

New Zealand weather and climate news

Courtesy of MetService Library (**MetService focus**)

Strong winds trap passengers on Picton ferry

The Interislander ferry has successfully berthed in Picton after a 12-hour journey but more ferries are still at sea.

Highways closed after high winds bring down trees

Two of the main routes in the central North Island have been closed to traffic, due to high winds toppling trees onto the road.

Squashed car saves house from being damaged by fallen trees as gale force winds whip across ...

Stuff.co.nz

MetService had strong wind warning in place for Taranaki. However, this expired at 9pm on Tuesday, and was being replaced by a wind watch.

Taranaki region facing winds up to 120km/h as weather causes damage

RNZ

MetService is predicting gusts of up to 120km/h until 9pm tonight. The strongest winds are expected to affect areas north of and near Mt Taranaki.

Better weather promised for BOP residents

SunLive

MetService is suggesting an improvement in the weather, after the region was pummeled with heavy rain and strong winds overnight. In the 24 hours ...

Calmer weather on the way after welcome rain, but storminess still to come

Stuff.co.nz

MetService was warning periods of heavy rain were still possible for Gisborne and Hawke's Bay through to 9pm Tuesday, with the heaviest falls in the ...

Hawke's Bay to get tail end of bad weather affecting North Island

New Zealand Herald

MetService forecaster Fulong Lu said rain will develop on Monday afternoon, continuing into Tuesday when it could possibly become heavy.

Rain and wind warning as rivers start to rise across Hawke's Bay

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Andy Best said those in the area should keep a close eye on the rainfall across the region. "We are saying to expect another .

New Zealand weather: North Island beset by gale-force winds, heavy rain during Auckland's ...

Newshub

Meanwhile those in the Coromandel Peninsula and Bay of Plenty could be in for a soaking, with **MetService** issuing heavy rain warnings for the next ...

Wild weather: Heavy rain and wind force school closures, bring down powerlines

Newstalk ZB

The downpours in Auckland this morning are likely to be followed by another burst overnight, according to the **MetService**. Several weather watches ...

Weather: Northland, Auckland in for more wet weather after soggy start to the week

New Zealand Herald

But by Wednesday the wild weather will start to ease, **Metservice** forecaster Cam Coutts said. Auckland saw between 15-83mm of rain ...

Heavy rain warning for Hawke's Bay after a month without a single drop

New Zealand Herald

MetService meteorologist Tahlia Crabtree said the rain would start developing on Monday morning and gradually start to increase with peak rates of 10 ...

Taranaki under strong wind warning for Tuesday

Stuff.co.nz

Taranaki is under a strong wind warning from 3am Tuesday, **Metservice** said. Tuesday's forecast of occasional rain comes with a warning of gusts that ...

Wind gusts topple trees and cut electricity supply in Taranaki

Strong winds in New Plymouth have seen trees come down on roads, partially blocking them and seeing traffic redirected.

Flooding reports on SH2

SunLive

The **MetService** is forecasting periods of heavy rain until 11am tomorrow. "Expect 100mm to 130mm of rain to accumulate. "Peak rates of 10 to 20mm/h, ..

WMO

Artificial intelligence can boost disaster management

Posted:

The World Meteorological Organization is participating in a new interdisciplinary Focus Group to contend with the increasing prevalence and severity of natural hazards with the help of artificial...

Strengthening severe weather forecasting in South and Southeast Asia

Posted:

A 12-day online workshop on Severe Weather and Impact-Based Warning Services was conducted to strengthen capacity and resilience in South and South East Asia. WMO, in collaboration with the Asia...

Drier European summers projected under climate change - UK Met Office

Posted:

Climate change will affect how European countries experience summer. A new study projects that summers across the continent will become drier for most of Europe through the century. Furthermore,...

CMA observation quality management system passed ISO9001 certification - China Meteorological Administration

Posted:

In December, 2020, meteorological observation quality management system of China Meteorological Administration (CMA) passed the overall certification audit of China Quality Certificate Centre (CQC),...

Himalayan flood highlights high mountain hazards

Posted:

A relief and rescue operation is underway in Uttarakhand in the Indian Himalayas, after a part of the Nanda Devi glacier broke off and collapsed causing a massive massive flood in the Rishi Ganga...

Sand and dust storm hits Europe

Posted:

A major intrusion of sand and dust from the Sahara transformed skies and the landscape over Europe on the weekend of 6-7 February, with far-reaching impacts for the environment and health. It once...

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

Cyclone Yasa damage to Fiji worth nearly \$US250m

Cyclone Yasa caused an estimated loss of almost \$US250 million to infrastructure, livelihoods and agriculture, Fiji's government said.

Climate change report on Northern Mariana Islands describes extreme weather

Guam Pacific Daily News

A new report on climate change in the Northern Mariana Islands describes hotter **weather**, ...
More:Task force discusses **insurance** for Tumon Bay reef.

