

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 98

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	October 2015						
	August 2015 Total	September 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	180.8	27.3	321.8	300.4	452.0	351.3	30/64
Nafanua	101.6	5.9	193.0	206.4	318.9	281.3	18/44
Apia	62.5	7.8	155.1	191.0	298.6	238.0	47/126
Faleolo	26.7	39.7	181.1	152.7	202.7	169.4	32/53

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #94]

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	529.9	596.2	841.4	724.8	18/61	41/22/37 (-3.5)	Consistent
Nafanua	300.5	476.5	630.1	560.9	7/43	40/26/34 (-3.6)	Consistent
Apia	225.4	366.0	529.4	440.2	16/126	34/35/31 (-4.3)	Near consistent
Faleolo	247.5	282.1	422.1	351.8	13/51	35/29/36 (-3.5)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #94):
Nino 3.4 value from April to June 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
December 2015 to February 2016**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 value from August to October 2015 period.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	93	1925.3	7		16.8%	69.7%
Nafanua	93	1322.3	7		17.2%	67.9%
Apia	82	1137.0	18		5.1%	60.6%
Faleolo	86	854.2	14		6.4%	63.0%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	42	1620.4	56	2225.4	2	12.7%	39.4%
Nafanua	83	1166.0	13	1564.3	4	12.5%	60.7%
Apia	83	1005.2	9	1310.9	8	8.2%	33.3%
Faleolo	62	764.5	25	926.2	13	0.9%	40.7%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
December 2015 to February 2016**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	88	892	6	1361	6		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2015:

“Normal” rainfall was observed for Afiamalu and Faleolo whereas Apia and Nafanua recorded “Below normal”

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2015, including outlook verification:

All stations received “below normal” rainfall for the August to October 2015 period.

The outlook verification was “consistent” for Afiamalu and Nafanua, “near consistent” for Apia station and Faleolo station recorded “inconsistent”.

Outlooks for December 2015 to February 2016:

1. SCOPIC

- “Normal rainfall” is the most likely outcome for Afiamalu station with below normal the next most likely.
- Nafanua, Apia and Faleolo favours “below normal” rainfall.
- The confidence is ranges from “good” to “low”.

2. POAMA:

The outlook favours “Below normal” rainfall for Apia in the next coming season, with equal chance of “normal” and “above normal” the next most likely.

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: $X \geq 35$