

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 153

Country: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Mar-2020	Apr-2020	May-2020				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Penrhyn (1937-2020)	152.6	40.8	56.6	100.1	185.7	125.6	16/82
Rarotonga (1899-2020)	329.4	227.9	148.0	113.6	201.0	150.0	64/122

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for March to May 2020

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities based on NINO3.4 December 19-January 20				Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Penrhyn (1937-2020)	250.0	Below normal	386.0	675.7	495.0	10/80	27	32	41	6	Inconsistent
Rarotonga (1899-2020)	705.3	Above normal	497.7	620.0	564.5	92/122	41	33	26	7	Inconsistent

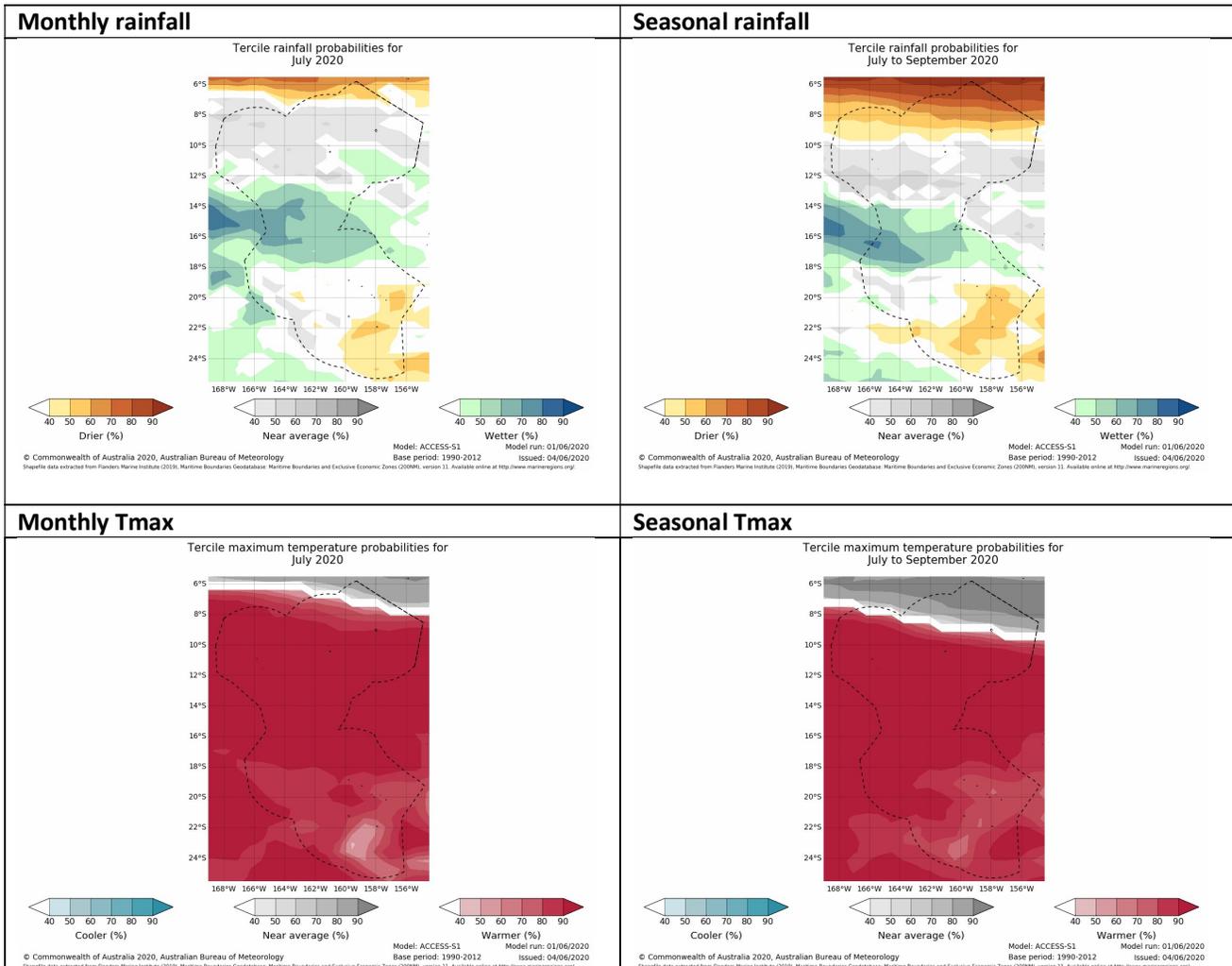
TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for July to September 2020