GCF funding to strengthen climate and oceans observations for Vanuatu

PreventionWeb

To monitor and collect **data** from the vast Vanuatu ocean areas inside its ... climate **data** that will benefit the **weather forecasting** services - VMGD, ...

Forecasting the impacts of extreme weather

Globally, warning information varies widely. Incorporating impact information into severe weather warnings contextualises and personalises the warning information, increasing the likelihood that individuals and communities will take preparatory action. However, providing useful and detailed impact information remains a challenge.

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

Strengthening severe weather forecasting capabilities in South and Southeast Asia

Mirage News

Strengthening severe **weather** forecasting capabilities in South and ... A 12-day online workshop on Severe **Weather** and Impact-Based Warning Services ... Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, **Thailand** and Viet Nam).

Extreme weather (and other news) – Americas and Europe

UK weather: More snow due after Thames freezes in London following days of sub-zero ...

The Independent

“For the past week the UK has been in a very cold airmass with **temperatures** well below average, this will change through the weekend as milder air

Anger at 'nonsensical' decision to put Met Office £1.2bn 'supercomputer' abroad

Daily Star

Labour MP Luke Pollard said he was baffled by the decision. He added: “The supercomputer is great news, we need the **Met Office** to have the best ..

International news and research

Increasing hurricane intensity around Bermuda linked to rising ocean temperatures

New research shows that hurricane maximum wind speeds in the subtropical Atlantic around Bermuda have more than doubled on average over the last 60 years due to rising ocean temperatures in the region.

Czech Hydrometeorological Institute puts NEC SX-Aurora TSUBASA supercomputer into operation

IT News Online

For us, NEC's vector **technology** that SX-Aurora TSUBASA provides represent a ... It was established in 1919 as the National **Meteorological** Institute.

Japan gives grant for weather forecasting

The News International

Ambassador of Japan Matsuda Kuninori, Japan International Cooperation Agency Pakistan Office chief representative Furuta Shigeki, **aviation** minister ...

Lucintel Anticipates That Asia Pacific Will Be the Fastest Growing Region in The Lidar Market

Yahoo Finance

... increasing use of LiDAR in environment, corridor mapping, **meteorology**, and urban planning applications. **Asia** Pacific region is expected to witness ...

New factor in the carbon cycle of the Southern Ocean identified

Posted: 09 Feb 2021 05:34 AM PST

The Southern Ocean is one of the key regions for understanding the climate system. The photosynthesis-performing plankton there contribute significantly to controlling the CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere. But which factors favor or limit plankton growth? Researchers have now published a study showing for the first time that, in addition to the micronutrient iron, manganese can play an important role. Among other things, the results have implications for understanding ice ages in the past.

Aviation

Bad weather forces Air New Zealand flight to Whangārei to return to Auckland

New Zealand Herald

The flight had been due to land at Whangārei at 5pm, where, according to **MetService**, rain is setting in this evening with heavy falls expected and an ...

New Virtual Reality Tool Aims To Reduce **Aviation Crashes**

NPR

The pilot of that **flight** pressed on even as the **weather** in southern California worsened. He kept talking to air traffic controllers and bypassing airports ...

Climate change / global warming

Climate change: Erratic weather slows down the economy

Posted: 08 Feb 2021 08:43 AM PST

If temperature varies strongly from day to day, the economy grows less. Through these seemingly small variations climate change may have strong effects on economic growth. Researchers juxtaposed observed daily temperature changes with economic data from more than 1,500 regions worldwide over 40 years - with startling results.

Emergency services / preparation

The January issue of the Australian Journal of Emergency Management is now online.

It contains the following articles

New technology boosts early warning capability in New Zealand

New Zealand's geographical and geological position in the Pacific puts its communities at risk, so early warning systems are a critical component of New Zealand's emergency management system.

Why some people don't respond to warnings

Warnings aim to empower people to respond to hazards in an appropriate and timely manner in order to reduce the risk of death, injury and damage. An important part of effective warnings is the message.

Energy and Mining

Thailand's Energy Absolute inks USD 50m green loan with ADB

Renewables Now

... and roll out fast and standard EV charges at stations across **Thailand**. The green loan is certified by the **Climate** Bond Initiative, being the first **climate** ...

Government (regional and national)

Policy Quarterly, published by the Institute for Governance and Policy Studies and the School of Government Te Kura Kāwanatanga at Victoria University of Wellington.

