

## New Zealand weather and climate news

courtesy of MetService Library

### MetService mentions

#### 'A feast of information': Why weather maps are like works of art

Stuff.co.nz

MetService manager of weather communication Lisa Murray said weather maps offered "a feast of information" for the trained eye. "They are therefore

#### Fears of no decent rain in Northland until mid-year

RNZ

MetService's forecast comes after warnings last week from Niwa and the Northland Regional Council, that conditions could affect crops and water ...

#### On a hot streak: Warming climate a wake up call

Stuff.co.nz

MetService Meteorologist Lisa Murray said the effects of warming were clear - in 2019, MetService issued 65 official severe weather warnings for ...

#### Weather warnings for Canterbury: Gales and heavy rain on the way

Otago Daily Times

The MetService said to expect northwest gales to become severe and gust to 120km/h in exposed parts of Canterbury. Strong wind gusts could ...

#### Mega floods, extreme heat could be in store for Otago

RNZ

Three large-scale weather patterns that influenced climate in New Zealand were the El Nino-Southern Oscillation, the Interdecadal Pacific Oscillation ...

#### Climate change could curb curling in Otago

Otago's bonspiels could be another victim of a changing climate as the number and severity of frosts are predicted to steeply decline in the region

## Nelson's sunshine lingers longest in New Zealand's hot, dry 2019

The Nelson region has taken the sunshine hours crown for the second year in a row.

Nelson beat its own record with a massive 2859 hours recorded in Richmond, 304 hours more than were recorded over 2018, according to NIWA's annual climate summary.

## The most dangerous and deadly places to tramp in New Zealand

There are more than 14,000 kilometres of tramping tracks across New Zealand – some are well-maintained and relatively safe, others, when coupled with our changeable weather, are potentially deadly.

## **MetOcean**

### Investigating the Ocean's Influence on Australia's Drought

Newswise (press release)

Newswise — Australia is burning. But to understand how the relentless heat, blazing wild fires, and bone-dry conditions have reached such extremes, ...

## **Weatherwatch**

### Sizeable cyclone may well brush NZ in 7 days time, Fiji & Tonga more exposed

WeatherWatch.co.nz

Both GFS modelling (out of America) and ECMWF (out of Europe) both paint a similar picture of the tropical storm crossing directly over Fiji this ...

## **Volcano alert/watch**

### Unrest at Aleutian volcano increases, triggering aviation warnings

KTOO

Unrest at Aleutian volcano increases, triggering aviation warnings ... There has been no impact on aviation thus far, but the National Weather Service ...

Philippines volcano spews ash, prompting evacuations and shutting airport

Stuff.co.nz

Flights over Whakaari White Island likely to resume, but landings are not on the ...

Whakaari/White Island: More injured tourists to go home in January

Volcanic lightning illuminates Taal volcano in Philippines during eruption

As ash billowed out from the Taal volcano in the Philippines, it was illuminated.

At around 6pm on Sunday, flashes of lightning were seen moving through the large plumes of smoke and ash. Volcanic lightning often occurred when eruptions had a thick plume of volcanic ash, rather than lava.

### **Extreme weather (and other news) – Antarctica and offshore**

SuperTIGER on its second prowl -- 130,000 feet above Antarctica

A balloon-borne scientific instrument designed to study the origin of cosmic rays is taking its second turn high above the continent of Antarctica three and a half weeks after its launch.

Antarctic waters: Warmer with more acidity and less oxygen

The increased freshwater from melting Antarctic ice sheets plus increased wind has reduced the amount of oxygen in the Southern Ocean and made it more acidic and warmer, according to new research.

### **Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and Pacific**

Tonga's met service warns of potential cyclone forming

RNZ

Tonga's Meteorological Service has warned this month could see at least one cyclone develop over the southwest Pacific, which could eventually ...

Parts of Pacific at increased risk of drought - NIWA

Parts of Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Kiribati and French Polynesia are at increased risk of drought coming into the new year.

Bureau of Meteorology chart shows how temperatures have soared in Australia over the past century

Australia just had its warmest and driest year on record, according to the Bureau of Meteorology, continuing a long-running trend in the country.

When NT rainfall records shattered across the Top End, one local community lapped it up

Torrential rain was greeted like an old friend in Northern Territory communities this weekend after a tropical weather system induced record-breaking deluges across the Top End.

