Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 129

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			May 2018				
	March 2018 Total	April 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	352.1	923.9	336.9	232.4	364.6	301.6	39/65
Nafanua	252.3	563.9	386.2	187.0	263.7	200.4	35/47
Apia	262.7	487.5	157.7	127.7	204.3	164.2	62/129
Faleolo	235.9	362.9	132.5	101.9	179.8	140.2	28/56

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
March to May 2018
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #125]

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	1615.4	1035.7	1352.4	1189.4	52/64	**35/35**/30 (-1.3)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	1202.4	810.9	1018.4	875.1	34/46	32/**42**/26 (-1.6)	Near Consistent
Apia	907.9	664.8	841.6	763.9	98/129	27/**42**/31 (-0.2)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	731.3	491.7	622.7	546.9	50/56	**36**/32/32 (-1.7)	Inconsistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #125):
NINO3.4 SST Anomalies for December 2017 to January 2018

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[*]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
July to September 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 SST Anomalies for April to May 2018.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	**50**	589.5	**50**		-1.7	28.6
Nafanua	**51**	404.0	49		-1.5	46.7
Apia	47	345.3	**53**		0.9	53.9
Faleolo	**50**	271.2	**50**		-1.9	20.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	33	490.1	**35**	670.1	32	-1.8	23.8
Nafanua	35	324.2	**37**	487.6	28	0.0	37.8
Apia	32	251.5	**35**	423.6	33	-0.5	37.5
Faleolo	30	206.8	**35**	346.7	**35**	-0.5	24.5

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for

July to September 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	33	267	6	430	**61**		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2018: Afiamalu, Apia and Faleolo recorded "Normal" rainfall, while Nafanua recorded "Above Normal" rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2018, including outlook verification:

All stations recorded "above normal" rainfall. Outlook verification for Afiamalu, Nafanua and Apia was 'Near Consistent' and Faleolo recorded 'Inconsistent'.

Outlooks for July to September 2018:
1. **SCOPIC:**

   The outlook for Afiamalu, 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.

2. **POAMA:**

   Above 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 ≤ X < 5   Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10   Good: 10 ≤ X < 15   High: 15≤ X < 25

Very High: 25 ≤X < 35   Exceptional: X ≥ 35