The February 2021 issue, **Focus on Covid-19: Governance in a pandemic**, is now online,

History

These trailblazers were America's 1st Black meteorologists

TribDem.com

The Tuskegee **Weather** Detachment, made up of 15 men, formed on March 21, 1942, originally organized as part of the Tuskegee Army **Flying** School,

Professional interest

LGNZ Climate Symposium

Special Invitation

Friday 26 February, Free Event

Featuring Deep South Challenge researchers

Dear Linda,

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and the Deep South Challenge: Changing with our Climate invite you to our joint Climate Change Symposium 2021.

This FREE Symposium is opportunity for local government people, researchers and industry professionals to discuss how local government is responding to climate change. The discussion will also cover gaps in current regulations as well as impending reform in climate change policy.

The programme includes sessions on:

- Climate change adaptation and local government
- Land Information Memoranda (LIM) developments
- Gaps in adaptation (a panel discussion)
- Māori approaches to climate change adaptation
- Young perspectives and how the new generation of local government representatives are approaching climate change
- Drought preparedness, flood mapping and access to river data
- Resource Management Act limitations including case law and reform developments.

Speakers include:

- **Belinda Storey**, Managing Director, Climate Sigma
- **Catherine Iorns**, Professor of Law at Victoria University of Wellington
- **James Hughes**, Climate and Resilience Specialist, Tonkin and Taylor
- **Kate Turner**, Climate change knowledge broker with the Deep South Challenge
- **Ramon Strong**, Group Manager River Management, Horizons Regional Council, deputy convenor for the River Managers Special Interest Group; member of the NZSOLD management committee
- **Ryan Paulik**, Hazard Analyst, NIWA
- **Sandy Morrison**, Waikato University and Vision Mātauranga programme lead with the Deep South Challenge
- **Sophie Handford**, Raumati Ward Councillor at Kāpiti Coast District Council

LGNZ is encouraging in-person attendance, and Zoom will not be available for this symposium. If you have any questions, please contact events@lgnz.co.nz.
Registrations for this FREE event are now open. You can [register by clicking this link](#).

Journal and articles online

The representation of winter Northern Hemisphere atmospheric blocking in ECMWF seasonal prediction systems

Paolo Davini, Antje Weisheimer, Magdalena Balmaseda, Stephanie J. Johnson, Franco Molteni, Christopher D. Roberts, Retish Senan, Timothy N. Stockdale

Version of Record online: 03 February 2021

This article investigates the advancements of atmospheric blocking representation in the seasonal prediction system by ECMWF, as shown by the figure. Blocking representation has improved considerably in the last 10 years and - although significant biases still exist in System5 especially over the European sector - in many regions biases have been halved.

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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.

NASA RainCube – A Pioneering Mini Weather Satellite – Ends Its Mission

SciTechDaily - February 12, 2021

RainCube, designed to study storms, was the first to fly a radar science instrument on a CubeSat.

Thundersleet Is A ‘Meteorological Thing’ And The U.S. South Just Experienced It

Forbes - February 15, 2021

The U.S. South is experiencing thundersleet. What is it and why does it happen?

China faces substantially hotter summers and winters by 2050

Phys.org - February 15, 2021

Temperatures in China may increase dramatically within the next three decades as the country begins to feel the effects of global greenhouse gas emissions, new research has shown.

Celebrating the Life of June Bacon-Bercey

Spectrum News - February 12, 2021

In honor of Black History Month, we are taking the opportunity to look back on and celebrate the life and work of meteorologist June Bacon-Bercey.

UGA's Shepherd is honored

WGAU - February 10, 2021

Marshall Shepherd, internationally noted weather and climate expert and professor at the University of Georgia, has been elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Strong Earthquake Rattles Japan Ahead of Fukushima Anniversary

The Weather Channel - February 13, 2021

The U.S. Geological Service gave the Saturday earthquake a rating of 7.1 magnitude.

Sea level data confirms climate modeling projections were right

Phys.org - February 15, 2021

Projections of rising sea levels this century are on the money when tested against satellite and tide-gauge observations, scientists find.

Increasing hurricane intensity around Bermuda linked to rising ocean temperatures

ScienceDaily - February 12, 2021

New research shows that hurricane maximum wind speeds in the subtropical Atlantic around Bermuda have more than doubled on average over the last 60 years due to rising ocean temperatures in the region.

Deadly cold snap shuts down central U.S. Texas is ground zero

The Washington Post - February 15, 2021

Over four million customers have lost power in Texas, as record-setting cold and snow and ice paralyze region.

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Weather Eye with John Maunder

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/15361-tauranga-annual-rainfalls-18982020.html>

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/15340-tauranga-january-average-afternoon-temperatures-19142021.html>

<https://thebfd.co.nz/2021/02/11/groundhog-day/>

This links below are to the podcast of my interview with Leighton Smith.

The whole podcast is 81 minutes long and I am on from about the 32nd minute and it lasts about 49 minutes.

[Listen on Newstalk ZB](#)

[Listen on iHeartRadio](#)

[Listen on iTunes](#)

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