Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 114

Country Name: Republic of the Marshall Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			February 2017				
	December 2016 Total	January 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
MAJURO	299.0	448.3	239.5	110.5	231.6	164.0	43/63
KWAJALEIN	263.1	228.6	142.2	35.4	90.1	66.4	60/73

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
December 2016 to February 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #110]

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	986.8	576.7	743.2	657.2	56/63	23%/35%/**42%** (9.4%)	Consistent
KWAJALEIN	633.9	317.9	432.1	381.3	65/71	19%/**42%**/39% (8.9%)	Near Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2016 to February 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #110)**: 2-MONTH NINO3.4SSTA (September to October 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 April to June 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4SSTA (January to February 2017)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	49%	838.5	51%		-1.1%	41.9%
KWAJALEIN	48%	612.2	52%		2.7%	52.2%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
MAJURO	31%	668.4	34%	963.7	35%	2.0%	37.1%
KWAJALEIN	31%	518.5	34%	716.2	35%	1.3%	37.3%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for April to June 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
MAJURO	12%	638.0	6%	901.0	82%		
KWAJALEIN	5%	402.0	5%	706.0	90%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2017:
Rainfall for February 2017 for the Marshall Islands was recorded above normal at both stations in the RMI (Majuro and Kwajalein)

Accumulated rainfall for December 2016 to February 2017, including outlook verification:
Accumulated rainfall for the past three months was above normal rainfall at both Majuro and Kwajalein.

The seasonal rainfall outlook verification was consistent for Majuro and near-consistent for Kwajalein.

Outlooks for April to June 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2017 using SCOPIC statistical model offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

2. POAMA:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2017 using POAMA dynamical model favours above normal rainfall at both Majuro and Kwajalein, with normal rainfall the second most likely outcome. The least likely outcome is below normal rainfall at both stations.

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			