

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 125

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

| Station (include data period) | January 2018 | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|
| | November 2017 Total | December 2017 Total | Total | 33%tile Rainfall (mm) | 67%tile Rainfall (mm) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Ranking |
| Majuro | 260.9 | 497.6 | 400.3 | 149.3 | 234.7 | 206.2 | 58/64 |
| | | | | | | | |
| Kwajalein | 238.8 | 119.9 | 367.3 | 57.9 | 115.8 | 83.7 | 73/74 |
| | | | | | | | |

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2017 to January 2018**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #121]

| 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 | 1158.8 | 728.0 | 917.5 | 836.9 | 60/64 | 34/34/32 (6.2%) | Near-Consistent |
| Kwajalein | 726.0 | 527.3 | 650.1 | 596.4 | 60/72 | 34/33/33 (-0.5%) | Near-Consistent |
| | | | | | | | |

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2017 to January 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #121): Nino 3.4 SSTA for August-September 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
March to May 2018**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SSTA for December 2017-January 2018

| Station | Below Median (prob) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Above Median (prob) | | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------|----------|
| Majuro | 44% | 747.8 | 56% | | 0.7% | 52.4% |
| Kwajalein | 41% | 488.0 | 59% | | 3.7% | 58.2% |

| Station | Below Normal (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Normal (prob) | 67%ile rainfall (mm) | Above Normal (prob) | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------|----------|
| Majuro | 27% | 620.9 | 35% | 878.7 | 38% | -0.0% | 28.6% |
| Kwajalein | 21% | 375.3 | 40% | 604.4 | 39% | 5.3% | 32.8% |

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

| Station | Lower Tercile (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Middle Tercile (prob) | 67%ile rainfall (mm) | Upper Tercile (prob) | | |
|-----------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Majuro | 27% | 567.0 | 24% | 879.0 | 49% | | |
| Kwajalein | 5% | 272.0 | 5% | 568.0 | 90% | | |

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2018:

Above normal rainfall was recorded for both Majuro and Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2017 to January 2018, including outlook verification:

Both Majuro and Kwajalein recorded above normal rainfall during the period of November to January.

The outlook verification was near-consistent for both Majuro and Kwajalein. The skill was moderate for Majuro and very low for Kwajalein.

Outlooks for March to May 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for March to May for both Majuro and Kwajalein shows a near-equal likelihood of above-normal and normal-rainfall. Below normal is the least likely.

2. POAMA:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for the period March to May at Majuro show above normal as the most likely, with below normal the next most likely. The outlook for Kwajalein favours above-normal rainfall.

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: $X \geq 35$