Some say we've seen bushfires worse than this before. But they're ignoring a few key facts

Every time a weather extreme occurs, some people quickly jump in to say we've been through it all before: that worse events have happened in the past, or it's just part of natural climate variability.

Separating Fact From Fiction: A Breakdown Of The Small Role Arson Played This Bushfire Season

10 daily

Climate experts have outlined how lightning storms -- some caused by the very fires ... and environmentalists that Australia is experiencing a "climate emergency", others ... Lightning is suspected as a cause of many Victorian fires.

Australia's wildfire crisis faces a new foe: Misinformation

NBCNews.com

Climate change deniers are blaming Australia's wildfires on arson, but experts ... Rather, he said, many of the blazes likely were started by lightning in ...

'They can't even get the weather right': Pauline Hanson says the bushfires weren't caused by ...

Daily Mail

Authorities in New South Wales and Victoria previously told Daily Mail Australia the majority of recent fires in both states were sparked by lightning ...

Economic cost of Australia's bushfires estimated at \$2 billion - and rising

The cost to the Australian economy of this summer's devastating bushfire season has already likely topped A\$2 billion (NZ\$2.1 billion) – and is still climbing.

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

### Australia wildfire damages and losses to exceed \$100 billion, AccuWeather estimates

AccuWeather.com

AccuWeather estimates the total damage and economic loss caused by the Australia wildfires from September 2019 and into 2020 will be \$110 billion, ...

### Rainfall in UAE Breaks Record, Receives Highest Rainfall in 24 Years

The Media Hq (press release) (blog)

The UAE broke a new record with showers as a result of its cloud seeding operations. With recent showers, the country recorded the highest amount of ...

### Thailand: Government Establishes National Command Centre To Address Forty-Year Drought

OOSKA News

This year's El Nino climate cycle in the Pacific Ocean has shifted warmer air to Thailand causing temperatures to rise. Another cause of scarcity is the ...

## **International news and research**

### Why I'm proud to be a meteorologist

Washington Post

BOSTON — Where do weather forecasts and warnings come from? ... from a storm downburst in 25 years, a testament to aviation weather forecasting].

### Fires, storms and floods cost \$150 billion in 2019. More disasters are on the way

CNN

London (CNN Business) Hurricanes, wildfires and floods cost the world ... Climate change is contributing to the increase in extreme weather events, ...

### Emotional stars need a climate change reality check

The Australian Financial Review

These weather patterns are regularly monitored by the CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology and provide corporate Australia and government decision ...

### ATOMIC Ocean Expedition to Improve Weather and Climate Prediction

WeatherNation

You look out at the ocean and in the distance a flotilla of small white clouds sails close to the waves. It's ideal weather and typical of many days in the ...

### Xi honors two academicians with China's top science award

Xinhua

Zeng Qingcun, 85, is a famous meteorologist from the Institute of ... processes and is the basis of the global numerical weather prediction technology.

### Evolving landscape added fuel to Gobi Desert's high-speed winds

A new study finds that the dark, rocky landscape of the Hami basin in the Gobi Desert helped to make it one of the windiest places in China.

### Geologist: If people understood the problems we face they would change right now

Nelson geologist Dr Aaron Stallard is used to working with the long time scales that have shaped the planet. But lately he's been preoccupied with a more immediate problem: our future.

## **Weather companies**

### How Private Weather Companies Work with the National Weather Service

Cowboy State Daily

The federal government provides the nation with free weather data, but most ... To monetize free data, Day said private companies turned to traditional ... “Without the tax-funded, weather forecasting infrastructure, I'd have nothing.”.

### Akrocean probes French offshore wind resources

reNEWS

Akrocean has been awarded a four-year deal with Meteo-France to deliver wind and metocean data required to de-risk future offshore wind farms off ...

## **Aviation**

### Telescope on Airplane Captures Never Seen Before Details of Our Milky Way Galaxy

SciTechDaily

NASA has captured an extremely crisp infrared image of the center of our Milky ... The image combines SOFIA's new perspective of warm regions with .... were taken in July 2019 during SOFIA's annual deployment to Christchurch, ...

### Delta Develops Artificial Intelligence Tool to Address Weather Disruption, Improve Flight Operations

Aviation Today

Delta's pilots have also developed a flight weather viewer tablet application that gives them a three-dimensional view of their flight path with a ...

