

## New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService Library

### MetService mentions

#### Hawke's Bay's weekend weather set to be fine for last supermoon of 2020

New Zealand Herald

A Metservice spokesman said there would be bits of cloud on Saturday and Sunday nights but that should not interfere with moon watching.

#### Farmers likely to feel effects of drought throughout winter

Stuff.co.nz

The dry weather over summer and autumn put many farmers on the back foot when it came to growing winter feed. Pictured here is Colin Gibbs ...

#### Revealing the extent of the Hawke's Bay drought

New images released by Nasa show the impact of the drought on the Hawke's Bay region.

#### Hawke's Bay misses out on rain brought by weather systems

Sheep and beef farmer Andrew Russell is old enough to remember the drought of 1982-1983, which his family recall as particularly challenging.

#### Nights Science - World Weather

Our well-read weatherman Erick Brenstrum is back for a chat. Tonight there's some interesting discoveries lurking below the Black Sea.

## WMO

#### More heavy rainfall hits East Africa amid locust invasion

Posted:

Exceptionally heavy seasonal rains across East Africa since late April have resulted in widespread floods that caused a heavy loss of life and property, compounding the risks to human health and food...

### COVID-19 impacts observing system

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is concerned about the increasing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the quantity and quality of weather observations and forecasts, as well as atmospheric...

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

#### 'Fire-breathing dragon of clouds' among rising storm risks

Insurance News

Fire-generated thunderstorms in Australia during summer are among recent events highlighting rising global risks from ... Large fires can create their own weather systems, causing lightning and powerful winds that increase the fire's ...

#### BOM set to build new \$5 million Cullulleraine weather radar to service north-west Victoria

ABC News

"We want the best possible weather information for our farmers and anyone who relies on the radar and the weather. And so do many people." ...

### **Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe**

#### The polar vortex is bringing snow to the US this weekend, because chaos loves company

Popular Science

This is "one of the coldest modified polar air masses on record so late in the season," Michael Palmer, a meteorologist at the Weather Company, told ...

## **International news and research**

### Wetter climate is likely to intensify global warming

Posted: 06 May 2020 10:36 AM PDT

New study indicates the increase in rainfall forecast by global climate models is likely to hasten the release of carbon dioxide from tropical soils, further intensifying global warming by adding to human emissions of this greenhouse gas into Earth's atmosphere.

### What is a 'pneumonia front' and why is it unique to southeast Wisconsin?

fox6now.com

In short, it's a regionally termed phenomenon you won't find in meteorology textbooks coined in the 1960s by Milwaukee's very own National Weather ...

### Areas under PaK now in IMD's forecast

Greater Kashmir

The IMD's Regional Meteorological Centre has started including cities ... weather warnings to Pakistan, Afghanistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, ...

### Winter warm spells see an increase in duration and frequency in UK temperature records

Posted: 06 May 2020 09:37 AM PDT

Warm winter spells have increased in frequency and duration two- to three times over since 1878.

### The truth about electrocution, the natural structures created by the power of lightning

On rare occasions, when lightning strikes sand or earth, extreme heat shock can create wonderful and fragile hollow glass tubes. Most of the time, in fact, these works of art created by the power of nature are hidden under our feet.

The result of this phenomenon is called "fulgurite"." Tall you have to do is go to any beach and start digging"said Martin Uman of the University of Florida, one of the world's leading lightning experts. Despite being very fascinating, there are many false images surrounding these creations.

## **Air quality / air pollution**

## Air Pollution May Make COVID-19 Symptoms Worse

Research linking air pollution to elevated death rates remains preliminary but scientists hope the pandemic spurs tighter air quality regulations

## Air pollution associated with greater virulence of COVID-19

A new study published on the preprint server [medRxiv](#)\* in April 2020 provides convincing evidence that air pollution contributes to greater severity of COVID-19. The researchers say, “This suggests the detrimental impact climate change will have on the trajectory of future respiratory epidemics.”

## **Aviation**

### Covid-19: Air New Zealand to resume flights to most domestic airports in alert level 2

Air New Zealand will return to flying to the majority of domestic airports when New Zealand enters alert level 2.

### Counting down to next Rocket Lab launch

Gisborne Herald

Testing has resumed at Rocket Lab's Mahia launch complex, with another launch expected soon, the United States-based space company says.

### Coronavirus: Originair confident it will weather Covid-19 storm

Stuff.co.nz

He said while it had been a difficult time, the company had managed to retain all of its staff (equivalent to about 14 full-time jobs) throughout the ...

## **Business/Insurance**

### Japan:Tokio Marine and IBM develop wind loss model

Asia Insurance Review

... responses and weather data from IBM's group company The Weather Company (TWC), the Japanese e insurance giant says in a statement.

## **Climate change / global warming**

### Climate change could reawaken Indian Ocean El Niño

Posted: 06 May 2020 01:22 PM PDT

Global warming is approaching a tipping point that during this century could reawaken an ancient climate pattern similar to El Niño in the Indian Ocean, new research has found.

### Extreme heat predicted to trap millions indoors by 2060

Extreme heat and humidity are increasing across the globe, threatening millions of lives and economies in places where it could become fatal to work outdoors, scientists say.

## **Covid-19 / Business**

### Māori seek ideas on Aotearoa's future after pandemic

The Iwi Chairs Forum is launching a campaign today encouraging people to share their vision for New Zealand post-Covid-19.

### Covid 19 coronavirus: What would a trans-Tasman bubble look like?

Australians and New Zealanders who are desperate to escape to each other's countries could soon have their wish, but passengers would need to adhere to strict travel safety protocols.

### Government pulls forward biosecurity, conservation projects to provide work

The government has pushed forward 55 biosecurity and conservation projects to provide work for up to 160 people who've lost their jobs during the lockdown.

## **Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture**

### New Zealand horticulture exports grow to \$6.2 billion

New Zealand horticulture exports reached a record breaking \$6.2 billion in the year ending June 2019 - an increase of \$720 million from the previous year, and more than 10% of New Zealand's total merchandise export income.

## **Health**

[How will climate change impact mosquito-borne diseases?](#)

The Weather Network

During The Weather Network's latest 'Viral Weather' panel discussion on COVID-19 and the climate, Chris St. Clair asked Dr. Marta Shocket, ..

## **Water**

[NZ's polluted waterways threaten our health](#)

Today, Newsroom begins a special documentary and podcast series on the vital role water will play in New Zealand's future.

Made by Wellington film-maker Magnolia Lowe, *Water—Rāpuhia, kīmihia: Quest for knowledge* highlights the work of three leading researchers as they dedicate their lives to protecting different aspects of one of our most precious resources.

Part one profiles the work of ecologist Dr Mike Joy, a Senior Research Fellow in the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies in Wellington School of Business and Government at Te Herenga Waka—Victoria University of Wellington.

Joy has been labelled 'Doctor Doom' for his pessimistic views on the state of our fresh water.

## **Journal and articles online**

[A weather system perspective on winter-spring rainfall variability in southeastern Australia during El Niño](#)

Seraphine Hauser, Christian M. Grams, Michael J. Reeder, Shayne McGregor, Andreas H. Fink, Julian F. Quinting

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