

New Zealand weather and climate news

provided courtesy of MetService Library

MetService mentions

Chilly wintry blast: Snow falls to lowest levels this winter

New Zealand Herald

MetService is also warning Otago is also in for snow flurries this morning. A road snowfall warning is in place for the Dunedin to Waitati highway and ...

Wintry blast affects much of the South

Parts of the South have woken up to snow, rain and wind today as a short, sharp southwest change hits the region.

Snow warning for South

Otago Daily Times

... and Southland, south of Mossburn, and Clutha, with periods of snow above 400 metres from 2pm today until 4pm on Thursday, MetService said.

Weather: Wintry blast brings 110kmh gales, thunderstorms and heavy snow

Stuff.co.nz

MetService is forecasting southwest gales gusting to 110kmh in exposed places through the day in Northland, Auckland and Coromandel Peninsula.

Wild weather to batter NZ for 24 hours

Otago Daily Times

MetService said significant swells would pound west coast beaches of both islands for the coming two days. West Coast Waves In addition to gale ...

Balmy weather set to turn today

Otago Daily Times

This is part of a strong "southwest change" that was set to bring rain across the regions today, MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree said.

Weather: Snow 'back on the cards' this week, reaching as low as 200m

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree explains the weather forecast for Tuesday, July 21, until Thursday, July 23. Trustworthy, accurate and reliable ...

Dunedin running hot and cold: From 17degC to snow to 200m

Otago Daily Times

Dunedin has reached a balmy 17degC, but don't expect the warm weather to last, with the MetService expecting snow as low as 200m in the South on ...

Rain in Whanganui tops up dry subsoils

New Zealand Herald

Anything over 10mm an hour is considered heavy in an urban situation, MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree said. She said 2020 is tracking a ...

Expect more large destructive weather patterns

Climate change is the likely cause of Northland's extreme weather woes, climate and weather researcher James Renwick says.

Avalanche risk reaches dangerous levels as cold front hits south

Stuff.co.nz

MetService issued a heavy rain warning for Westland, the Canterbury and Otago headwaters and Fiordland on Tuesday. Westland, south of Otira, was ...

Northland storm: Whangārei CBD businesses caught off guard by flooding

New Zealand Herald

Owner Lynne Bennett said it was ironic only some businesses on Rathbone St bore the brunt of the stormy weather, although all were on the same ..

Severe wind watch for the Kaimai Range and Coromandel

New Zealand Herald

According to MetService, strong to gale-force west to southwest winds will sweep across the country. Meanwhile over Hawkes Bay south of Hastings ...

Waterlogged: Thunderstorms for the North Island, deluge for the south

New Zealand Herald

MetService has issued heavy rain warnings for Westland and Fiordland, and a heavy rain watch is in place for Mt Taranaki as the front tracks north today.

Northland floods: No hope for drying out in storm-hit Far North

New Zealand Herald

MetService has issued heavy rain warnings and watches for Westland and Fiordland and the Canterbury and Otago headwaters with thunderstorms ...

Northland storm: Whangārei mayor Sheryl Mai gives district's infrastructure a 7/10

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Rob Kerr said while the storm was extraordinary, it being dubbed as a storm only seen every 500 years was slightly ...

Once-in-500-year storm floods Northland, traps residents

New Zealand Herald

A MetService severe thunderstorm watch remains in force for Northland until 10.30am, meaning waking residents could be in for further flooding and ...

Weather: Bay of Plenty misses Coromandel heavy rain and winds

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree said the main areas to be hit yesterday was the northern part of the region, closest to the storm. The Kaimai ...

Lingering inversion layer expected to clear today

Otago Daily Times

The MetService is predicting winds will pick up later today and "flush out" the inversion cloud that has blanketed huge swathes of the lower South ..

Hawke's Bay rain set to continue until Thursday

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Rob Kerr said the last dry day Hawke's Bay had was July 12. The next dry day is likely to be either this Thursday or Friday.

Heavy rain on the way for Northland as clean-up continues

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Rob Kerr said Gisborne, also hard-hit by flooding, could be in for more rain. One of the slips that has closed SH1 through the ..

