

New Zealand weather and climate news

MetService focus

Auckland Airport hit by fog, 46 flights affected

Meteorologist Stephen Glassey said the front that brought heavy downpours to Northland, Auckland and Coromandel yesterday was now lying over eastern Bay of Plenty.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12116054

Rain and wind watch for Nelson region

Metservice meteorologist Mark Bowe said Takaka Hill had 35.7mm of rain in the past 12 hours.

He said there was a low front hanging above Tasman off shore, which was the reason for the northeasterly rain.

"The heaviest bits of it are probably heading to [Nelson] right now."

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/nelson-mail/news/106649712/rain-and-wind-watch-for-nelson-region>

Wet, windy weather to mark the last week of winter

MetService meteorologist Mark Bowe said: "Broadly speaking we've got this low pressure system with a few fronts that's moving across the country [on Tuesday evening] and tomorrow and then a few lingering effects on Thursday and then on Friday ... there's a few scattered showers ... on Saturday, the next front is coming."

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/106618009/wet-windy-weather-to-mark-the-last-week-of-winter>

Canterbury 'meteor' may have actually been a plane

MetService meteorologist Ross Marsden agrees that the unexplained sight was most likely the remnants of an Australia-bound aircraft.

"If the air at cruise altitude is cold enough there will be a contrail, and if the air is humid enough the ice cannot evaporate and it can't dissipate," he says.

<https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/travel/2018/08/canterbury-meteor-may-have-actually-been-a-qantas-plane.html>

Hawke's Bay sees spring like weather for last week of winter

Metservice meteorologist Peter Little says a northwesterly flow, which developed on Sunday, will see fine weather for Monday and Tuesday.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=12113716

Heavy rain, strong winds move on from upper North Island to the east

By Wednesday afternoon the storms began to clear in the north of the country and the a generally pleasant day is expected in Auckland and Hamilton on Thursday, the MetService's Angus Hines said.

But that wasn't the case earlier on Wednesday. At 5am rainfall rates were up to 10-15mm an hour in parts of Northland and Auckland MetService meteorologist Fulong Lu said. They were preceded by some strong winds overnight ahead of the front, with 90kmh recorded at Cape Reinga and 96kmh at Tutukaka.

MetService meteorologist Mark Bowe on Wednesday morning the station at Warkworth, in north Auckland, had had "quite a significant amount" of rain with a total of 46mm in the last 12 hours.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/106647890/heavy-rain-strong-winds-move-on-to-upper-north-island>

Motorists warned as wild weather strikes North Island

MetService duty meteorologist Fulong Lu said the front had arrived from the Tasman Sea, and was expected to move east across northern and central New Zealand today.

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/national/motorists-warned-wild-weather-strikes-north-island>

Cape Kidnappers has a new name: Te Kauwae-a-Māui

Cape Kidnappers has a new name: Cape Kidnappers/Te Kauwae-a-Māui.

Te Kauwae-a-Māui means 'The fish hook of Māui'.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/hawkes-bay/106653340/cape-kidnappers-has-a-new-name-te-kauwaeamui>

Volcano alert

Ground rumbling beneath Ruapehu, crater lake warming

The ground beneath Mt Ruapehu is rumbling and the crater lake is warming.

A new episode of volcanic tremors and small earthquakes had been under way beneath the mountain since Friday, volcano information specialist Brad Scott said.

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/science/106649263/ground-rumblings-beneath-ruapehu-crater-lake-warming>

MetOcean

Study highlights urgent need to tackle fisheries management and climate change together

More fish, food and income possible if nations act now on climate and sustainable management

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/edf-shu082718.php

NIWA

Foggy, frosty spring

The Niwa National Climate Centre is forecasting a warmer and drier than average spring in the South, but be prepared for fog and frosts.

<https://www.odt.co.nz/news/dunedin/foggy-frosty-spring>

Niwa forecast: NZ likely to get another El Niño

It's now likely New Zealand will see another El Niño climate system soon - although forecasters don't expect it to be as intense as big drought-makers of the past.

Niwa climatologists have shared their outlook for the next three months, predicting average temperatures for most of the country and the likelihood of a slow transition toward an El Niño, which could become established over New Zealand by March.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/environment/news/article.cfm?c_id=39&objectid=12115693&ref=rs

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and Pacific

Fnu Opens New Agro-Meteorology Facility At Koronivia

The Fiji National University (FNU) commissioned the first-ever Agro-Meteorology facility at its College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests (CAFF) Instructional Crop Farm in Koronivia on Saturday.

