Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 127

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			March 2018				
	January 2018 Total	February 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro	400.3	210.6	572.5	142.0	259.7	192.4	63/64
Kwajalein	367.3	106.7	395.1	49.0	117.6	86.4	70/74

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2018

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #123]

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	1183.4	487.0	693.9	582.6	62/64	15/41/**44** (22.8)	Consistent
Kwajalein	869.1	202.2	336.9	242.9	73/74	14/41/**45** (27.2)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #123):
Nino 3.4 SSTA for October-November 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 May to July 2018

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SSTA February-March 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	46	838.1	**54**		-1.1	55.6
Kwajalein	48	690.6	**52**		-1.3	51.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	33	779.4	28	940.0	**39**	-0.4	39.7
Kwajalein	28	582.9	**37**	799.0	35	-0.5	38.2

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for May to July 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro	**76%**	777.0	12%	848.0	12%		
Kwajalein	15%	537.0	15%	698.0	**70%**		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2018:

Above-normal rainfall was recorded at both Majuro and Kwajalein. Majuro recorded the 2nd highest rainfall while Kwajalein recorded the 4th highest rainfall for the month of March.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2018, including outlook verification:

Both stations recorded above normal rainfall during the period of January to March.

The outlook verification was consistent at both stations. The skill for Majuro was high and very high for Kwajalein.

Outlooks for May to July 2018:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   The seasonal rainfall outlook for both Majuro and Kwajalein offer little guidance as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal are similar.

2. **POAMA:**
   The seasonal outlook for Majuro favours below-normal rainfall, while that for Kwajalein favours above-normal rainfall.

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			