

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

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

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 |
| Auki (1962 – 2015) | 124 | 138 | 181 | 173 | 243 | 200 | 20 of 53 |
| Henderson (1975 – 2015) | 28 | 85 | 31 | 60 | 129 | 105 | 5 of 41 |
| Honiara (1954 – 2015) | 12 | 61 | 28 | 83 | 165 | 111 | 3 of 59 |
| Kirakira 1965 – 2015) | 71 | 118 | 47 | 166 | 312 | 263 | 3 of 48 |
| Lata (1975 – 2015) | 176 | 255 | 101 | 316 | 454 | 372 | 3 of 41 |
| Munda (1962 – 2015) | 76 | 199 | 240 | 207 | 261 | 232 | 30 of 54 |
| Taro (1975 – 2015) | 163 | 162 | 135 | 240 | 297 | 252 | 3 of 37 |

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?) |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|
| Auki (1962 – 2015) | 443 | 540 | 704 | 614 | 8 of 51 | 45/21/34 | Consistent |
| Henderson (1975 – 2015) | 144 | 250 | 330 | 289 | 6 of 41 | 40/25/35 | consistent |
| Honiara (1954 – 2015) | 102 | 266 | 368 | 315 | 0 of 59 | 31/44/25 | Near consistent |
| Kirakira 1965 – 2015) | 237 | 686 | 959 | 790 | 0 of 45 | 53/32/15 | Consistent |
| Lata (1975 – 2015) | 531 | 934 | 1156 | 1079 | 2 of 41 | 44/27/29 | Consistent |
| Munda (1962 – 2015) | 515 | 382 | 818 | 752 | 6 of 54 | 37/37/26 | Near consistent |
| Taro (1975 – 2015) | 460 | 806 | 903 | 853 | 2 of 36 | 58/15/27 | Consistent |

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #94):

* 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).

Predictor: May Nino 3.4 extended -1 month

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for December 2015 to February 2016.

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

| Station | Below Median (prob) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Above Median (prob) | | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------|----------|
| Auki | 79 | 1040 | 21 | | 13.5 | 66.7 |
| Henderson | 94 | 686 | 6 | | 21.8 | 70.0 |
| Honiara | 86 | 707 | 14 | | 15.9 | 65.5 |
| Kirakira | 91 | 965 | 9 | | 26.3 | 68.9 |
| Lata | 70 | 1125 | 30 | | 3.0 | 52.5 |
| Munda | 45 | 1105 | 55 | | -3.3 | 39.6 |
| Taro | 81 | 685 | 19 | | 4.8 | 61.1 |

| Station | Below Normal (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Normal (prob) | 66%ile rainfall (mm) | Above Normal (prob) | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|------|----------|
| Auki | 50 | 895 | 43 | 1177 | 7 | 8.4 | 29.4 |
| Henderson | 88 | 584 | 9 | 837 | 3 | 23.8 | 57.5 |
| Honiara | 74 | 625 | 21 | 881 | 5 | 16.9 | 53.4 |
| Kirakira | 78 | 796 | 19 | 1089 | 2 | 21.8 | 53.3 |
| Lata | 67 | 1035 | 30 | 1238 | 3 | 15.9 | 50.0 |
| Munda | 15 | 934 | 54 | 1237 | 31 | 0.5 | 50.9 |
| Taro | 67 | 637 | 27 | 774 | 7 | 10.1 | 41.7 |

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) | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Honiara | 48 | 496 | 5 | 708 | 47 | | |
| Kirakira | 78 | 592 | 10 | 873 | 12 | | |
| Lata | 72 | 1015 | 18 | 1207 | 10 | | |
| Munda | 33 | 871 | 10 | 1213 | 57 | | |
| Taro | 30 | 618 | 7 | 774 | 63 | | |

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2015:

Normal to below normal was recorded across the Solomon Islands in October.

Auki in the central and Munda in the western region recorded normal rainfall while the rest of the stations in three regions recorded below normal rainfall.

Amounts of rainfall received during the month for Honiara in the central, Kirakira and Lata in the eastern and Taro in the western region were ranked third in the records for the month.

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

Normal to below normal rainfall was forecasted for Solomon Islands for the period – August to October 2015 and the skills were low.

Observed rainfalls for the period were consistent for stations in eastern, western and parts of central region. All stations recorded below normal rainfall except for Munda in the western region.

Honiara and Kirakira observed the lowest rainfall recorded for the period.

Outlooks for December 2015 to February 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for most parts of Solomon Islands for the period – December 2015 to February 2016.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for eastern and central region while above normal rainfall is likely for western region.

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: $X \geq 35$