



**RANGELANDS**  
NRM CLUSTER



IMPACTS & ADAPTATION  
I N F O R M A T I O N  
FOR AUSTRALIA'S NRM REGIONS



# **Rangeland Climate Change Information**

# The Rangeland Cluster



# The approach...



# Rangelands North – Key Messages

## KEY MESSAGES

Average temperatures will continue to increase in all seasons (**very high confidence**).

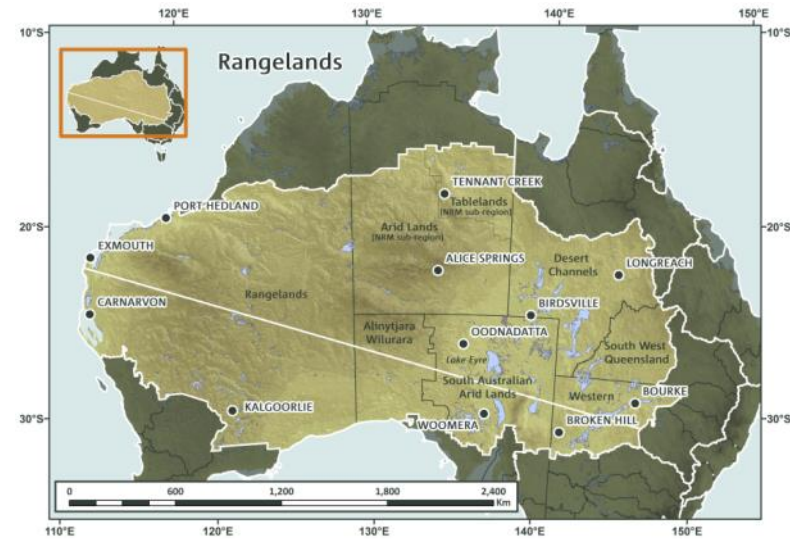
More hot days and warm spells are projected with **very high confidence**. Fewer frosts are projected with **high confidence**.

Changes to rainfall are possible but **unclear**.

Increased intensity of extreme rainfall events is projected, with **high confidence**.

Mean sea level will continue to rise and height of extreme sea-level events will also increase (**very high confidence**).

On annual and decadal basis, natural variability in the climate system can act to either mask or enhance any long-term human induced trend, particularly in the next 20 years and for rainfall.



