Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 128

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			April 2018				
	February 2018 Total	March 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Majuro	210.6	572.5	451.9	200.9	321.9	241.9	57/64
Kwajalein	106.7	395.1	306.1	115.4	196.3	146.5	61/74

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
February to April 2018

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #124]

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	1235.0	558.4	784.7	652.7	63/64	25/31/**44** (7.4)	Consistent
Kwajalein	807.9	256.8	421.4	363.8	69/74	21/35/**44** (9.9)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #124):
Nino 3.4 SSTA for November-December 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 June to August 2018

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SSTA for March to April 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	47	876.5	**53**		-1.2	51.6
Kwajalein	45	724.6	**55**		0.5	54.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Majuro	30	810.8	**35**	962.9	**35**	-1.5	17.2
Kwajalein	**36**	672.0	31	814.8	33	-1.2	32.4

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for June to August 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Majuro	**70**	806.0	5	902.0	25		
Kwajalein	**43**	665.0	18	830.0	39		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2018:
Above-normal rainfall was recorded at both Majuro and Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2018, including outlook verification:
Both stations recorded above-normal rainfall during the period of February to April. Majuro recorded the 2nd highest rainfall while Kwajalein recorded the 5th highest rainfall for the period of February to April.

The outlook verification was consistent at both stations. The skill was moderate for both stations.

Outlooks for June to August 2018:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   The seasonal rainfall outlook for Majuro shows a near equal-likelihood of above-normal and normal rainfall. Below-normal is the least likely. Kwajalein is mixed with similar chances for below-normal and above-normal totals, near-normal is the least likely outcome.

2. **POAMA:**
   The seasonal rainfall outlook for Majuro favours below-normal rainfall. The outlook for Kwajalein shows below-normal as the most likely outcome, above-normal the next most likely. Normal 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			