This facility will enable students to increase their understanding and knowledge of weather patterns and use weather and climate information to boost crop production.

<http://fijisun.com.fj/2018/08/26/fnu-opens-new-agro-meteorology-facility-at-koronivia/>

How drought and a stellar snow season can happen at the same time

The story of the season has been of widespread drought, but if you have spoken to anyone who has come back from the ski field, they are raving about how much snow there is.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-08-29/drought-and-bumper-ski-season-at-same-time-explained/10173470>

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

Kerala lacks a flood warning system: Ministry of Earth Sciences

Data shared routinely: MoES official

Amid several analyses of Kerala's devastating floods earlier this month pointing to lack of preparedness escalating the impact of the extreme weather event, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) Madhavan Rajeevan said a 'red alert' issued by the IMD for several districts of Kerala two days ahead of the August downpours was not followed up adequately.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala-lacks-a-flood-warning-system-ministry-of-earth-sciences/article24786802.ece>

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Met Office says an Autumn three-month heatwave is coming very soon

Temperatures in the UK are set to hit 30C next month

<https://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/hull-east-yorkshire-news/uk-weather-forecast-met-office-1940132>

International news and research

New Melbourne building light show predicts the weather

A NEW building has joined the Melbourne skyline, and it couldn't be more Melbourne. The light show that's reflected on it is all about the weather.

<https://www.news.com.au/technology/environment/new-melbourne-building-light-show-predicts-the-weather/news-story/2b25ad78927cafa5c3831e0e1ca7bca9>

Why Can You Smell Rain?

When those first fat drops of summer rain fall to the hot, dry ground, have you ever noticed a distinctive odor? I have childhood memories of family members who were farmers describing how they could always “smell rain” right before a storm.

Of course rain itself has no scent. But moments before a rain event, an “earthy” smell known as petrichor does permeate the air. People call it musky, fresh – generally pleasant

[Read more here](#)

NASA's GPM finds heavy rain in a band wrapping into Tropical Storm Miriam

NASA found heavy rainfall occurring in Tropical Storm Miriam as it continued moving through the Eastern Pacific Ocean.

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/nsfc-ngf082918.php

NASA's GPM Satellite sees Jebi as another tropical threat To Japan

Japan has been afflicted by several tropical cyclones and other extreme weather this summer. GPM analyzed Typhoon Jebi as it was making its way toward Japan.

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/nsfc-ngs082918.php

NASA sees post-Tropical Cyclone Lane come to an end

The once hurricane that dropped record-setting rainfall on the Hawaiian Islands has come to an end in the Central Pacific Ocean and NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite captured a visible image of its final hours.

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/nsfc-nsp082918.php

NASA sees formation of Eastern Pacific Tropical Depression 16E

NASA's Aqua satellite saw the sixteenth tropical depression of the Eastern Pacific Ocean come together on Aug. 28.

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/nsfc-ns082818.php

ODPEM, Met Service Partnering with Media to Simplify Weather and Disaster-Related Information

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM), and the Meteorological Service of Jamaica (Met Service) are looking to strengthen collaborations with media partners to simplify how weather and disaster-related information is disseminated to the public.

<https://jis.gov.jm/odpem-met-service-partnering-with-media-to-simplify-weather-and-disaster-related-information/>

Discovery: New Center Fills Gaps in DFW Severe Weather Forecasts; Helping the Body Battle ‘Superbugs’

Also, you'll learn about a study that is testing a new liver transplant transport system. Here are some of the research projects underway in North Texas aimed at making our lives better.

<https://dallasinnovates.com/discovery-new-center-fills-gaps-dfw-severe-weather-forecasts-helping-body-battle-superbugs/>

Business development / commodities / infrastructure etc

Hot weather set to drive up price of food

The cost of basic foodstuffs could be about to rocket as Europe’s recent heatwave pushes up the price of everything from carrots and strawberries to butter and bacon.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/hot-weather-set-to-drive-up-price-of-food-9lbqlx3c3>

Aviation

Class Act: From Palmerston to space

Making it big in the small satellite market is the aim of Rocket Lab and a former Otago man is playing his part. Kim Dungey reports.