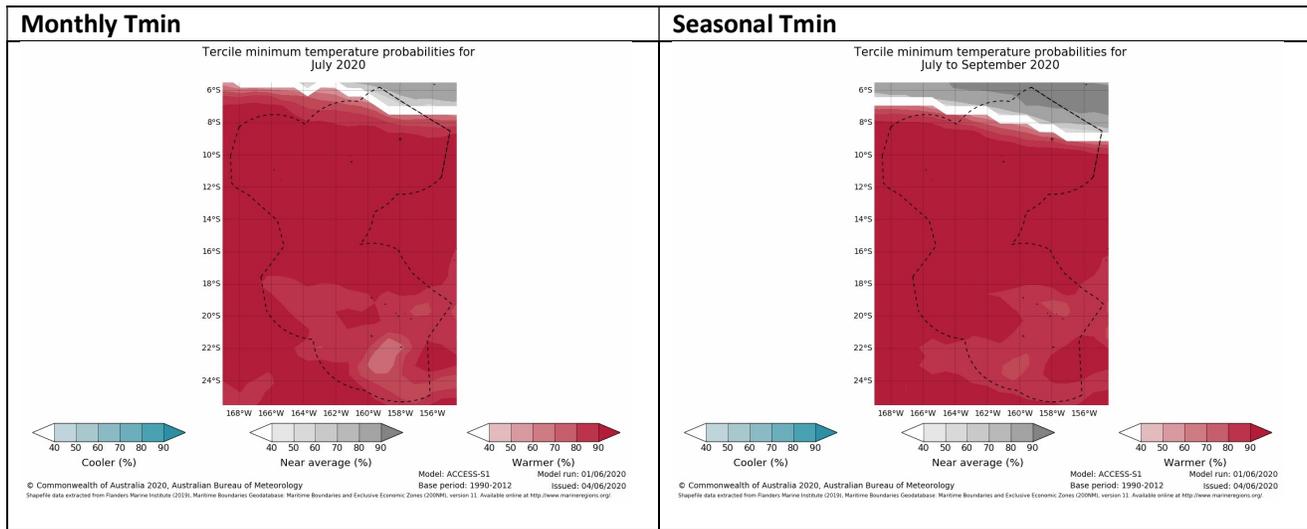
Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for April to May 2020

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Penrhyn (1937-2020)	42	341.0	58	7	61
Rarotonga (1899-2020)	52	293.0	48	-1	56

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Penrhyn (1937-2020)	28	294.3	32	439.9	40	9	46
Rarotonga (1899-2020)	35	250.0	32	348.0	33	-1	34

Monthly and Seasonal Climate Outlooks using ACCESS-S for July to September 2020





Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2020:

Rainfall for the month of May 2020 was below normal for Penrhyn and normal for Rarotonga.

Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2020, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall for the period of March to May 2020 was below normal for Penrhyn and above normal for Rarotonga

The verification of the outlook issued in February was inconsistent for both Penrhyn and Rarotonga, with high to low skill respectively in its forecast.

Outlooks for July to September 2020:

1. SCOPIC:

The rainfall outlook for Penrhyn shows above normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely; below normal is the least likely. Rarotonga's outlook offers little guidance as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

Forecast confidence is moderate for Penrhyn and very low for Rarotonga.

2. ACCESS-S:

Seasonal rainfall:

The outlook for Penrhyn favours below normal normal rainfall, while at Rarotonga below normal rainfall is the most likely for the next three months.

Seasonal maximum and minimum temperatures:

A warmer than average season is strongly favoured at both Penrhyn and Rarotonga, during both the day and overnight.

Monthly rainfall:

The one-month outlook for Penrhyn shows near-normal as the most likely outcome, while Rarotonga's outlook offers little guidance as the chances for wetter, near average and drier are similar.

Monthly maximum and minimum temperatures:

Warmer than average days and nights during July are favoured at both Penrhyn and Rarotonga.

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: $X \geq 35$

Table: 5 Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

Product	Date: May 2020	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Climate Bulletin		Ministry of Transport	24	16	8
EAR Watch					
Monthly Climate Briefing					
Ocean Bulletin					
Total			24	16	8