Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 113

Country Name: Republic of the Marshal Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			January 2017				
	November 2016 Total	December 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	440.9	299.0	448.3	148.7	231.6	206.1	61/63
KWAJALEIN	359.7	263.1	228.6	57.0	114.7	82.4	66/71

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2016 to January 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #109]

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	1188.2	727.3	912.5	836.2	61/63	26/35/**39** (6.5%)	CONSISTENT
KWAJALEIN	851.4	525.3	648.5	595.4	67/71	29/**36**/35 (-0.3%)	NEAR CONSISTENT

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #109):

2-MONTH NINO3.4SSTA (AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2016)

*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 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4SSTA DECEMBER 2016-JANUARY 2017

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	46%	748.1	54%		1.0%	51.6%
KWAJALEIN	44%	493.3	56%		4.2%	59.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	29%	619.5	34%	881.8	37%	1.4%	37.1%
KWAJALEIN	24%	375.5	38%	612.8	38%	5.1%	34.8%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	24%	567.0	6.%	879.0	70%		
KWAJALEIN	18%	272.0	5%	568.0	77%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2017:
Rainfall for January 2017 for the Marshall Islands was recorded above normal rainfall at Majuro and Kwajalein.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2016 to January 2017, including outlook verification:
Rainfall for the last three months was also recorded above normal rainfall at Majuro and Kwajalein.

Seasonal rainfall outlook verification was consistent at Majuro and near consistent at Kwajalein.

Outlooks for March to May 2017:
1. SCOPIC:

Majuro:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for March to May 2017 shows a near equal likelihood of above-normal and normal rainfall. Below normal rainfall is the least likely outcome.

Kwajalein:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for March to May 2017 is mixed, with similar chances for above-normal and normal totals; below-normal is the least likely outcome.

1. POAMA:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for March to May 2017 shows above normal rainfall is the most likely outcome at Majuro and Kwajalein. The second most likely outcome is below normal rainfall and the least likely outcome is 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			