**Projections – what  
the models told the  
climate scientists in  
CSIRO**

# Confidence...

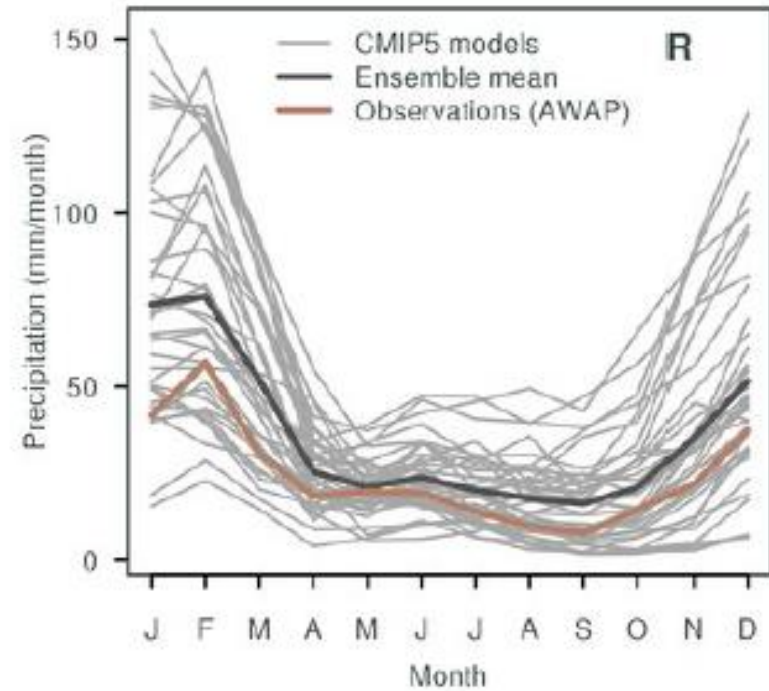
