

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService Library

MetService mentions

Two days warning for massive Wellington waves but nobody raised alarm

Metservice's Ramon Oosterkamp said Wednesday's damaging waves were a one-in-five-year event brought on by a number of factors - such as a high tide and big spacing between waves - on top of waves up to 6m.

MetOcean (and oceanmet, marine weather etc)

Warmest oceans on record Could Set Off a Year of Extreme Weather

Digital Journal (press release)

El Nino “depends on contrasts, as well as absolute values of sea-surface temperatures,” according to Kevin Trenberth, a scientist at the National Center ...

First 'living shoreline' in CT proposed near former Hepburn estate

Shoreline Times

Living shorelines create a more natural wave mitigation than having waves crash against a sea wall. If approved and completed, “it will be one of the ...

Volcano alert/watch

Volcano watch aims to improve eruption forecasting in order to save lives

The Irish Times

The data from the sensors feed into volcano forecasting. ... The situation is like weather forecasting, they say, where science forecasts the probability of ...

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and the Pacific

Fiji still counting cost of Cyclone Harold

Two weeks since Cyclone Harold swept through Fiji, the government says the country is still counting its losses.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Met Office forecast: Soaring temperatures to return after weekend washout

Express.co.uk

Met Office forecast: Soaring temperatures to return after weekend washout. WEATHER has been split across the country this weekend, with showers to ...

International news and research

New model to improve accuracy of storm surge analysis

Posted: 21 Apr 2020 08:18 AM PDT

A new international study applied a novel statistical method that -- for the first time -- captures the important interactions between tides and storm surges. These natural forces are caused by meteorological effects, such as strong winds and low atmospheric pressure, and their impacts have often been difficult to understand because of the complexity of Mother Nature.

Fog harp harvests water even in the lightest fog

Posted: 17 Apr 2020 08:44 AM PDT

What do you get when you cross a novel approach to water harvesting with a light fog? The answer: a lot more water than you expected.

COVID-19: Aeolus and weather forecasts

Phys.Org

We were all thrilled when ECMWF started using its data for weather forecasting but we never expected a situation that's been brought about by ...

Aviation

Airlines plan furloughs; Air NZ sees smaller carrier

Major global airlines have projected layoffs, furloughs and capacity cuts over the next few months, with Air New Zealand warning it expected staffing levels to be 30% lower than it is now, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Virgin confirms voluntary administration

Troubled airline Virgin Australia has confirmed it is in voluntary administration.

Its board of directors has appointed Vaughan Strawbridge, John Greig, Sal Algeri and Richard Hughes of Deloitte as voluntary administrators of the airline and a number of its subsidiaries.

Air New Zealand releases new domestic schedule for alert level 3

Air New Zealand has released a new limited domestic schedule for flights during alert level 3.

Coronavirus: Air New Zealand proposal to close Nelson heavy maintenance facility 'devastating'

A proposal to close Air New Zealand's heavy maintenance facility in Nelson resulting in the loss of 100 highly-skilled jobs is "devastating", say regional leaders.

Coronavirus: What planes are still in New Zealand skies?

A small number of airlines are still flying to New Zealand, with some Chinese carriers continuing to operate long-haul routes.

Coronavirus: Air NZ may set unwanted record, releases Alert 3 schedule

Air New Zealand could be heading for an unwanted record, as it releases details of flights under Alert Level 3 next week.

What will the airline industry look like post COVID-19? Why the era of cheap flights might be over

15 APR 2020

Justin Wastnage

United States Studies Centre (USyd)

What will the airline industry look like post COVID-19? Why the era of cheap flights might be over

Climate change / global warming

Councils tackling sea-level rise want central government direction

The first councils to tackle the impact of rising sea-levels and who should pay for it have struck a myriad of 'roadblocks' and want central government direction.

Energy and Mining

Tasman powers on with Waimea hydro dam

Tasman is powering ahead with an idea to build a hydro electricity station on the Waimea Community Dam south of Richmond.

Seabed mining bid goes to Supreme Court

Trans Tasman Resources says it is going to take its bid to mine millions of tonnes of ironsands off the coast of Taranaki to New Zealand's highest court.

Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture

Data driven farming comes of age

New Electronics

There are IoT devices, advanced sensors, the use of data capture, ... “When it comes to weather forecasting, Arable uses the measurements on the ...

Infrastructure

NZ Transport Agency planning for restart of billions-worth of roading projects

Planning is underway to restart significant roading projects such as Transmission Gully, untouched since lockdown.

