Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 122

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			October 2017				
	August 2017 Total	September 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro	330.2	531.6	462.5	290.3	388.2	344.6	53/64
Kwajalein	159.5	560.3	249.7	253.5	345.6	297.8	24/73

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #118]

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)?
Majuro	1324.3	880.1	1030.2	971.9	61/64	**41**/38/21 (3.2)	Inconsistent
Kwajalein	969.5	731.7	903.7	855.6	53/73	32/**40**/28 (-1.6)	Near - consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #118):
NINO3.4 May-June 2017

*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 2017 to February 2018

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies (September to October)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	44%	660.7	**56%**		9.5%	60.3%
Kwajalein	46%	392.3	**54%**		6.8%	59.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	27%	579.4	36%	747.4	**37%**	9.1%	46.0%
Kwajalein	24%	318.4	**38%**	435.5	**38%**	9.9%	47.0%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for December 2017 to February 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro	**46%**	591.0	12%	784.0	42%		
Kwajalein	**73%**	299.0	6%	423.0	21%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2017:
Above-normal rainfall was recorded for Majuro and below normal for Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2017, including outlook verification:
Above-normal rainfall was recorded at both Majuro and Kwajalein during the period, August to October.

The outlook verification was inconsistent at Majuro and near-consistent at Kwajalein.

Outlooks for December 2017 to February 2018:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   The seasonal outlook for the next three months at both Majuro and Kwajalein show a near-equal likelihood of above-normal and normal rainfall. Below-normal is the least likely.

2. **POAMA:**
   The seasonal outlook for the next three months for Majuro shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with above normal the most likely. Normal is the least likely outcome.

   The outlook for Kwajalein favours below-normal rainfall for the next three months, above-normal rainfall is the next most likely, and near-normal rainfall is the least likely.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: X < 0.0	Low: 0 ≤ X < 5	Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10	Good: 10 ≤ X < 15	High: 15≤ X < 25
Very High: 25 ≤X < 35	Exceptional: X ≥ 35			