'It will be extensive and expensive': Civil Defence surveys Northland's clean-up job after flooding ...

Stuff.co.nz

Fire and Emergency New Zealand responded to more than 200 weather-related incidents in Northland between 6pm Friday and 5.30am Saturday.

Heavy rain forecast for lower South Island

Stuff.co.nz

MetService's forecast for Monday afternoon and evening, issued midday Sunday. Read and orange indicate the heaviest rainfall, with snow possible ..

House 'unscathed' after gale force winds sends shed roof onto state highway

Stuff.co.nz

MetService is reporting gales of around 90kmh have hit Paeroa with similar gusts hitting Te Aroha at the base of the Kaimai Ranges. MetService ...

'Kaimai Buster' strikes again as trampolines fly in Te Aroha

Stuff.co.nz

MetService is reporting gales of around 90kmh have hit Paeroa with similar gusts hitting Te Aroha at the base of the Kaimai Ranges. Fire crews were ...

Northland businesses begin clean up after floods wash out shops

Stuff.co.nz

Near the Whangārei Cruising Club a Coastguard boat was working to secure a starboard navigation beacon which had come loose in the wild weather.

Wild weather brings down trees, power lines, causes flooding in upper North Island

Stuff.co.nz

MetService issued heavy rain warnings for Northland, Coromandel Peninsula and Great Barrier Island for Wednesday and Thursday. On Thursday ..

Wild weather: Fierce winds topple trees, night-time deluge floods homes

New Zealand Herald

MetService lead forecaster Michael Martenns said eastern parts of Auckland were lashed by gusts of up to 110km/h overnight while Northland had ...

Whangārei Mitre 10 MEGA suffers flood damage estimated in the tens of thousands

New Zealand Herald

Described by MetService as a once-in-500-year storm, 220mm of rain fell on Whangārei last night causing major disruption today with slips and ...

Whangārei gets 220 millimetres of rain overnight, MetService says

RNZ

Whangārei gets 220 millimetres of rain overnight, MetService says.

Wild weather: Far North 'effectively cut off' by flooding, road closures

New Zealand Herald

MetService said the unusual low-pressure systems that caused the downpours combined with the 220mm of rain that fell on Whangārei created a ..

Storm floods Northland, over 250mm of rain in 24 hrs

Te Ao Māori News

The MetService's Alwyn Bakker told the NZ Herald it was an unprecedented event. "We see this kind of thing once in every 500 years," Bakker said.

Water supply worries after heavy rain floods Northland, with Gisborne area also hit hard

TVNZ

Fire and Emergency New Zealand attended more than 200 weather-related callouts overnight in the region. Civil Defence Northland reported about ...

Wild weather rips through the country, midday frost down south, severe thunderstorms threatening ...

New Zealand Herald

Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Fenz) were kept busy as the weather wreaked havoc, with one crew responding to a toppled-over shed in Te ...

Wild weather: '50 per cent of Coromandel inaccessible' - Civil defence

New Zealand Herald

MetService said the region got 410mm of rain in 24 hours. Sections of State Highway 25 remain closed by slips and flooding.

'Expect the unexpected': East Coast roads treacherous after flooding

Roads are still treacherous in the Gisborne and East Coast regions after weekend flooding.

Wild weather: 'It's only just begun' says MetService

New Zealand Herald

Heavy rain has started lashing Northland and a wind warning is in place. "It's only really just beginning," says MetService meteorologist Lewis Ferris.

Auckland drought: North Island downpours provide little relief

Downpours in parts of the North Island have provided almost no relief for drought-stricken Auckland.

Auckland Council urges rural residents to consider a second tank

OurAuckland

“Auckland's dam levels are still low, and the Met Office is forecasting a dry spring. Installing a tank now to collect the winter rain offers the best ...

Warmer winter in Wellington prompts signs of spring

Stuff.co.nz

MetService Meteorologist April Clark said the mean temperatures taken from Kelburn in Wellington for June and July 2020 show a warmer winter.

MetOcean

Council warns people away from Port Waikato beach as high waves expected

Stuff.co.nz

MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree explains the weather forecast for Tuesday, July 21, until Thursday, July 23. Winds could approach severe gale ...