<https://www.odt.co.nz/lifestyle/magazine/class-act-palmerston-space>

TruWeather Proves Why the Drone Industry Need Better Weather Data

Flight time and weather conditions are often cited as two of the most challenging logistical issues that drone operators deal with, but that might not be the case for much longer. Advances to battery technology are changing the paradigm around how long drones can be expected to stay in the air, while the creation of drone weather risk management frameworks like ones from TruWeather Solutions have proven to keep UAVs flying 40 percent more of the time when weather uncertainty is a factor. Recovering lost profits for weather sensitive businesses is just the beginning of the value these types of tools can open up though.

<https://www.expouav.com/news/latest/truweather-drone-industry-better-weather-data/>

Energy and Mining

Z Energy to take major stake in Flick Electric

Fuel retailer Z Energy is diversifying with a move to take a major stake in electricity retailer, Flick Electric.

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/news/business/364999/z-energy-to-take-major-stake-in-flick-electric>

Farming/horticulture

Heatwave could raise price of bacon as hot weather damages pig fertility

he heatwave could lead to rise in the price of bacon because hot weather has hampered the fertility of pigs, a new report suggests.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/science/2018/08/26/heatwave-could-raise-price-bacon-hot-weather-damages-pig-fertility/>

Health

Temperature model predicts regional and seasonal virus transmission by mosquitoes

New model that accurately predicts patterns of mosquito-borne Ross River virus epidemics could help prepare for the impact of climate change

https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2018-08/e-tmp082818.php

Lightning

New weather satellites show 5 million lightning strikes as seen from space

The planet gets a lot of lightning -- roughly 100 strikes a second on Earth at any given moment.

<https://komonews.com/weather/scotts-weather-blog/new-weather-satellite-shows-off-5-million-lightning-strikes-as-seen-from-space>

El Nino / La Nina

Global warming is intensifying El Niño weather

A new study finds that weather associated with El Niño events is becoming more severe

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-consensus-97-per-cent/2018/aug/29/global-warming-is-intensifying-el-nino-weather>

Climate change / global warming / sea level rise

Core Concept: How does climate change influence extreme weather? Impact attribution research seeks answers

Hurricane Harvey devastated the Houston area when it stalled over southeastern Texas in August 2017. In the weeks that followed, Hurricane Irma traveled up the mainland of Florida, and Hurricane Maria pummeled Puerto Rico. The year 2017 would become the most expensive hurricane season on record.

<http://www.pnas.org/content/115/33/8232>

A fresh lens

Climate change imagery.

‘Polar bears, melting ice and smoke stacks – if you search for climate-change imagery online, the range is predictable and limited,’ says Adam Corner from the charity Climate Outreach. The result? People feel demoralized or uninterested and stop paying attention. To fix this problem, Climate Outreach have launched a curated collection of photos that tell a ‘relatable, human story’ to help media outlets, campaigners and photographers engage audiences on climate-change issues.

The library – which is home to images of climate-change causes, impacts and solutions – includes photos like this one (above), of 20-year-old Indian engineer Meenakshi Diwan, who is tending to a solar panel in Tinginapu, Odisha.

climateoutreach.org/climatevisuals

Source:

Emergency preparedness / disaster planning / resilience

LabX: Extreme Event

labx.org/extreme-event

From the National Academy of Sciences comes Extreme Event, an in-person role-playing game that simulates "build[ing] community resilience in the face of disaster." In this hour-long exercise, participants are assigned roles and choose between three different disaster scenarios (earthquake, hurricane, or flood), then work together to help their community survive. Extreme Event is designed to be played by teens and adults in groups of 12-48 participants, making it well-suited for classrooms or adult team-building exercises. All necessary materials, including instructions, handouts, and sound effects, are freely available to download, and the game can be facilitated using either the downloadable script or their web-based "digital game portal" (this option requires the use of seven laptops/tablets). Video tutorials on facilitating the game and creating your own game materials are also available. Extreme Event was developed collaboratively between the Marian Koshland Science Museum (now LabX) and the Resilient America Roundtable (both projects of

the National Academy of Sciences), and it "draws on recommendations from the seminal National Research Council report Disaster Resilience: A National Imperative." [JDC]

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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](#).

