

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 163

Country: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

| Station (include data period) | Jan-2021 | Feb-2021 | Mar-2021 | | | | Rank |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------|---------|--------|--------------|
| | | | Total (mm) | 33%tile | 67%tile | Median | |
| | Total (mm) | Total (mm) | Rainfall (mm) | | | | |
| <i>Northern Region</i> | | | | | | | |
| Sola (1971-2021) | 379.9 | 151.2 | 646.0 | 286.7 | 450.3 | 377.5 | 42/49 |
| Pekoa (1971-2021) | 362.6 | 180.5 | 384.2 | 193.4 | 282.8 | 235.6 | 40/51 |
| Lamap (1961-2021) | 617.5 | 218.1 | 458.5 | 191.1 | 324.2 | 245.5 | 56/61 |
| <i>Southern Region</i> | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield (1972-2021) | 574.7 | 116.5 | 287.0 | 247.2 | 338.5 | 292.5 | 24/49 |
| Port Vila (1953-2021) | 352.5 | 165.0 | 191.5 | 249.7 | 365.0 | 298.3 | 15/69 |
| Whitegrass (1972-2021) | 609.2 | 92.2 | 166.0 | 140.3 | 227.5 | 192.0 | 21/50 |
| Aneityum (1952-2021) | 647.0 | 142.8 | 176.0 | 236.6 | 378.0 | 311.1 | 14/70 |

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for January to March 2021

| Station | Three-month Total | | 33%tile | 67%tile | Median | Rank | SCOPIC forecast probabilities based on NINO3.4 October-November 2020 | | | | Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent? |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--|----|-----|------|---|
| | Rainfall (mm) | | | | | | B-N | N | A-N | LEPS | |
| <i>Northern Region</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sola (1971-2021) | 1177.1 | Normal | 1008.0 | 1219.6 | 1127.1 | 29/48 | 24 | 33 | 43 | 3 | Near-consistent |
| Pekoa (1971-2021) | 927.3 | Normal | 738.3 | 974.2 | 805.7 | 29/51 | 22 | 47 | 31 | 1 | Consistent |
| Lamap (1961-2021) | 1294.1 | Above normal | 637.5 | 801.9 | 696.5 | 58/61 | 19 | 32 | 49 | 7 | Consistent |
| <i>Southern Region</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield (1972-2021) | 978.2 | Normal | 791.5 | 1022.1 | 935.6 | 26/49 | 16 | 40 | 44 | 7 | Near-consistent |
| Port Vila (1953-2021) | 709.0 | Below normal | 745.6 | 988.7 | 859.2 | 20/69 | 13 | 36 | 51 | 14 | Inconsistent |
| Whitegrass (1972-2021) | 867.4 | Above normal | 487.5 | 666.7 | 541.1 | 46/50 | 18 | 38 | 44 | 6 | Consistent |
| Aneityum (1952-2021) | 965.8 | Normal | 740.3 | 974.8 | 846.8 | 46/70 | 21 | 34 | 45 | 4 | Near-consistent |

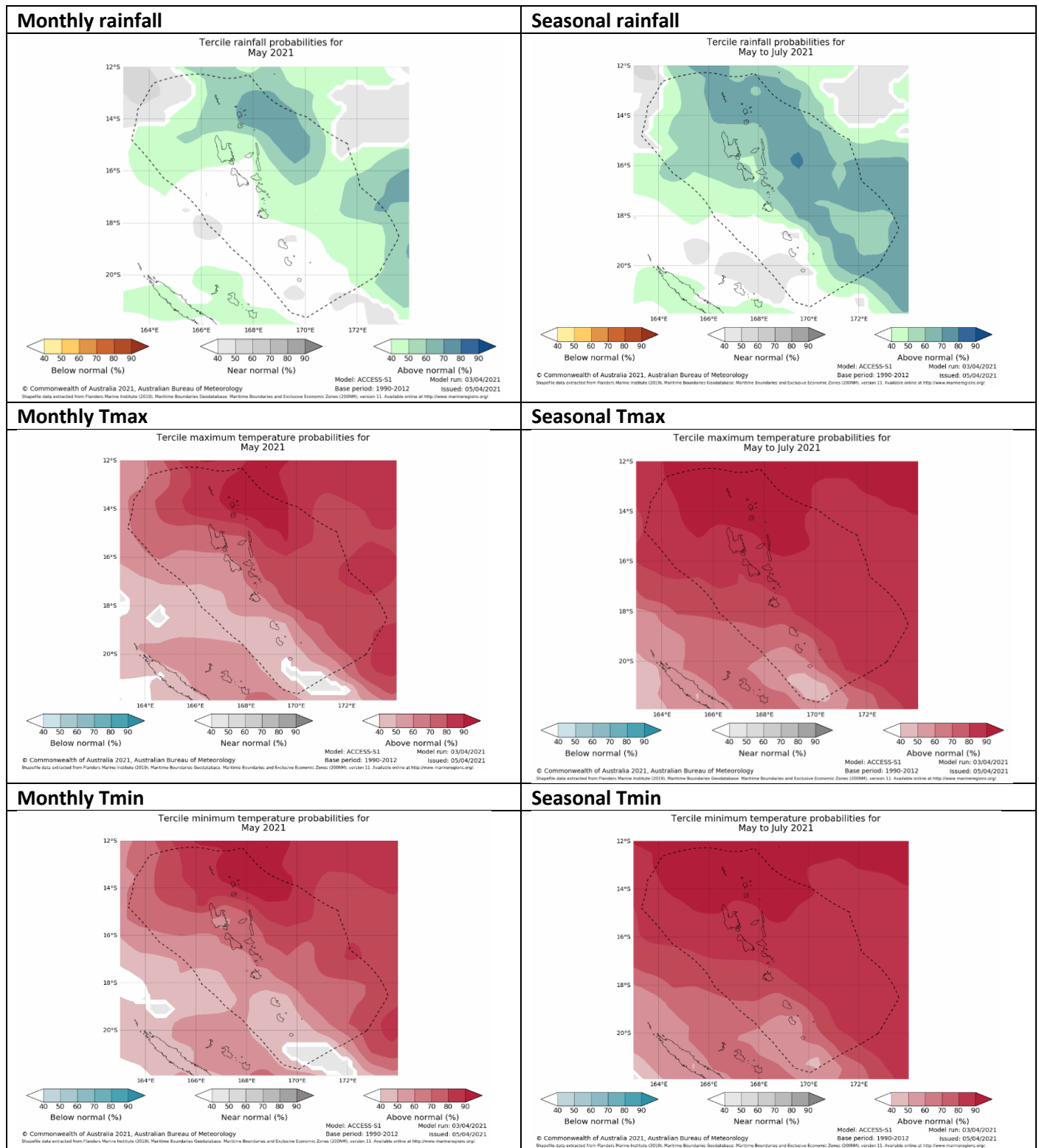
TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for May to July 2021

Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for February to March 2021

| Station | Below Median (prob) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Above Median (prob) | | LEPS (%) [whole numbers] | Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers] |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Northern Region</i> | | | | | | |
| Sola (1971-2021) | 30 | 932.7 | 70 | | 11 | 60 |
| Pekoa (1971-2021) | 33 | 462.9 | 67 | | 10 | 66 |
| Lamap (1961-2021) | 42 | 375.5 | 58 | | 1 | 64 |
| <i>Southern Region</i> | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield (1972-2021) | 37 | 410.4 | 63 | | 5 | 56 |
| Port Vila (1953-2021) | 25 | 388.8 | 75 | | 19 | 72 |
| Whitegrass (1972-2021) | 38 | 217.8 | 62 | | 6 | 60 |
| Aneityum (1952-2021) | 32 | 438.8 | 68 | | 9 | 68 |

| Station | Below Normal (prob) | 33%ile Rainfall (mm) | Normal (prob) | 67%ile Rainfall (mm) | Above Normal (prob) | LEPS (%) [whole numbers] | Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers] |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Northern Region</i> | | | | | | | |
| Sola (1971-2021) | 24 | 747.0 | 34 | 1183.6 | 42 | 3 | 33 |
| Pekoa (1971-2021) | 16 | 319.6 | 39 | 556.8 | 45 | 9 | 46 |
| Lamap (1961-2021) | 26 | 307.1 | 31 | 453.9 | 43 | 2 | 44 |
| <i>Southern Region</i> | | | | | | | |
| Bauerfield (1972-2021) | 16 | 305.4 | 35 | 519.1 | 49 | 10 | 46 |
| Port Vila (1953-2021) | 9 | 292.3 | 41 | 477.4 | 50 | 19 | 52 |
| Whitegrass (1972-2021) | 21 | 175.3 | 27 | 260.3 | 52 | 11 | 40 |
| Aneityum (1952-2021) | 21 | 357.9 | 31 | 520.2 | 48 | 6 | 46 |

TABLE 4: Monthly and Seasonal Climate Outlooks using ACCESS-S for May to July 2021



Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2021:

Monthly rainfall for March was below normal for Port Vila and Aneityum station. Normal rainfall was observed at Bauerfield and White-grass and above normal rainfall recorded at northern regions. Lamap recorded its sixth wettest March in 61 years records.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2021, including outlook verification:

The Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2021 recorded below normal for Port Vila station, normal at Sola, Pekoa, Bauerfield and Aneityum station. Above normal rainfall was observed at Lamap and Whitegrass station. Lamap recorded its fourth and Whitegrass recorded its fifth wettest January to March. The outlook issue in November was verified as consistent at Pekoa, Lamap Port Vila and White-grass, Near-consistent at Sola, Bauerfield and Aneityum.

Outlooks for May to July 2021:

1. SCOPIC:

Port Vila and Whitegrass: The outlook for the season favours above normal rainfall.

Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield and Aneityum- The outlook for the season show above normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Below normal the least likely.

2. ACCESS-S:

Monthly rainfall:

Above normal monthly rainfall is favoured for Torba province while above normal rainfall is the most likely outcome for Sanma, Penama, eastern part of Malampa (Ambrym & Pamma) and Sheaf province. The outlook shows little guidance for Malekula, and all southern islands of Vanuatu.

Monthly maximum and minimum temperature:

Above normal monthly temperatures is favoured for northern and central regions of Vanuatu and above normal is likely most outcome for the southern islands.

Seasonal rainfall:

From May to July, above normal rainfall is favoured for Torba, Sanma, Penama, Malampa and most of Shefa province. Above normal is the most likely outcome for Efate Futuna. The outlook offer little guidance for most of Tafea apart from near normal favoured for Aneityum and northern part of Erromango.

Seasonal maximum and minimum temperature:

The seasonal outlook for May to July favours above normal temperatures for all region of Vanuatu.

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: $X \geq 35$

TABLE 5: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

| Product | Date: March 2021 | Stakeholder | Total Number of Participants | Number of male | Number of female |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Climate Bulletin | | | | | |
| EAR Watch | | | | | |
| Monthly Climate Briefing | | | | | |
| Ocean Bulletin | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | |