

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService.

MetService

Southerly change and clear skies bring the cold across NZ

Invercargill was not far behind, dropping to -3.5C overnight.

"That's quite cool for them, they often have an overnight average of about 0.8 in July," a MetService spokeswoman said

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/105732922/southerly-change-and-clear-skies-bring-the-cold-across-nz>

Volcano alert

EQC funds research on Auckland volcanic surges

Right now, if an eruption threatens in Auckland, up to 435,000 people might need to be evacuated causing huge disruption to industry, transport and people who have to leave their homes. But is this always the most effective solution?

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC1807/S00052/eqc-funds-research-on-auckland-volcanic-surges.htm>

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and Pacific

READ MORE: Pacific Journalism Review online at AUT's Tuwhera

This latest edition, published next week, is timely as the Pacific faces increasingly extreme and more frequent weather onslaughts.

Indonesian academics Dr Hermin Indah Wahyuni, Andi Awaluddin Fitrah and Fitri Handayani along with the Pacific Media Centre's director, Professor David Robie, offer a comparative study on social adaptation to maritime disaster between Java and Fiji in a collaboration with the Centre for Southeast Asian Social Studies (CESASS) at the Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta.

Another CESASS colleague, Dr Budi Irawanto, presents a paper on narratives of natural disaster survivors in Indonesian media.

The edition is also a collaboration with the University of the South Pacific whose Dr Shailendra Singh and Professor Vijay Naidu analyse the coverage of extreme weather in Pacific nations.

'Unreliable' Victorian weather radars costing farmers money and opportunities

Farmers in Victoria and New South Wales have lost faith in the ability of the Mildura weather radar to accurately forecast rain, despite the Bureau of Meteorology saying the radar is working.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-25/unreliable-victorian-weather-radars-costing-farmers/10025510>

Shaw calls for joint Pacific push on climate threat

Climate Change Minister James Shaw has kicked off a three-day trip to the Pacific by calling for a joint push from the region for global action.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/environment/news/article.cfm?c_id=39&objectid=12095236&ref=rss

Extreme weather (and other news) – Asia and the Middle East, Africa

Officials nationwide counting cost of rough weather

Flooding triggered by tropical storm Son-Tinh over Laos affected 13 Thai provinces and 2,369 families between July 17 and 22, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation chief said on Sunday.

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/breakingnews/30350567>

Hundreds missing, several feared dead, after Laos dam collapse

Hundreds of people are missing and several are feared dead after a hydropower dam under construction in southern Laos collapsed, causing flash flooding which swept away homes, state media reported on Tuesday.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report-hundreds-missing-several-feared-dead-after-laos-dam-collapse-2641178>

Japan heatwave: Death toll climbs to 80

Officials are urging citizens to stay indoors to avoid 'unprecedented' record-breaking heat that has been declared a natural disaster by the country's weather agency.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/07/japan-heatwave-death-toll-climbs-80-180725124725245.html>

20 dead, 16 missing as flash floods hit northern, central Vietnam

Flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy downpours have so far left 20 dead, 16 missing and 14 injured in northern and central provinces.

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/20-dead-16-missing-as-flash-floods-hit-northern-central-vietnam-3781401.html>

Officials nationwide counting cost of rough weather

Flooding triggered by tropical storm Son-Tinh over Laos affected 13 Thai provinces and 2,369 families between July 17 and 22, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation chief said on Sunday.

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/breakingnews/30350567>

Weather hits SE Asia economy

(ANN): Tornadoes in the southern Philippines, tropical storms ravaging landlocked Laos – just a few of the severe weather aberrations happening across Southeast Asia right now.

According to risk analysts Verisk Maplecroft, these extreme weather events are likely to continue in the future given the impact of climate change and modern living environments.

<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/business/weather-hits-se-asia-economy>

Extreme weather yet to affect aviation sector: minister

Jakarta (ANTARA News) - The current extreme bad weather condition has not yet affected the aviation sector as it has on shipping, yet caution must continue to be exercised to prevent accident, a minister said.

<https://en.antaranews.com/news/116766/extreme-weather-yet-to-affect-aviation-sector-minister>

Indonesia to install weather monitoring devices at Asiad venues

Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) will install Automatic Weather Station (AWS) at venues for weather-relied sports of the Asian Games to ensure the success of the multi-sports event, the agency's chairperson said here on Sunday.

https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/indonesia-to-install-weather-monitoring-devices-at-asiad-venues-118072200490_1.html

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Rescue crews search for missing in Greek wildfires; 79 confirmed dead

Rescue crews were searching on Wednesday (Thursday NZ Time) through charred homes and cars for those still missing after the deadliest wildfires to hit Greece in decades decimated seaside areas near Athens, killing at least 79 people and sending thousands fleeing

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/world/europe/105763273/rescue-crews-search-for-missing-in-greek-wildfires-79-confirmed-dead>

Waterspout on Black Sea off Russia captivates beachgoers

Beachgoers have been captivated by a spectacular waterspout over the Black Sea off the coast of Russia.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-23/waterspout-captivates-russian-beachgoers/10024696>

Intense heat wave to bake western Europe as wildfires rage in Sweden

A hot July across much of western Europe will climb to another level this week as a heat wave builds from Spain to Scandinavia.

<https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/intense-heat-wave-to-build-across-western-europe-as-deadly-wildfires-rage-in-sweden-greece/70005572>

UK heatwave: Temperature record could be broken this week

The UK's all-time temperature record could be broken by Friday as the hot and dry summer continues.

Highs of up to 37C (99F) are forecast in southern, eastern and central England, but the Met Office says "if conditions all come together", the record of 38.5C (101F) could be beaten.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-44957090?ocid=global_bbccom_email_25072018_top+news+stories

International news and research

Let's talk about the weather

IMD gets August forecast wrong', 'Telangana: IMD gets it wrong on the second day too', 'Can we blame Met for getting storm 'wrong'? – such are the headlines that have often dominated newsprint and online media when it comes to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) and its weather predictions. An RK Laxman cartoon, published in a leading daily in 2007, depicts two people snug under their umbrellas, while the weatherman – the only one unaware about the approaching rains – completely drenched. An unofficial consensus seems to be that the weather department gets it wrong more often than not, and this leads to ignoring warnings that actually come to pass.

<http://www.dnaindia.com/just-before-monday/report-let-s-talk-about-the-weather-2640033>

'Time bomb': Tropics expansion nudges cyclone formation into new areas

Tropical cyclones are forming further from the equator as the planet warms, bringing new regions into the zone of the intense storms including parts of eastern Australia, new research has found.

<https://www.newcastlestar.com.au/story/5545151/time-bomb-tropics-expansion-nudges-cyclone-formation-into-new-areas/>

Experts search out digital footprint after cave rescue

"When we went to the cave, we firstly surveyed the needs of the rescuers, evaluating critical technology that was lacking and how we could help," he said. "We later found that accurate weather data was..."

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/tech/local-news/1509074/experts-search-out-digital-footprint-after-cave-rescue>

Cold wave reveals potential benefits of urban heat islands

Researchers have found that the urban heat island effect -- cities are hotter in the summer than their surrounding areas -- also helps keep cities warmer during extreme cold. The findings have implications for urban planners in areas such as New York City or Chicago, which experience marked seasonal temperature swings.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/07/180723143002.htm>

Providing key info, meteorologists important asset for fighting wildfires

MERLIN, Ore.— While crews battle fires from the air and from the ground others are waging a different kind of battle from afar.

At the Incident Command Post in Josephine County, members from the National Weather Service are providing analysis and relaying vital information for the front lines. For one local meteorologist from the local station in Medford, it's an important job.

<https://kobi5.com/news/providing-key-info-meteorologists-important-asset-for-fighting-wildfires-82168/>

If you, like us, didn't realise a cruise ship meteorologist was a thing then boy have we got news for you.

When you think about it though, it makes a lot of sense – after all the weather can make or break a cruise. Sometimes literally, remember the Titanic?

<http://www.travelweekly.com.au/article/qa-with-royal-caribbeans-chief-meteorologist-yes-thats-a-thing/>

4 people set to lose jobs as Cartwright weather station automates

Nav Canada is automating weather stations at small airports across the country.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/cartwright-weather-station-job-losses-1.4754658>

WMO

July sees extreme weather with high impacts

Extreme weather, including record temperatures and heatwaves, drought and disastrous precipitation, has marked the first half of summer in the northern hemisphere. This has had widespread impacts on human health, agriculture, ecosystems and infrastructure and led to devastating wildfires.

[Read more here](#)

WMO supports project to aid agriculture in South East Asia

University of Southern Queensland (USQ) researchers will soon begin working with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Vietnam on a major aid project to benefit farmers and agribusiness in South East Asia.

[Read more here](#)

Business development / commodities / infrastructure etc

Weather derivatives: A shield against fickle weather

Farmers are covered under crop insurance schemes—most of them government-sponsored—to hedge against weather risks. But while crop insurance is a useful

tool to cover against major calamities, it becomes difficult to cover against, say, drop in yield due to minor weather variations.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/weather-derivatives-a-shield-against-fickle-weather/1257187/>

Immigration NZ plans to raise cost of work visa to stem \$43m deficit

Immigration New Zealand's plan to more than double the cost of work visas to help close a growing \$43 million deficit has employers worried.

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/news/business/362570/immigration-nz-plans-to-raise-cost-of-work-visa-to-stem-43m-deficit>

Insurance giant raises premiums for disaster-prone areas

New Zealand's biggest insurance company IAG is raising home insurance prices in areas at the greatest risk from natural disasters.

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/news/business/362498/insurance-giant-raises-premiums-for-disaster-prone-areas>

Flood-prone US states have billions of dollars of property at stake in the next 15 years — here's where it will be worst

It's been nearly a year since Hurricane Harvey brought 130 mph winds and rain that fell up to four inches per hour on Texas' Gulf Coast.

While climate change didn't cause Harvey, scientists say a warmer planet likely made the storm worse. Plus, higher sea levels — due to climate change and human disruptions (like oil drilling) have changed the ocean and land levels — encouraged destructive flooding as the stormwater rose.

<https://www.mysanantonio.com/technology/businessinsider/article/Flood-prone-US-states-have-billions-of-dollars-of-13097185.php>

Aviation

UC research aims to make rocket launches faster, cheaper, better

New University of Canterbury research has the potential to make it easier, faster and cheaper to launch a rocket, with wide-ranging benefits for other technology.

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC1807/S00054/uc-research-aims-to-improve-rocket-launches.htm>

The Met Office charting the future for global aviation meteorology

Air traffic is continually increasing and air navigation requirements are constantly evolving. Safety is of paramount importance as our skies become increasingly congested therefore demand for services such as national and regional weather forecasts are rising in parallel.

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/news/releases/2018/global-aviation>

Energy and Mining

JHU Project Aims to Save Millions by Reducing Solar Power Forecast Errors

Although the popularity of solar energy has surged, the unpredictability of a weather-dependent technology has kept even more people from embracing it. A new Johns Hopkins University-led project hopes to change that by improving our ability to forecast sunshine and backup power needs.

http://www.newswise.com/doescience/?article_id=697752&returnurl=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cubmV3c3dpc2UuY29tL2FydGljbGVzL2xpc3Q=

Transport/roading/shipping/freight

YM Efficiency suffered 'heavy rolling' for up to 90 seconds before losing 81 containers

A Liberian-flagged ship that lost 81 containers overboard off the NSW coast suffered 90 seconds of "heavy rolling" as it drifted in wild weather, according to a preliminary report into the incident.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-07-24/ym-efficiency-suffered-90-seconds-of-chaos/10029558>

Bad weather delays rice shipment for Region 8

PALO, Leyte -- A series of weather disturbances in the past few weeks have been delaying the delivery of 240,000 bags of imported rice from Thailand meant for Eastern Visayas region.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1042501>

Climate change / global warming / sea level rise

Global Warming Will Cause More People To Die By Suicide, Study Finds

New research from Stanford University finds that higher temperatures are leading to more suicides. And by 2050, the study predicts, thousands of additional suicides will have occurred in North America alone due to the rising temperatures caused by climate change.

<http://www.wbur.org/commonhealth/2018/07/23/global-warming-deaths-by-suicide>

Climate-Smart Cities™

Climate change affects everyone, but in cities, low-income communities often face the starkest threats. On average, low-income neighborhoods have fewer parks and green spaces to absorb stormwater, provide cooling shade, and protect homes and businesses from flooding.

For more than 45 years, The Trust for Public Land has worked with cities to help make vulnerable communities more equitable, livable, and resilient to the effects of climate change. Through our Climate-Smart Cities program, we partner with city leaders and residents to design, fund, and build climate-smart parks and green spaces where they're needed most.

We help cities use parks and natural lands as “green infrastructure” serving four objectives:

<https://www.tpl.org/how-we-work/climate-smart-cities#sm.0001pj0ip6nrbe9pvna2c8ph2msfs>

Climate change and the emergency management sector: discussion paper

Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council

This discussion paper provides a comprehensive overview of the risks and impacts facing the emergency management sector associated with climate change. These include physical risks (such as weather and ocean hazards, consequences of ecosystem changes, coincident and cascading events), as well as transition risks driven by broader changes in society, and the legal risks arising from a failure to act.

The discussion paper was endorsed by AFAC Council in May 2018. It establishes a series of priorities for action which will be advanced through the Climate Change Working Group.

The Working Group will continue to identify opportunities and risks of climate change and support the development of strategic priorities and initiatives for AFAC members and the emergency management sector.

<https://files-em.em.vic.gov.au/public/EMV-web/AFAC-Climate-Change-Discussion-3July2018FINAL.pdf>

Journals online

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Challenges and Opportunities in Atmospheric Dust Emission, Chemistry, and Transport

David Richter and Thomas Gill

Thanks to MetService librarian for the above clips

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Welcome to AMS News You Can Use.

Each week, we send out a sampling of recent news and items of interest in meteorology and related fields, as covered by various media outlets. Searchable archives are available online.

Hurricane disaster relief should be data driven

The Hill - 07/24/2018

season of 2017 demonstrated the necessity for prompt and accurate hurricane forecasts.” The inherent unpredictability of natural disasters,

Global warming risk: Rising temperatures from climate change linked to rise in suicides

Naples Daily News - 07/23/2018

found a strong correlation between warm weather and increased suicides, according to new research published in Nature Climate Change, a peer

‘The Sky Was Screaming Blood and Fire’: In New Study, Scientists Explain Clouds in Edvard Munch’s ‘Scream’ as Unusual Meteorological Condition

ARTnews - 07/23/2018

to a new study published in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society by researchers at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New

Cold wave reveals potential benefits of urban heat islands

ScienceDaily - 07/23/2018

the June issue of the Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology, could inform policies for northern cities seeking to mitigate extreme

Drought and Tree Mortality: Science Reveals Harsh Future for World’s Forests

YALE - 07/23/2018

forests. In this paper you review the latest research on the link between plant physiology and drought. What have scientists learned?