Major Climate Modelling Effort Captures New Zealand's Exceptional Oceanic Conditions

The significant effort to develop and run New Zealand's own Earth System Model (NZESM), within the Deep South Challenge: Changing with our Climate, is leading to more realistic climate simulations for New Zealand.

NIWA Crew Face Record Time At Sea

Coronavirus border restrictions mean six NIWA staff face four straight months at sea in a bid to keep an international ocean research project afloat.

NZ's crumbling cliffs: It's not the biggest waves doing the most damage

Scientists have pinpointed the type of wave that does the most damage to cliffs that make up a quarter of New Zealand's coastline, finding that size isn't everything.

WMO

GRAPES regional NWP system updated to 3 km rapid circulation assimilation - China Meteorological Administration

On June 25, GRAPES regional Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) system independently developed by China Meteorological Administration (CMA) was updated to version 5.0, which has realized the 3 km...

CMA global objective weather forecast product covers 11621 cities

Recently, the global objective weather forecast product independently developed by China Meteorological Administration (CMA) has been put into operation, which can provide real-time global 10-km grid...

South Asian forecasters are trained in flash floods warnings

A global initiative to improve early warnings of flash floods – one of the deadliest natural hazards – has advanced in South Asia, just as the region is hit by unusually heavy monsoon rains and...

Prolonged Siberian heat "almost impossible without climate change"

The recent prolonged Siberia heat from January to June 2020 would have been almost impossible without the influence of human-caused climate change, according to a rapid attribution analysis by a...

Heavy rains and flooding hit large parts of Asia

Posted:

Unusually heavy monsoon rainfall and flooding is affecting India and neighbouring South Asian countries, as well as China and Japan. This has caused major disruption, displacement and loss of life,...

New climate predictions assess global temperatures in coming five years

The annual mean global temperature is likely to be at least 1° Celsius above pre-industrial levels (1850-1900) in each of the coming five years (2020-2024) and there is a 20% chance that it will...

June sees more global heat, especially in Arctic Siberia

June 2020 was just 0.01°C below the record-breaking temperatures of June 2019, with exceptional heat in Arctic Siberia, according to the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S)...

ECMWF

Summer 2020 Newsletter published

ECMWF

The summer 2020 issue of the ECMWF Newsletter is now available. As well as news about ECMWF staff and events, it features articles about new ...

Volcano alert/watch

New alert system would have given warning about Whakaari/White Island eruption

A new volcano warning system - which would have alerted people to the Whakaari/White Island eruption 16 hours before it happened - is ready to be made operational.

NIWA investigate seafloor changes after Whakaari/White Island eruption

Stuff.co.nz

Scientists will investigate the depths around Whakaari/White Island with sound beams to see whether last year's eruption has altered the seafloor.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Australia and Pacific

Storm warning: a new long-range tropical cyclone outlook is set to reduce disaster risk for Pacific Island communities

Tropical cyclones are among the most destructive weather systems on Earth, and the Southwest Pacific region is very exposed and vulnerable to these extreme events.

July 19, 1965 – the day Queensland froze and snow fell in the tropics

Better known for rainforests, waterfalls and beaches than cold weather, unearthed government rainfall records have reminded north Queensland locals of a time when snow fell well north of the Tropic of Capricorn.

Hurricane Douglas forms in the Pacific, could strike Hawaii as a tropical system next week

WUSA9.com

According to AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Rob Miller, if Douglas tracks directly over Hawaii, it could bring heavy rainfall that can cause flash ...

Weather radar stations for western NSW 'game changers' for farmers

Three new weather stations in the western region of New South Wales have been labelled as "game changers" by farmers.

Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook: July 2020

The Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook: July 2020 reflects the main bushfire management priorities in each state and territory from July to September. It is particularly relevant to parts of northern Australia that have entered (or are soon to enter) their fire season – in Queensland, the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

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

In Pictures: China faces worst floods in 30 years

Aljazeera.com

China's worst floods in recent decades came in 1998 during an El Nino weather effect, killing more than 4,000 people, mostly around the Yangtze.