### QantasLink flight overruns Newman Airport in heavy rain

Airline Ratings

Newman Airport in the Pilbara region of Western Australia has been closed after a QantasLink flight slid off the runway in very bad weather. At the time ...

### Flooding Wreaks Havoc At Dubai International Airport

Simple Flying

Dubai International Airport is scrambling to cope with the extreme weather, working to get its operations back to normal. However, with more heavy ...

## **Business/Insurance**

### Spotlight on NZ's top firms as part of productivity push

The government has launched an inquiry in a bid to make New Zealand businesses more productive.

## Slow season for some Southland camping grounds

Stuff.co.nz

Bluff Camping Ground manager Brent Procter said his business had suffered a lot because of the weather. "For me business has been down 40 ...

## **Communications/social media**

### New Zealand's growing underclass: What happens when you're stranded on the wrong side of the digital divide

In New Zealand's race to become a fully digital country, there is a growing divide between the tech haves and have-nots, writes Mazz Scannell.

On a chilly Wednesday morning, 10 people are waiting outside the the Work and Income office on Wellington's Willis St. Gripping a walking frame, trying to avoid being bustled by the office workers streaming past, stands an elderly woman.

### TV weather trio Renee, Matty and Dan on why they're looking forward to sunny skies ahead

A beachside photoshoot in Auckland with three weather presenters is an interesting experience.

Between ominous dark clouds swirling, a substantial sea breeze blowing straight into the central Auckland beach where we're setting up our picnic, and intense rays of sun almost blinding TVNZ's Dan Corbett, Renee Wright and Matty McLean as they settle on the blanket, it's hard to know where to start in weather-proofing our photo session.

## **Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture**

### Water company trials 'smart' on-farm weather stations

FarmingUK

The UK's largest water-only supply company is trialling a network of 'smart' on-farm weather stations in a bid to improve water quality at source.

### Avocado growers prepared in case of summer drought

Avocado growers are confident they will be able to cope in the event of a summer drought.

Fire

### Global warming is the kindling that caused extensive wildfire

Researchers identified Arctic Oscillation as the cause for the recent wildfires in Siberia. Their study forecasts wildfire activity in spring, helping to prevent carbon release and global warming.

### Wildfires could become bigger, more frequent and more intense in New Zealand

For months, the world has watched in horror as Australia burns. Bushfires have ripped through all states and territories but one, thousands of homes have been destroyed, many people have lost their lives, and entire native wildlife populations are feared extinct.

## **Health**

### Car accidents, drownings, violence: hotter temperatures will mean more deaths from injury

Liz Hanna, Australian National University

A new US study has found warmer temperatures will lead to more deaths from injury, for example in transport accidents, drownings, assaults and suicides. But what does this mean for Australia?

### Ash from Australian bushfires contaminates water supplies in Fiordland, Stewart Island

Ash from Australian bushfires is affecting water supplies on popular tramping routes on Rakiura/Stewart Island and Fiordland, making water "undrinkable", according to one trumper.

## **Lightning**

### Earth Networks Releases 2019 Lightning Report

Business Wire (press release)

... mitigate financial, operational and human risk by providing environmental intelligence from the world's largest hyperlocal weather network. Schools ...

## **Satellites and radar**

United Kingdom satellites to aid lead the contest against weather change

Instant Tech News

A new satellite information center will use satellite with chopping ends, a technology that will help fight against changes in the climate. On December ...

Two new satellites will launch this year to track Earth's rising oceans

Space.com

S6 will use two identical satellites (Sentinel-6A and Sentinel-6B) to continue that work by studying changes in ocean circulation, climate variability ...

**Tourism**

Sky's the limit for Stewart Island/Rakiura night time observers

A year after being becoming internationally recognised, Stewart Island/Rakiura residents are hopeful their status as Dark Sky Sanctuary can continue to grow.

**Transport/roading/shipping/freight**

Brake webinar to bring free advice on driving in adverse weather conditions

Fleet World

... how safe driving techniques and good vehicle maintenance can help minimise road danger during bad weather; and technologies to ensure drivers'

How science won the World Rally Championship

Science Business

Professional rally teams typically use detailed weather forecasts, but ... Last year, Tönisson's expertise helped Tänak and co-driver Järveoja win the ...

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Thanks to MetService for these Clips

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