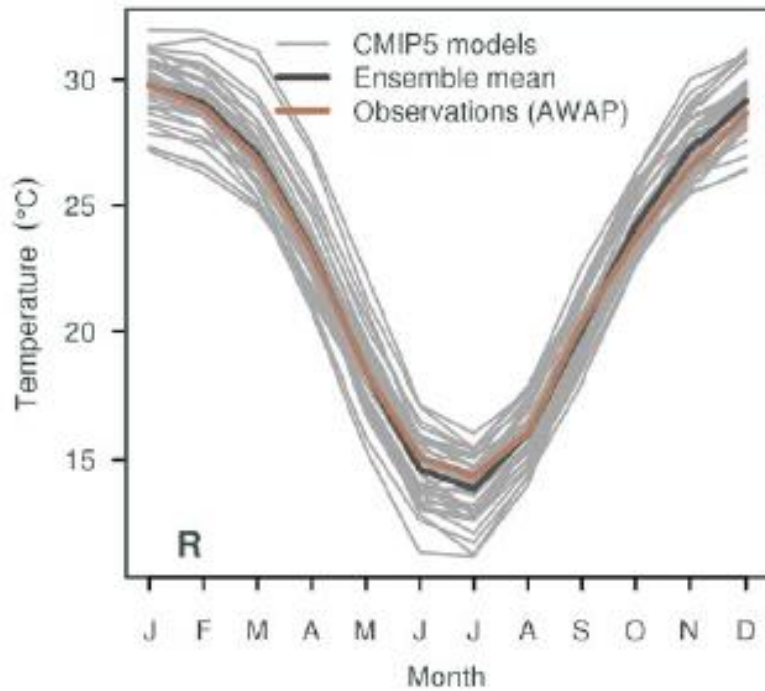
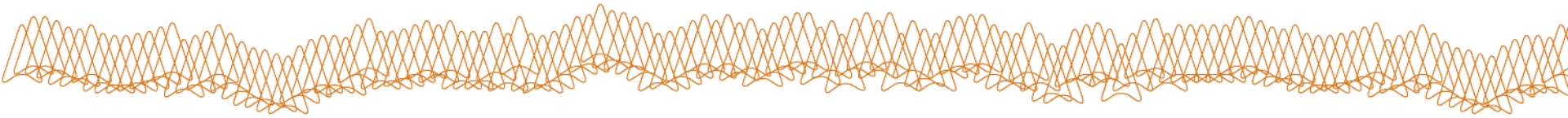
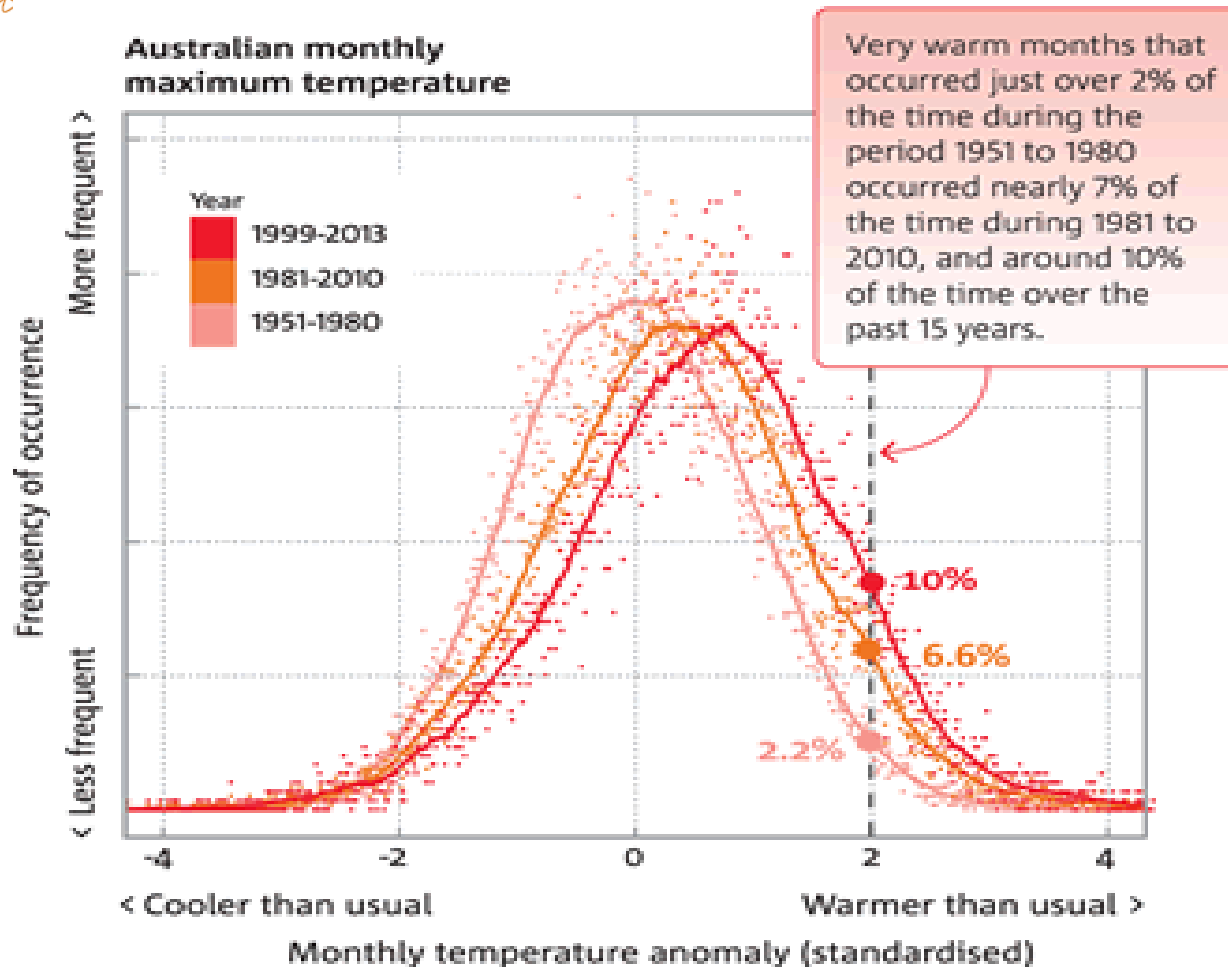


