

New Zealand weather and climate news

These clip links come Courtesy of MetService Library

MetService

MetService asking public for feedback on new website

One of New Zealand's most important and popular websites has undergone a \$1.7 million revamp based on the scrutiny of more than 1000 people.

Wind-related injuries around the country rack up a \$9m ACC bill

Wind-related injuries are a surprisingly significant drain on ACC funds, and climate change could make it worse.

Tornado slams woman into house, breaking her collarbone

John Bamford's wife Maxine was outside feeding orphaned lambs when a tornado struck on Monday morning and smashed her into a wall.

Wild weather - Fire Service called to dozens of homes, including one struck by lightning

New Zealand Herald

Fierce winds and heavy rain lashed homes in the Auckland region overnight - uplifting roofs, toppling over shipping containers and damaging The ...

Auckland thunderstorms: Boats adrift, container blown onto car

Almost 50 boats were damaged or broke their moorings and a shipping container was blown onto a car when a wind blast - being described as a tornado - hit Auckland.

Unscathed: Worker trapped in car by falling shipping container leaves hospital

New Zealand Herald

Shed 10, which was also damaged during the wild weather, is expected to be ready for reopening in time for the next cruise ship arrival on August 25.

In pictures: Auckland storm damage

Two nights of wild weather have wreaked havoc across Auckland, damaging luxury boats, ripping off roofs and scattering debris.

Chaotic weather system behind weirdly-shaped hail

MetService meteorologist Lewis Ferris said the strangely-shaped hail was new to him. "Usually they'll be spherical," he said.

Fast winds high in atmosphere key to thousands of lightning strikes over North Island

MetService counted 5500 lightning strikes in the 24 hours to 8am Monday, 1500 of them over land. All but a few of those over land were in the top half of the North Island. From midnight Friday through to 11am Monday the total over the New Zealand area, including surrounding seas, was 16,200.

Weather: Southwesterly flow brings calmer and cooler conditions for most regions

New Zealand Herald

MetService says a few showers are forecast for Northland to Manawatu - including Coromandel Peninsula, Bay of Plenty and the central high country.

High-tech snow factory at Coronet Peak could extend ski season

A high-tech snow factory could extend the ski season but summer skiing at Coronet Peak? That might be a step too far, says chief executive of NZSki Paul Anderson.

More snow on the way, as stormy outlook threatens another weekend

Stuff.co.nz

MetService is forecasting cold air to spread up the South Island during Saturday, with Christchurch expected to reach highs of just 10 degrees Celsius ...

Extreme weather (and other news) – Antarctica and offshore

Icebergs delay Southern Hemisphere future warming, study shows

Posted: 12 Aug 2019 02:23 PM PDT

Future warming can accelerate the disintegration of the West Antarctic ice sheet. A large fraction of the ice will enter the Southern Ocean in form of icebergs, which melt and provide a cooling and freshening effect to the warmer and denser ocean water. This process will increase the formation of sea-ice and shift winds and ocean currents. The overall effect is a slowdown in the magnitude of human-induced Southern Hemispheric warming and sea-level rise, according to a new study.

New understanding of Antarctic ice shelf melt to improve sea level rise predictions

Scientists expect to make better predictions about the impact of climate change on Antarctic ice sheets, after modelling the 1000km retreat of the Ross Ice Shelf during the past 20,000 years.

60 years of the Antarctic Treaty

Antarctica is one of the most pristine environments on the planet, and the treaty system that keeps it that way has just turned 60.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and Pacific

Timelapse footage of the Australian drought from space

Queensland Country Life

The Indian Ocean Dipole has tripped into unwelcome positive territory while the El Nino - La Nina Southern Oscillation Index outlook is neutral and not ...

Pacific won't budge on climate change; neither will Australia

A showdown over climate policy is looking likely in Tuvalu when the region's leaders meet at the Pacific Islands Forum today, with Australia's climate policies to come under particular attack.

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

Met Dept admits weaknesses in storm warning system

New Straits Times Online

THE Malaysian Meteorological Department has admitted to having weaknesses in its storm warning system following widespread damage during the ...

Myanmar flood toll reaches 51 – 4000 houses submerged

The Thaiger

PHOTOS: Myanmar Times. Burmese troops have been deployed to flood-hit parts of Myanmar to help with relief efforts after rising flood waters have ...

West Pacific to remain on alert for another typhoon following Krosa's strike on Japan

AccuWeather.com

AccuWeather meteorologists are monitoring several areas where ... (Japan Meteorological Agency/Himawari 8 Satellite) ... Asia Weather Center

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Extreme weather in the UK: what have we done to deserve it?

The Times

For meteorologists, it's a near-perfect storm. A gigantic circular weather system formed in the Atlantic last week and then drifted northwest to sit directly ...

A 'Ring of Fire' Is About to Devastate The US With Heatwaves, Possible Storms And Floods

ScienceAlert

Some meteorologists call them "ridge runners," since they are propelled around the edge of the blocking high, such as the one parked over the South.

