

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	430.6	343.3	165.7	269.7	381.9	327.9	4/46
Pekoa	249.5	283.4	50.5	210.3	370.0	277.7	3/48
Lamap	170.6	178.6	53.2	171.2	265.8	224.8	4/58
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	185.8	114.5	184.0	248.5	353.7	288.9	11/46
Port Vila	92.0	181.5	194.0	215.7	307.0	254.0	15/66
Whitegrass	136.0	66.8	56.5	118.3	214.5	169.4	5/47
Aneityum	184.5	126.2	52.2	188.6	295.0	230.9	1/67

**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)?
Northern Region							
Sola	939.6	1007.5	1210.4	1120.0	13/43	30:33: 37 (2.0)	In-consistent
Pekoa	583.4	697.9	908.1	756.2	11/47	28:35: 37 (2.3)	In-consistent
Lamap	402.4	499.7	681.7	581.4	8/55	23:38: 39 (10.5)	In-consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	484.0	652.0	894.6	778.3	7/44	19:40: 41 (20.6)	In-consistent
Port Vila	467.5	609.8	811.6	708.2	9/65	21: 40 :39(19.8)	Near-consistent
Whitegrass	259.3	355.0	542.9	485.0	8/46	25:37: 38 (11.2)	In-consistent
Aneityum	362.9	566.6	873.5	723.0	8/66	26: 37 : 37 (8.6)	Near-consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

* 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).

Predictors and Period used for December 2017 to February 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #122): Nino3.4 anomalies September-October 2017

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for April to June 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies, January - February 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	32	1189.8	68		15.6	65.1
Pekoa	43	656.3	57		1.8	63.8
Lamap	41	507.0	59		3.9	67.9
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	30	583.4	70		20.2	73.3
Port Vila	34	537.6	66		12.5	66.2
Whitegrass	33	264.2	67		17.4	67.4
Aneityum	43	572.6	57		2.5	61.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	20	1061.6	35	1276.4	45	10.1	34.9
Pekoa	20	475.5	40	777.5	40	5.7	44.7
Lamap	21	383.2	36	597.8	43	7.7	44.6
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	29	470.3	29	755.7	42	2.5	35.6
Port Vila	18	432.0	37	635.8	45	10.8	47.7
Whitegrass	20	209.2	36	337.7	44	11.3	45.7
Aneityum	21	424.3	38	651.1	41	6.5	41.5

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)		
Northern Region							
Sola	52	923	18	1212	30		
Pekoa	58	461	24	726	18		
Lamap	58	396	24	592	18		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	64	476	24	691	12		
Port Vila	64	426	24	639	12		
Whitegrass	69	202	21	324	9		
Aneityum	58	408	30	658	12		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2018:

Rainfall recorded for the month of February was below normal for all stations.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2017 to February 2018, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall for the period December – February was below normal for all stations.

Forecast verification was near –consistent at Port Vila and Aneityum, but in-consistent for all other stations.

Outlooks for April to June 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook for April to June shows above normal as the most likely with normal the next most likely, and below normal the least likely at Sola, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum.

At Pekoa there is near- equal likelihood of normal and above normal, with below normal the least likely.

2. POAMA:

The outlook favours below normal, with normal the next most likely at all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum).

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: $X \geq 35$