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

Hot weather latest: Sweltering heatwave from Europe to hit Britain with 34C blast

Daily Express

Met Office forecaster Aidan McGivern explained: "Further south we keep the sunshine and the warmth for one more day, before it turns more widely ...

The US has already endured 10 weather disasters that exceeded \$1 billion in damages this year

WCNC.com

accuweather. The US has already endured 10 weather disasters that exceeded \$1 billion in damages this year. That makes 2020 the sixth ...

International news and research

Using techniques from astrophysics, researchers can forecast drought up to ten weeks ahead

Researchers have developed a system which can accurately predict a period of drought in East Africa up to ten weeks ahead.

Climate change will cause more extreme wet and dry seasons

The world can expect more rainfall as the climate changes, but it can also expect more water to evaporate, complicating efforts to manage reservoirs and irrigate crops in a growing world, according to new research.

Central Taiwan weather station becomes first to welcome visitors

Focus Taiwan News Channel

... weather data for the central Taiwan county, which is agriculture-oriented, ... In the 6,000 square-meter venue, visitors can see weather forecasting ...

Cutting-edge technologies make flood prevention smarter

ecns

Meteorological service represents the very first line of defense in disaster prevention and relief. China's weather forecast technology has continuously ...

The medieval roots of modern weather forecasts

RTE.ie

Scholars such as al-Battani and al-Kindi compiled new data into updated planetary tables and refined Ptolemy's methods of weather forecasting.

Accurate Weather Forecasts 28 Days Out

Meteorologists are using supercomputers and the latest data about climate phenomena to predict temperature and precipitation four weeks in the future\

A Robotic Mini Armada Will Probe the Secrets of Hurricanes

The torpedo-shaped ocean gliders can survive in stormy seas and can glean information satellites cannot

NOAA storm-spotting app was suspended after being overrun with false and hateful reports

Washington Post

The National Weather Service has received scores of false weather reports recently through a popular citizen science application that is supposed to ...

Weather companies

Partrac Backs Irish Offshore Wind Projects

Offshore WIND

Partrac has provided metocean survey and consultancy services for three offshore wind projects currently under development in Ireland. Partrac said it ...

AccuWeather Launches Redesigned App with Enhanced Features and Better User Experience

PRNewswire

The reengineered app experience, paired with AccuWeather's proven superior accuracy and popular features, allow everyone from everyday users to ...

Aviation

How weather information technology is helping business aviation

Business Airport International

For business aviation companies operating and working with smaller aircraft, that often means delays or diversions. Significantly, weather forecasting ...

Business/Insurance

Shipping Losses at Record Lows, but COVID-19 Impact Could Threaten Safety: Allianz

Insurance Journal

Bad weather accounted for one in five losses. Issues with car carriers and roll-on/roll-off (ro-ro) vessels remain among the biggest safety issues.

Philippine waters among 'global hotspots' for ship loss

Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide

... hotspots where almost a third of the world's ships are lost yearly, mainly due to higher trading activity, congested ports, old fleets and bad weather, ...

US records \$2.3bn+ economic loss from severe weather in June: Aon

Reinsurance News

Global re/insurance broker Aon has released its latest Global Catastrophe Recap report, which evaluates the impact of the natural disaster events that ...

Australia: Actuaries' climate index shows a lull in extreme events but a persistent trend in overall ...

Asia Insurance Review

The weather has largely returned to typical levels in Australia after a period of extremely destructive bushfires and storms, says the Actuaries Institute ...

Emergency services

Search and rescue gets funding boost to save lives

Beehive.govt.nz

Transport Minister Phil Twyford announced today a \$58.4 million boost over four years for New Zealand Search and Rescue, recreational boating ..

Farming/horticulture/Aquaculture/forestry

Agronomist notebook: The beauty of having on-farm weather station

Daily Nation

To minimise losses due to unpredictable change of weather conditions, farmers need to embrace automatic weather stations. The gadget has sensors ...

Transport/roading/shipping/freight

Weilbach launch new Weather Routing Optimizer in Wendis Viewer: Danish marine suppliers ...

Hellenic Shipping News Worldwide

... updated electronic nautical charts and calculate routes based on weather, nautical and maritime conditions, and the exact dimensions of each ship.