International news and research

Why Doesn't The National Weather Service Have A Weather App?

Forbes

The vast majority of weather model, satellite, observational, and radar data beneath every TV weathercast or your private-sector weather App comes ...

Plastic particles falling out of sky with snow in Arctic

Even in the Arctic, microscopic particles of plastic are falling out of the sky with snow, a study has found.

Ten years of icy data show the flow of heat from the Arctic seafloor

Posted: 08 Aug 2019 03:57 PM PDT

In addition to 10 years of data on the flow of heat in the Arctic ocean seafloor, researchers have published an analysis of that data using modern seismic data.

At UAlbany meteorologists discuss weather tracking and green energy

Albany Times Union

“Weather is now going to be driving energy innovation,” he said. That's especially true in New York, with its variable and diverse weather and the ...

How Weather Forecasts Are Made

Discover Magazine

You've probably heard the joke: Meteorology is the only occupation where you can be wrong all the time and still get paid for it. In reality, weather ...

'This Is Crazy': Scientists Alarmed as Lightning Near North Pole Seen as Latest Sign of Climate ...

Common Dreams

Meteorologists and climate scientists were startled Monday after the U.S. National Weather Service confirmed that an extremely rare occurrence of ...

Others

Universal Weather Climbing in Latin America

Aviation International News

Universal Weather and Aviation continues to grow its presence in Latin American markets despite several of the region's nations—including Brazil and ...

Aviation

Australian Airports Face Wind Delays

Aeronautics Online

“There's windy weather about, which is affecting services across our network. Sorry, we know this blows,” stated Virgin Australia, the country's ...

Civil Aviation Authority probe not sufficiently independent says industry group

New Zealand Herald

An aviation group says the Government-ordered inquiry into the Civil Aviation Authority isn't sufficiently independent. Transport minister Phil Twyford ...

Float plane operation planned for Lyttelton Harbour

The possible effects of a planned float plane operation on Lyttelton Harbour are being considered by the Civil Aviation Authority.

Business/Insurance

Insurance firms could consider rise in premiums after spate of tornados

Taranaki insurers could be considering a rise in premiums following a spate of tornados.

Energy and Mining

Taranaki's new energy centre expected to be up and running by mid-2020

The person to lead Taranaki's new \$27 million clean energy centre has been announced.

Pamela Walklin will be general manager of establishing the National New Energy Development Centre (NNEDC) in early September 2019 with the centre expected to be up and running by mid-2020.

Growth of wind energy points to future challenges, promise

Advances in adapting the technology and better methods for predicting wind conditions have fanned significant growth of the use of wind turbines for electricity in the last 40 years. A new report takes stock of where the field is now and what lies ahead. Researchers surveyed the growth of wind technology as a source of renewable energy and assessed its viability for continuing to capture larger shares of the electricity market.

ARENA commits \$40m to fast-track South Australia pumped hydro

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency says it is committing up to \$40 million to fast-track the first pumped hydro storage project in South Australia, saying the need is growing more urgent as the share of wind and solar surges beyond 50 per cent.

Health

Pollen cloud over walking tracks a sight for sore eyes

Amid a frosty start to August, Marlburians are also experiencing a surge of early hay fever.

While hay fever can affect people year-round, there has been a particular surge in the past few weeks, say Blenheim pharmacists.

History

Timeline of the Salt Lake City Tornado 20 years later

Deseret News

SALT LAKE CITY — On Aug. 11, 1999, a tornado descended on Salt Lake City, taking residents and meteorologists by surprise. Even 20 years later, ...

The fog of history

Mail Tribune

18, 1950, fog was so thick United Airlines flight 159 was holding over the ... Texas, in 1955 and continued efforts to manipulate weather for decades.

Innovation and technologies and AI

Climacell's New Weather App Uses 600 Million Devices to Forecast Areas as Small as a City Block

Fortune

The main play for Climacell is sign up companies in industries like utilities, shipping, agriculture, and retail that need accurate weather forecasts to ...

Raymarine LightHouse Bermuda claimed to be superior for sailors

My Sailing

Bermuda delivers Axiom onboard support for the popular PredictWind and Offshore performance sailing apps. Receive detailed wind and weather ...

Climate change / global warming / sea level rise

Arctic could be iceless in September if temps increase 2 degrees

Posted: 13 Aug 2019 01:05 PM PDT

Arctic sea ice could disappear completely through September each summer if average global temperatures increase by as little as 2 degrees, according to a new study.

How media around the world frame climate change news

Posted: 13 Aug 2019 10:04 AM PDT

Researchers analyzed thousands of climate change articles from 45 countries and territories around the world to determine how they frame the issue, and differences were revealed mostly by the wealth of the nation.