Millions risk malnutrition as CO2 levels climb: study - technology - att.net

ATT.com - 08/27/2018

prolonged drought, and other forms of extreme weather driven by climate change, earlier research has shown. Impacts include reduced crop

UPDATE: Here's how climate change is affecting your cup of coffee

Morningstar - 08/27/2018

and other financial services to help farmers weather failed crops or invest in new technologies. Research shows that teaching people to

Global Dust Storm On Mars Could Be Fatal For NASA's Opportunity Rover

ValueWalk - 08/27/2018

in a reddish haze. However, this one could be one of the most intense storms that has ever been recorded, as NASA wrote. "This is the worst

Destructive and deadly, yes. But unprecedented? Trying to understand the Carr fire twister

Ventura County Star - 08/25/2018

the pieces we are talking about," she said. Clements, of Fire Weather Research Lab, said what the Carr Fire generated is a "pretty amazing"

Preparing for Japan's Next Tsunami

MotherBoard - 08/25/2018

by two cabled seafloor earthquake and tsunami observation systems owned by Japan's National Research Institute for Earth Science and

Why was Hurricane Lane so unpredictable?

Phys.org - 08/25/2018

environment that can support stronger storms," said Chavas. "We expect the most intense storms on Earth to become more intense." Rising sea

Hurricane Lane's Near-Miss Exposes Vulnerabilities To Hawaii's Grid

The Daily Caller - 08/24/2018

RELATED: Hawaii Thinks It Can Completely Shift To Renewable Energy By 2045) The National Weather Service warned that Hurricane Lane had the

The Arctic's 'Last Bastion' Of Sea Ice Is Breaking Up For The 1st Time

CBS Dallas - 08/24/2018

But recent satellite imagery shows that some of the Arctic's oldest

The forgotten female scientist who taught India how to forecast weather

Quartz - 08/24/2018

Mani had retired from the Indian Meteorological Department in 1976 and was working at the Raman Research Institute in Bengaluru. Sur still

NASA To Use World's Most Advanced Laser On ICESat-2 Satellite To Monitor Polar Ice Caps

The Inquisitr News - 08/24/2018

temperatures to rise at an unprecedented rate, but also resulted in more intense storms, droughts, and other weather events, and an increase

Smartphones may be used to better predict the weather

Phys.org - 08/23/2018

"The frequency of these intense floods is increasing. We can't prevent these storms from happening, but soon we may be

Why the weather forecast will always be a bit wrong

Phys.org - 08/23/2018

However, as long as there is research into improving these assumptions, the future of weather forecasting looks bright. How close we can

2005 Hurricane Season in the North Atlantic Approached Theoretical Limit

Discover Magazine Blogs - 08/22/2018

That allowed them to capture storms that meteorologists may have missed before the era of satellite surveillance. They plugged this data

Wildfires cloud Western skies with dangerous smoke, haze

UPI.com - 08/22/2018

to weather satellites, also extends to Montana and Canada's Alberta province, the NOAA statement said. There is also an economic cost

One Year After Harvey, Money and Politics Keep Houston From Recovering

Texas Monthly - 08/22/2018

the city's problems: sure, these storms were coming with greater frequency and seemed more intense than the average Houston thunderstorm,

No Hurricanes In Atlantic Basin In August A Rarity, NOAA Says

International Business Times - 08/22/2018

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) forecasts a below-average hurricane season in the Atlantic in the month of August

Think Rivers Are Dangerous Now? Just Wait.

Mother Jones - 08/22/2018

In Southern California, for instance, climate models predict that storms will be more intense, but also less frequent. For this new model

New bureaucracy is not the answer to weather preparedness

The Hill - 08/21/2018

into the streamlining of infrastructure development. Policy to improve our preparedness for severe weather does not require a fourth branch

A New Study Has Determined ‘Steve’ Isn’t Really An Aurora And Is Still A Mysterious And Unexplained Phenomenon

The Inquisitr News - 08/21/2018

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellites. Gallardo-Lacourt explained that whatever STEVE

Researchers develop tools to predict the dispersal of chemical plumes, pollutants

Phys.org - 08/21/2018

their buoyant turbulence model with the high-resolution Advanced Research Weather Research and Forecast model to understand the role of

Here are 10 topics Senators could ask Trump’s science adviser nominee to address

Science - 08/21/2018

choice of the 59-year-old vice president for research and emeritus professor of meteorology at The University of Oklahoma in Norman. A life-

Arctic’s strongest sea ice breaks up for first time on record

MSN.com - 08/21/2018

wrote Thomas Lavergne, a scientist at the Norwegian Meteorological Institute, in a retweet of a satellite-gif of the blue water penetrating-----

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My latest WeatherEye from John Maunder

Tropospheric-temperatures-1989-July-2018.

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/12431-tropospheric-temperatures-1989-july-2018.html>

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