97.8	2/126
Faleolo	143.0	27.9	42.5	50.6	109.2	90.9	13/45

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall  
May to July 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #91]

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	715.8	621.0	839.0	674	31/58	44/30/26 (17.0)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	406.5	452.1	586.6	561	12/44	37/27/36 (-4.3)	Consistent
Apia	368.4	331.7	480.8	396.1	41/93	38/32/30 (-0.5)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	213.4	274.6	390.9	341.3	8/44	45/29/26 (9.9)	Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for May to July 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #91):  
Nino 3.4 value from January to February 2015 period.**

\* 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 September to November 2015**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 values from May to July 2015 period.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	68	775.4	32		3.9%	61.0%
Nafanua	53	581.7	47		-1.8%	33.3%
Apia	67	634.4	33		3.3%	65.2%
Faleolo	74	439.7	26		6.8%	69.5%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	36	576.7	46	972.6	18	1%	45.1%
Nafanua	37	469.6	35	683.4	28	-1.1%	33.3%
Apia	51	518.0	33	706.5	16	5.8%	43.5%
Faleolo	53	369.1	25	522.6	22	3.7%	37.3%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	45	497.0	25	679.0	30		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for July 2015:**

Apia, Faleolo and Nafanua recorded “below normal” rainfall and Afiamalu “normal” rainfall. Apia station recorded its lowest monthly total rainfall record for the month of July.

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

Afiamalu and Apia station received “normal” rainfall whereas Faleolo and Nafanua station recorded “below normal” for the May to July 2015 period.

The outlook was “near consistent” for Afiamalu and Apia and “consistent” for Nafanua and Faleolo.

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

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

- The seasonal rainfall outlook for Nafanua shows a near equal likelihood of “normal” and “below normal” rainfall. “Above normal” rainfall is the least likely.

- Apia and Faleolo favour “below normal” rainfall with “normal” the next most likely.

- “Normal” rainfall is most likely for the coming season at Afiamalu, with below normal the next most likely.

- The confidence of the model ranges from ‘very low’ to ‘moderate’

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

“Below normal” rainfall is favoured for Apia in the coming season

**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:  $X \geq 35$