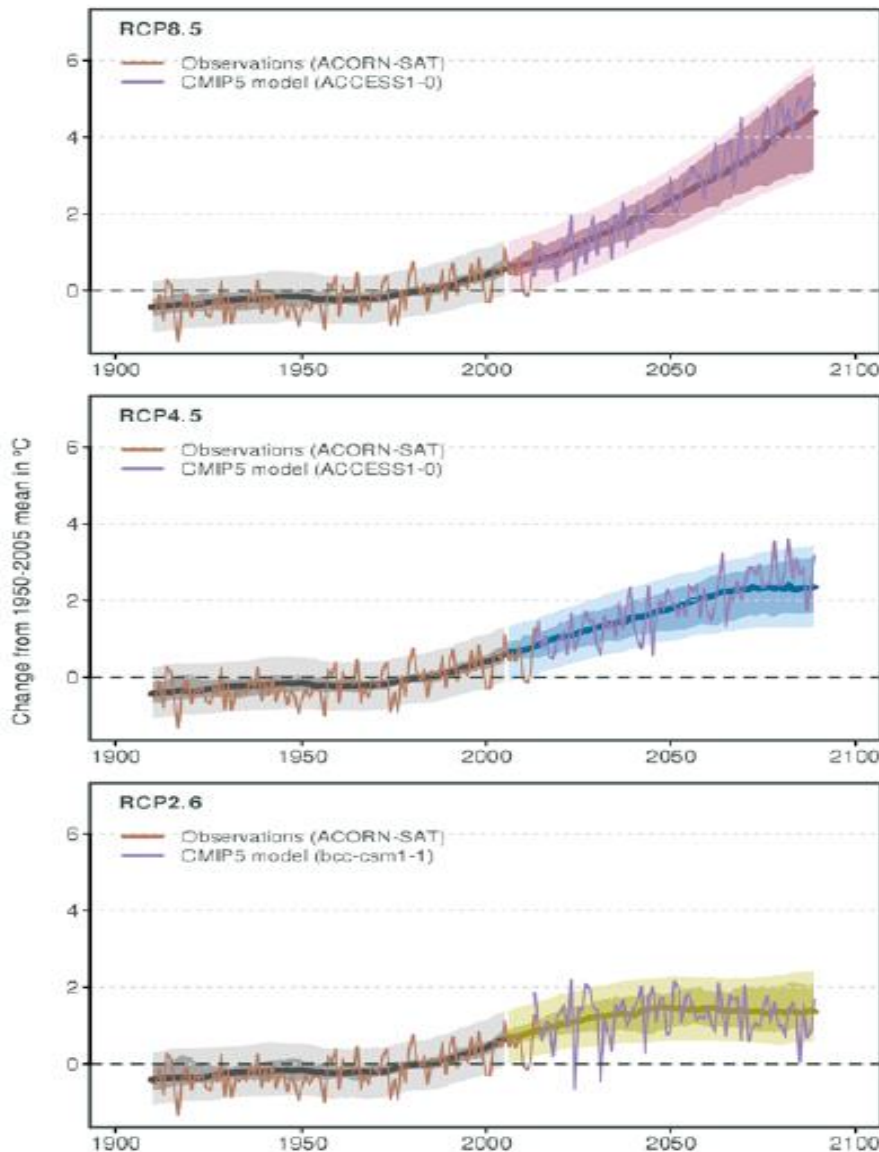
FIGURE 3.1: THE ANNUAL CYCLE OF TEMPERATURE (LEFT PANEL) AND RAINFALL (RIGHT PANEL) AVERAGED OVER RANGELANDS SIMULATED BY CMIP5 MODELS (GREY LINES) WITH MODEL ENSEMBLE MEAN (BLACK LINE) AND OBSERVED CLIMATOLOGY BASED ON AWAP (BROWN LINES) FOR THE BASELINE PERIOD 1986–2005.

# Some like it hot!



# Climate Change in Australia Website

Where there is a lot of information! Maps, graphs, diagrams and analogues galore



The screenshot shows the 'CLIMATE CHANGE IN AUSTRALIA' website. The main heading is 'PROJECTIONS FOR AUSTRALIA'S NRM REGIONS'. The navigation menu includes 'About', 'Future climate', 'Explore data', 'Climate Futures Tool', 'Climate analogues', 'Coastal & marine', and 'Sign-In/Register'. The current page is 'CLIMATE ANALOGUES', which features a map of Australia with various climate zones. A dropdown menu is open for 'Alice Springs'. Below the map, there are 'Configure Data' sliders for 'TEMPERATURE CHANGE' (set to 2.1°C) and 'RAINFALL CHANGE' (set to -4%). There are also 'Preset Scenarios' for 'CLUSTER' (RCP 8.5) and 'EMISSIONS SCENARIO' (Maximum Consensus), with a 'TIME PERIOD' of 2050. At the bottom, there is a section for 'ANALOGUE TOWNS' listing locations like Exmouth, Onslow, Windorah, Yuendumu, Yulara Tourist Village, Tom Price, Santa Teresa, Papunya, Warburton, and Dodder River (Kaltukatjara).

# Rangeland Specific Reports

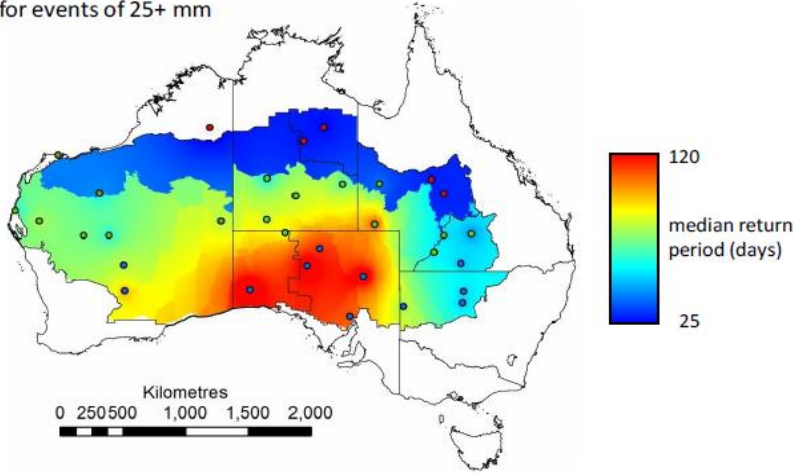
- Rainfall variability and pasture growth
- Meteorological drought
- Heatwaves
- Remotely-sensed ground cover
- Rangeland fire
- Rangeland dust
- Pastoral production
- *Cenchrus ciliaris* (buffel grass) and climate change
- Climate change impacts and adaptations, Rangelands Cluster – Invasive animals
- Rangelands Cluster aquatic refugia
- Climate change impacts and adaptations, Rangelands Cluster - Native species
- Information and guidance to support climate change adaptation



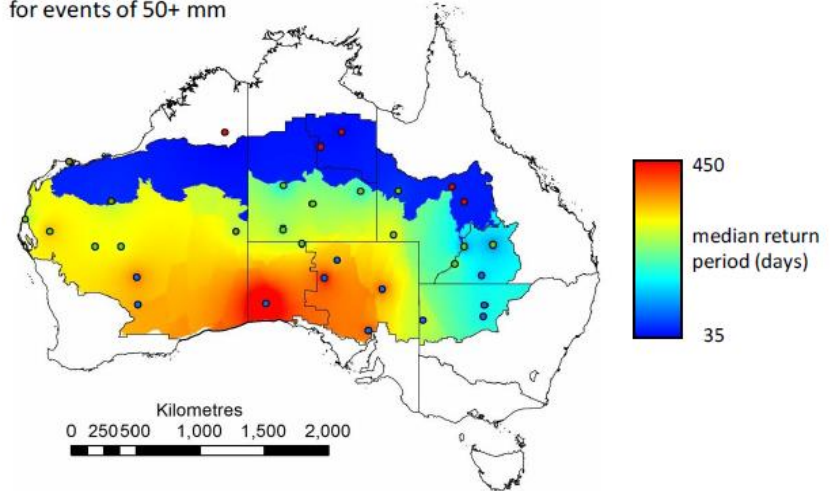


# Median Return Periods for 25 and 50mm events

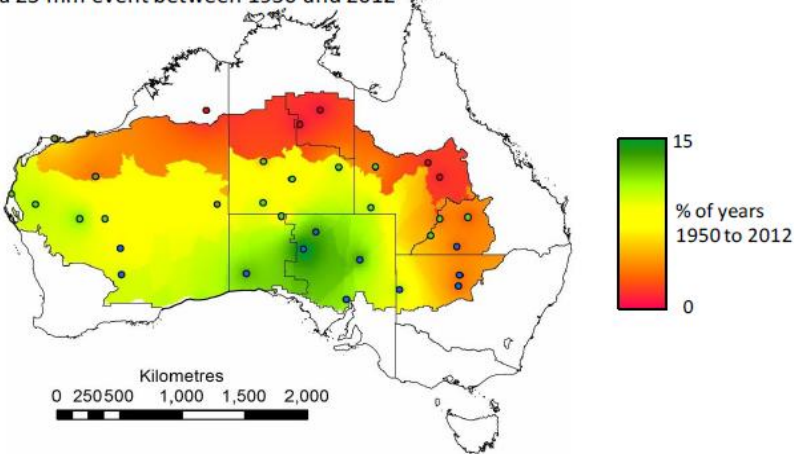
Median return period (days)  
for events of 25+ mm