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.

NASA's Aqua Satellite Corrals Three Western Fires in Utah and Nevada

NASA - July 15, 2020

NASA's Aqua satellite took this image of several fires in Utah, including one on the border with Nevada, by using the MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer) instrument on July 14, 2020.

Divining monsoon rainfall months in advance with satellites and simulations

ScienceDaily - July 16, 2020

Researchers have developed a strategy that more accurately predicts seasonal rainfall over the Asian monsoon region and could provide tangible improvements to water resource management on the Indian subcontinent, impacting more than one fifth of the world's population.

2020 records 10th billion-dollar weather event

USA Today - July 20, 2020

For the sixth consecutive year, there have been at least 10 weather events in the United States that exceeded \$10 billion in damage

Siberian heat streak and Arctic temperature record virtually 'impossible' without global warming, study says

The Washington Post - July 15, 2020

Research shows one the strongest links to global warming of any extreme event yet investigated.

Coronavirus is messing with the weather forecast too

Phys.org - July 17, 2020

A new study in AGU's journal Geophysical Research Letters finds the world lost 50-75% of its aircraft weather observations between March and May of this year, when many flights were grounded due to the pandemic.

John Lewis And His Environmental Legacy

Forbes - July 18, 2020

John Lewis' civil rights legacy helped shape a nation. He cared about climate change and the environment too.

A 440-mile-long "Megafash" Enters the Record Books as the Longest Lightning Bolt Ever Observed

Discover - July 20, 2020

New technology enables scientists to document megaflashes spawned by monster storms.

Heaviest rainfall 'since at least 1790' causes apocalyptic scene in Sicily

Yahoo! News - July 17, 2020

Dramatic cellphone footage showed emergency crews searching for people thought to be trapped in cars near a flooded underpass, as the city of Palermo, located on the Italian island of Sicily, experienced what the mayor there described as the heaviest rainfall in more than 200 years on Wednesday.

Keeping a steady eye on sea level change from space

Phys.org - July 13, 2020

The continuous record of ocean height that they've built has helped researchers reveal the inner workings of weather phenomena like El Niño and to forecast how much the ocean could encroach on coastlines around the world.

NASA Tracks Fay's Remnants into Eastern Canada

NASA - July 12, 2020

Visible imagery from NASA's Terra satellite showed that Post-Tropical Cyclone Fay had moved into eastern Canada by July 11.

The most powerful renewable energy

BBC - July 13, 2020

The world's most relied-upon renewable energy source isn't wind or sunlight, but water.

Rare Peek at Patagonia in Winter

NASA - July 13, 2020

In June 2020, just the right weather patterns were in place to provide a clear view of the snowy landscape.

US hits 10th billion-dollar weather disaster of the year -- at a record pace

CNN - July 12, 2020

The United States has hit its 10th billion-dollar weather disaster earlier than any other year, making 2020 the sixth consecutive year with at least 10 extreme weather events -- also a record, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

NASA analyzes Tropical Cyclone Cristina's water vapor concentration

EurekaAlert! - July 8, 2020

When NASA's Aqua satellite passed over Tropical Storm Cristina in the Eastern Pacific Ocean on July 8, it gathered water vapor data that provided information about the intensity of the storm.

Ocean warming trends dwarf cooling trends, NOAA analysis finds

NOAA - July 13, 2020

Measuring changes in that heat content over time has been a subject of intense scientific research, with analyses growing more precise as observing systems expand and the duration of measurements grows.

A silent killer, the heat wave of 1980 remains among the nation's deadliest weather events

The Washington Post - July 11, 2020

Thousands may have died in the heat wave 40 years ago.

Are You Guilty Of 'Motivated Reasoning' With Weather Forecasts Or Coronavirus Messaging? - Find Out Now

Forbes - July 9, 2020

Our wants or needs can shape how we consume information about coronavirus, weather, and other things. Are you guilty?

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WeatherEye with John Maunder

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14890-tropospheric-temperatures-january-1979-to-june-2020.html>

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/14875-tauranga-june-average-afternoon-temperatures-19132020.html>

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