

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 126

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	February 2018						
	December 2017 Total	January 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	730.1	877.6	1237.4	398.8	651.3	521.1	60/65
Nafanua	593.0	690.5	850.1	329.1	466.6	397.2	43/46
Apia	592.2	412.7	895.0	270.1	401.0	342.8	126/129
Faleolo	437.9	277.8	594.5	187.1	276.6	235.7	55/57

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
December 2017 to February 2018**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #122]

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)?
Afiamalu	2845.1	1621.3	2244.7	1927.4	56/63	30/33/ 37 (12.2)	Consistent
Nafanua	2133.6	1197.5	1713.6	1328.8	36/41	14/ 43/43 (27.9)	Near consistent
Apia	1899.9	1012.3	1321.1	1138.8	122/127	25/ 38/37 (11.7)	Near consistent
Faleolo	1310.2	763.4	916.7	854.2	50/55	30/34/ 36 (2.1)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2017 to February 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #122): NINO 3.4 values of September to October 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
April to June 2018**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 value from January to February 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	852.7	54		-0.9	53.6
Nafanua	45	672.9	55		1.0	55.6
Apia	44	542.1	56		1.1	55.9
Faleolo	41	398.6	59		2.0	63.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	25	753.0	41	963.7	34	0.6	37.5
Nafanua	25	512.8	44	746.4	31	0.9	46.7
Apia	27	455.7	37	648.3	36	0.1	27.9
Faleolo	28	343.6	36	459.7	36	-1.0	20.4

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	55	486	30	628	15		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2018: All Stations recorded “above normal” rainfall for the month of February.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2017 to February 2018, including outlook verification: Above normal rainfall was received across all stations. The outlook verifications for Afiamalu and Faleolo were Consistent. Nafanua and Apia recorded near-consistent forecasts.

Outlooks for April to June 2018:

SCOPIC

- The outlook for Afiamalu and Nafanua shows the most likely outcome is normal with above normal the next most likely; below normal is the least likely.
- Apia's outlook shows a near-equal likelihood of normal and above normal rainfall; below normal is the least likely.
- Faleolo's outlook offers little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal are similar.

The confidence of the model is generally ‘low’.

- **POAMA:** “Below normal” rainfall is favoured for Apia for the coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$