

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

Country Name: Samoa

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
Afiamalu	1237.4	352.1	923.9	273.2	393.1	329.6	65/65
Nafanua	850.1	252.3	563.9	176.9	309.5	240.3	44/48
Apia	895.0	262.7	487.5	179.5	270.6	220.8	125/129
Faleolo	593.7	235.9	362.9	139.9	189.0	158.6	55/57

**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 (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent Inconsistent)?
Afiamalu	2513.4	1253.6	1549.2	1426.2	63/63	32/33/35 (-1.7)	Consistent
Nafanua	1662.3	915.3	1132.8	1056.2	44/46	23/40/37 (2.5)	Near Consistent
Apia	1645.2	808.6	1014.7	929.0	128/129	27/36/37 (0.9)	Consistent
Faleolo	1192.5	591.1	692.6	629.8	57/57	36/30/34 (1.8)	Inconsistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #124):

Nino 3.4 values of November to 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 values of March to April 2018.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	46	591.0	54		7.1	59.7
Nafanua	52	408.5	48		0.3	56.5
Apia	50	344.5	50		-0.8	24.2
Faleolo	48	289.9	52		0.3	57.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	26	507.6	35	669.2	39	3.4	48.4
Nafanua	32	296.1	39	501.8	29	-2.0	43.5
Apia	34	249.9	33	413.0	33	-0.9	20.3
Faleolo	30	209.6	35	352.0	35	-1.1	42.6

**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)		
Apia	64	272	9	395	27		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2018: “Above normal” rainfall was recorded across all stations.

It is the wettest April for Afiamalu and second wettest for Faleolo since these stations were established.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2018, including outlook verification:

All stations recorded “above normal” rainfall. It was the wettest February to April on record at Afiamalu and Faleolo, while it was the second-wettest for Apia station in 129 years of record.

Outlook verification for Afiamalu and Apia was ‘Consistent’, Nafanua was ‘Near Consistent’ and Faleolo recorded ‘Inconsistent’

Outlooks for June to August 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook for Afiamalu shows above normal is the most likely outcome, with normal rainfall the most likely.

The outlook for Nafanua, Apia and Faleolo offers little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal are similar

The confidence of the model is very low to low.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is favoured for Apia in the next 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: $X \geq 35$