Map shows how Climate Change affects extreme weather around the world

Geospatial World (press release) (blog)

Greenland have somewhat signaled now that extreme localized weather ... ALSO READ: Satellites to pinpoint greenhouse emissions and monitor ...

Emergency preparedness / disaster planning / resilience

Military bases prepare for more extreme weather

Fort Hood is developing a renewable-powered microgrid system that could provide electricity even if the local grid goes down.

Journal and articles online

Designing environmental uncertainty information for experts and non-experts: Does data presentation affect users' decisions and interpretations?

Kelsey J. Mulder, Matthew Lickiss, Alison Black, Andrew J. Charlton-Perez, Rachel McCloy, Joseph S. Young

Version of Record online: 06 August 2019

This research sought to determine if the way in which uncertainty information was presented affected expert and non-expert interpretations of and decisions made using that information. The results suggest that participants interpreted different amounts of uncertainty across the forecast representations. Experts made significantly more economically rational decisions than non-experts and inferred more uncertainty.

London's weather and the everyday: two centuries of newspaper reports

Mike Hulme, Nicholas Burgess

Pages: 286-290 | First Published: 19 August 2018

This study surveys 200 years of London's weather and its public reporting to reveal some of the recurring modes that are used to publicly describe and make sense of the human experience of weather. These include: cultural anxieties prompted by 'unusual weather', visual dramas of 'great storms', accusations of the weather as culpable, and interest in 'record-breaking' weather. Even as London's climate is changing, at the level of the everyday the human and cultural experience of weather remains remarkably familiar.

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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.

August 13, 2019

News

2018 climate breaks long-held records, underscoring dire picture: Report

August 12, 2019 - ABC News - Go.com

Carbon dioxide and other major greenhouse gases, including methane, and nitrous oxide, continued their rapid increase last year, while global sea level rose to its highest on record, according to the American Meteorological Society's State of the Climate in 2018 report, released on Monday.

Read MORE

Greenhouse gases reach record levels, report finds

August 12, 2019 - CNN

The dominant greenhouse gases released into the Earth's atmosphere reached record levels in 2018, and their global warming power is now 43% stronger than in 1990, according to a new report by the American Meteorological Society released Monday.

[Read MORE](#)

[A startling NASA video shows how Greenland's ice sheet could melt entirely in years to come](#) 



August 13, 2019 - Business Insider

Researchers at the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska Fairbank have now come to a worrying conclusion: the entire ice sheet could melt completely within the next 1,000 years - a transformation which has been illustrated in a shocking NASA video.

[Read MORE](#)

[The Death Of A Weather Satellite As Seen By SDR](#)

August 12, 2019 - Hackaday

NOAA-15, a satellite launched in 1998 to monitor surface temperatures and other meteorologic and climatologic parameters, has recently started showing its age.

[Read MORE](#)

[Lightning hits within 300 miles of the North Pole — a rarity — as Arctic warming continues](#)

August 12, 2019 - The Seattle Times

The thunderstorms at the top of the world struck in the midst of an extreme summer that has featured record-low sea ice levels and much-above-average temperatures across much of the Arctic Ocean, including at the pole itself.

[Read MORE](#)

[States brace for long-term flood fight as damage costs soar](#)

August 11, 2019 - The Denver Post

After devastating flooding this year, Iowa put \$15 million into a special fund to help local governments recover and guard against future floods.

[Read MORE](#)

[NOAA ups the odds of above-average hurricane season: ‘This season could produce quite a bit of activity’](#)

August 9, 2019 - Omaha.com

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced Wednesday morning that it had increased its predicted odds of an above-average hurricane season.

[Read MORE](#)

[Mini Yellow Submarines Help Scientists Better Predict Hurricanes](#)

August 9, 2019 - Miami New Times

Using underwater autonomous vehicles called gliders, NOAA is now able to more accurately predict whether a tropical disturbance will intensify into a named storm.

[Read MORE](#)

[Which Weather Model Is Most Accurate? The Answer Might Surprise You](#)

August 9, 2019 - Forbes

As computing power increases, meteorologists look forward to more precise models and models that can accurately forecast systems as large as hurricanes, down to the individual storms within a rain band.

[Read MORE](#)

[NOAA seeks to “kick the tires” on new instruments, mission concepts](#)

August 8, 2019 - SpaceNews

NOAA plans to release a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) in September for low Earth orbit instruments and mission concepts and another focused on geostationary orbit.

[Read MORE](#)

[17 countries -- home to 25% of the world's population -- facing water crises, organization says](#)

August 7, 2019 - ABC News - Go.com

Seventeen countries -- home to 25% of the global population -- are facing "extremely high" water stress, according to the The World Resources Institute, a research non-profit.

[Read MORE](#)

[Planting trees is no substitute for natural forests](#)

August 7, 2019 - Phys.org

Restoring degraded forests and expanding them by 350 million hectares will store a comparable amount of carbon as 900 million hectares of new trees.

[Read MORE](#)

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