Lightning

Pumping Charged Particles onto Airplane Surfaces Could Reduce Lightning Strikes

Tests reveal that an imbalance of charge buildup can trigger airplane lightning

Tourism

Local tourism: Big change needed for the new New Zealand

OPINION: Let's be blunt: it's too expensive to be a tourist in our own country.

From the \$5000 a night lodge, to the \$550 kayak trip - the tourism industry in New Zealand needs to change. And change quickly.

Innovation and technologies and AI

Black Swift inks deal to develop military weather drone

Boulder Daily Camera

BOULDER — Black Swift Technologies LLC, a specialized engineering firm, was recently contracted by the U.S. Air Force to develop a weather forecasting and atmospheric profiling drone to help improve military cargo drop ...

Safety/ wellbeing

Resilience App For Leaders Around The Globe Launched By NZ Company

With Covid-19 threatening the livelihood of corporations around the world, a New Zealand company has launched a business-focused resilience resource for leaders and employees to help them thrive, even through the challenging times ahead.

Things to entertain

Do Māori Made Easy with me: Week one – pronunciation

She's not a teacher or a fluent speaker – she just wants to practise te reo Māori with you! Join Leonie Hayden as she works through the first four weeks of Scotty Morrison's Māori Made Easy thanks to Penguin Random House NZ (buy it [here](#)[LS10] [LS12]).

'King Tide And The Sunny Day Flood'

'King Tide And The Sunny Day Flood' is the new track from Billy Bragg's brand new mini album 'Bridges Not Walls' Out Now! Available to download or stream here: <https://BBragg.Ink.to/BNW>

Emergency preparedness / disaster planning / resilience

Coronavirus: Amid Covid-19 restrictions, what happens if a natural disaster hits?

Under alert levels 4 and 3 for Covid-19 we should stay home in our bubbles as much as possible.

But there are exceptions - and they include emergency evacuation orders in a natural disaster such as a major quake, flooding or a tsunami.

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.

Southwest Research Institute wins NOAA space weather contract

SpaceNews - April 15, 2020

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration awarded a \$12.9 million contract to the Southwest Research Institute to design and build the Space Weather Follow-On (SWFO) Lagrange-1 Magnetometer.

Researchers working to detect, track tornadoes

Phys.org - April 14, 2020

Under a dull, overcast sky, University of Mississippi researchers trek across a damp pasture just north of Huntsville, braving the freeze and checking an array of 12 sensors that scientists at the UM National Center for Physical Acoustics are using in their research into tornado detection and tracking.

How COVID-19 Interferes With Weather Forecasts and Climate Research

Smithsonian Magazine - April 20, 2020

‘The break in the scientific record is probably unprecedented,’ one ecologist says.

NASA Observes Rainfall from Tornado-spawning Storms in the Southern U.S.

NASA - April 15, 2020

For two days in mid-April, severe storms raced through the southern U.S. and NASA created an animation using satellite data to show the movement and strength of those storms.

Is Reduced Air Travel Impacting The Accuracy Of Weather Forecasts?

Forbes - April 17, 2020

Airplanes have been gathering weather data for nearly a century and air travel substantially changed the way the National Weather Bureau, now the National Weather Service, created forecasts.

Persistent Cloudless Skies Helped Fuel Exceptional Greenland Ice Melt

Scientific American - April 16, 2020

Warm temperatures, clear weather and little snow all played a role in last summer’s major melt event on the ice sheet.

Unusual Weather Leads to Ozone Low Over the Arctic

NASA Earth Observations - April 17, 2020

In 2020, ozone concentrations above the Arctic reached a record low for the month of March. In an analysis of satellite observations, scientists found that stratospheric ozone levels reached their lowest point—205 Dobson Units—on March 12, 2020.

Earth Day 2020 Goes Digital

The Weather Channel - April 17, 2020

With COVID-19 disrupting all semblance of normalcy and routine in the world, the organizers of Earth Day's 50th anniversary celebration ditched their usual live concert and gathering on Capital Mall for the April 22 festivities, rescheduling it for October.

Ball Aerospace Conducts Critical Design Review for Space Force's Next-Gen Operational Weather Satellite

Yahoo! Finance - April 20, 2020

Ball Aerospace conducted a critical design review (CDR) of the Weather System Follow-on (WSF) satellite mission, which it is building for the U.S. Space Force Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC).

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Weather Eye with John MAUNDER

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14564-tauranga-march-average-afternoon-temperatures-19132020.html>

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14592-tropospheric-temperatures-january-1979-to-march-2020.html>

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