Median return period (days)  
for events of 50+ mm



Percent of years (or wet seasons) missing  
a 25 mm event between 1950 and 2012



Percent of years (or wet seasons) missing  
a 50 mm event between 1950 and 2012

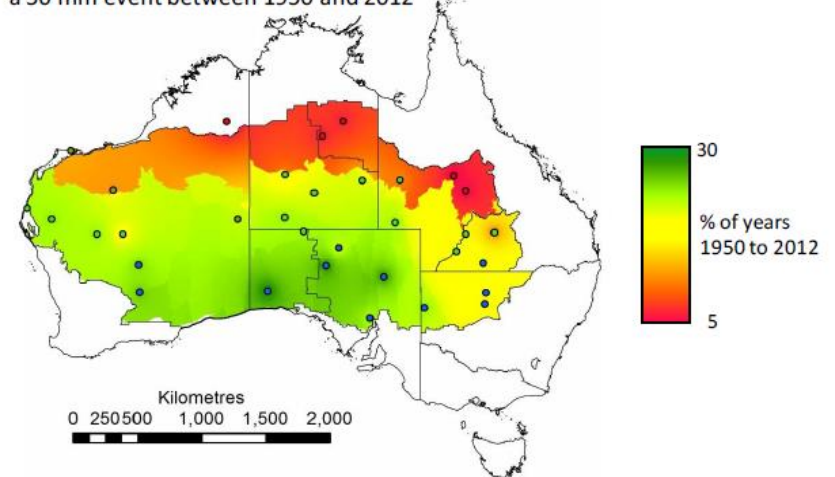


Figure 6. Top: interpolated median return period of 25+ mm rainfall events over continuously wet days based on the continuous rainfall record between 1950 and 2012 or summer (wet-season) rainfall for the northern part of the Rangelands cluster. Bottom: percentage of years between 1950 and 2012 not having a 25+ mm event in the calendar year (or summer wet season for the northern part of the Rangelands cluster region).

Figure 7. Top: interpolated median return period of 50+ mm rainfall events over continuously wet days based on the continuous rainfall record between 1950 and 2012 or summer (wet-season) rainfall for the northern part of the Rangelands cluster. Bottom: percentage of years between 1950 and 2012 not having a 50+ mm event in the calendar year (or summer wet season for the northern part of the Rangelands cluster region).



# Resources



## **Rangeland Cluster Project Reports**

<http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/en/impacts-and-adaptation/rangelands/>

## **Rangeland Projections Brochure**

[http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/media/ccia/2.1.5/cms\\_page\\_media/176/RANGELANDS\\_BROCHURE.pdf](http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/media/ccia/2.1.5/cms_page_media/176/RANGELANDS_BROCHURE.pdf)

## **Rangeland Projections Report**

[http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/media/ccia/2.1.5/cms\\_page\\_media/172/RANGELANDS\\_CLUSTER\\_REPORT\\_1.pdf](http://www.climatechangeinaustralia.gov.au/media/ccia/2.1.5/cms_page_media/172/RANGELANDS_CLUSTER_REPORT_1.pdf)

## **Bob Spiers at Reef, Range and Red Dust Conference (Video)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jus9tFPd9Bw>

## **BOM - Climate Change information, maps, data and trends**

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change/>

## **BOM – Climate Outlooks monthly and seasonal (including 3 monthly seasonal outlook video)**

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary>

## **Climate Champions – local case study Peter Whip**

<http://www.climatekelpie.com.au/farmers-managing-risk/climate-champion-program/peter-whip>

# Thank you

From the Rangelands Cluster



An Australian Government Initiative



**NINTI ONE** RANGELANDS CLUSTER



**Government of South Australia**  
Alinytjara Wilurara Natural Resources Management Board



**Government of South Australia**  
South Australian Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board



**South West NRM Ltd**  
*Achieving sustainable landscapes for rural communities*



**UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA**



**INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED ECOLOGY**



**Local Land Services Western**