The Missouri duck boat storm didn’t come out of nowhere — there were warnings about it for hours

Vox - 07/21/2018

to severe weather warnings In May, the American Meteorological Society adopted a statement advising organizers of sporting, entertainment,

Texas A&M study: Sahara dust may make you cough, but it's a storm killer

Science Codex - 07/21/2018

and their work is published in the current issue of the Journal of Climate of AMS (American Meteorological Society). Texas A&M's Bowen Pan,

Incredible Photos Capture Powerful Lightning Storms Over Volcano Eruptions

My Modern Metropolis - 07/20/2018

Experiences Shooting Lava Magnificent Volcano Photos Celebrate the Intense Beauty of Hawaii Storm Chasing Photos Capture the Beauty and

Officials say hurricane preparedness program should raise awareness of risks, speed evacuations

WRAL.com - 07/20/2018

Officials say hurricane preparedness program should raise awareness of risks, speed evacuations

Polar Bears Appear Where They Never Were Before

National Geographic - 07/20/2018

northernmost science operation in the Arctic, where key meteorology and other research is conducted. Kunz, a carpenter from Florida, was

From pollutants to human health: Key questions for a better environmental future in Europe

EurekaAlert! - 07/20/2018

According to Miquel Cañedo-Argüelles, member of the research group Freshwater Ecology, Hydrology and Management (FEHM) of the UB and the

Batters hot, but baseballs hotter?

WRAL.com - 07/20/2018

U.S. from 1930 to 2010. The findings were published by the American Meteorological Society. "Everyone loves seeing home runs, but climate

Shear Terror

HistoryNet.com - 07/20/2018

downdraft problem, meteorologists conducted two research projects. Project NIMROD (Northern Illinois Meteorological Research On Downbursts)

How does irrigation impact the weather? UNL-led study is seeking answers

JournalStar.com - 07/19/2018

as well as the National Center for Atmospheric Research and the Center for Severe Weather Research on the project. Other agencies also are

Judge throws out New York City climate lawsuit against 5 major oil giants

ThinkProgress - 07/19/2018

90,000 buildings. And recent studies show that as climate change makes storms more intense, many New Yorkers can expect to see more Sandy-

Is Hawaii's Kīlauea volcano influencing locally excessive rainfall on the Big Island?

Yahoo! News - 07/19/2018

through their analysis of tree rings. The team's research indicated much drier weather in central Asia during volcanic activity, while more

Scientists use satellites to measure vital underground water resources

ScienceDaily - 07/19/2018

Groundwater Loss in California's Central Valley Exacerbated by Intense Drought Periods. Water Resources Research, 2018; DOI: 10.1029/

Reconstruction of Arctic Barents-Kara sea ice extent changes over the last millennium

EurekaAlert! - 07/19/2018

the Basic Research Project of Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences-Base Construction of Polar Atmospheric

Lightning Warning System Will Soon Be A Possibility

CBS Boston - 07/18/2018

blue” or a rapidly intensifying storm. This is something WBZ Meteorologist Pamela Gardner helped research in 2017, and in May of 2018 at the

Weather research project uses 'Doppler on Wheels'

Bay News 9 - 07/18/2018

Weather research project uses 'Doppler on Wheels'

Study links air pollution to drop in national park visitors

Chron.com - 07/18/2018

for seasonal variations and daily changes in the weather. Recommended Video: Now Playing: New research reveals that there could, in fact,

South Dakota hail storms caused so much damage, you can see it from space

Springfield News-Leader - 07/17/2018

becomes visible in satellite imagery,” said Jordan Bell, a research meteorologist with NASA’s Short-term Prediction Research and Transition

Photos of Intense Lightning Storms in Volcanic Eruptions

PetaPixel - 07/17/2018

Photos of Intense Lightning Storms in Volcanic Eruptions

Cloudy, With A Chance Of Climate Change? TV Meteorologists Take On The Big Stuff

Kuer - 07/17/2018

97% or more of the world's scientists agreed, as does The American Meteorological Society. "It's like we don't deny the science of how a

New NASA satellites will better forecast hurricanes

Fox News - 07/17/2018

the U.S. National Hurricane Center said it failed to adequately predict how intense the storm would get. Follow Chris Ciaccia on Twitter @