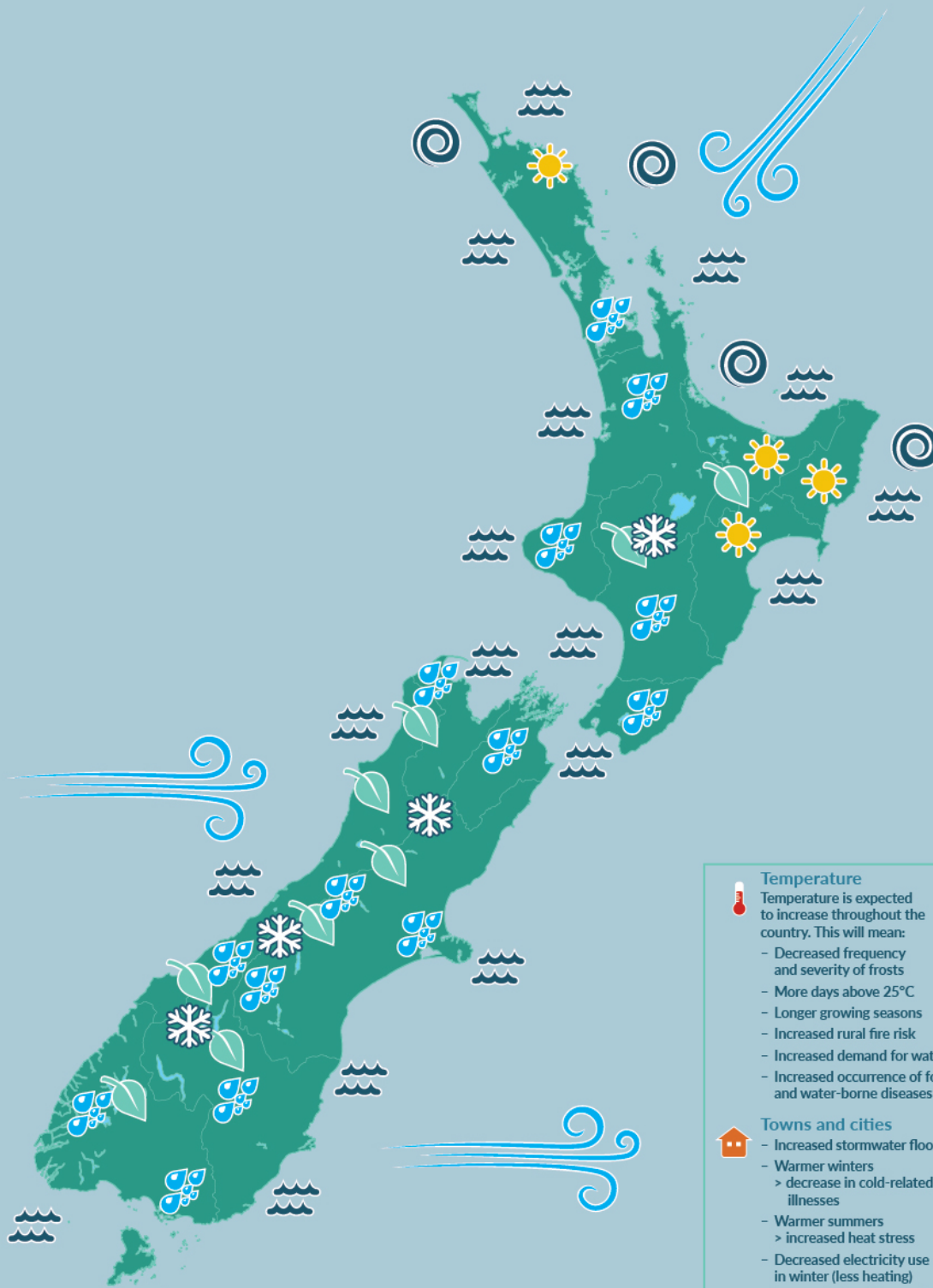




Climate change impacts on New Zealand



Temperature
 Temperature is expected to increase throughout the country. This will mean:

- Decreased frequency and severity of frosts
- More days above 25°C
- Longer growing seasons
- Increased rural fire risk
- Increased demand for water
- Increased occurrence of food and water-borne diseases

Towns and cities

- Increased stormwater flooding
- Warmer winters
> decrease in cold-related illnesses
- Warmer summers
> increased heat stress
- Decreased electricity use in winter (less heating)
- Increased electricity use in summer (more air-conditioning)

Key

- Drier**
 - Decreased annual rainfall
 - Decreased run-off to rivers
 - Increased evaporation
 - Increased frequency and severity of drought
 - Increased irrigation demand
- Wetter**
 - Increased precipitation
 - Increased intensity in weather events
 - Increased flooding, particularly in already flood-prone areas
 - Increased slips
 - Increased soil erosion
- Coastal**
 - Sea level rise
 - Increased storm surge
 - Coastal inundation
 - Increased coastal erosion
- Ex-tropical cyclones***
 - Increased intensity
> increased wind, waves, storm surge and rainfall

* Tropical cyclones, in travelling to NZ change their character, becoming slightly less intense but causing damage over a much wider area
- Wind**
 - Increased westerly winds in winter and spring (especially in the South), more north-easterlies in summer and autumn (especially in the North)
- Snowlines and glaciers**
 - Changes in length and area of glaciers
 - Rise in snowline
 - Reduction in snow days
 - Decrease in seasonal snow duration and depth
- Natural areas**
 - Species distribution changes
 - Changes to/loss of habitat
 - Increased pressure from pests, animals and plants

This map provides an indication of potential impacts of climate change on New Zealand. It is not an attempt to provide a comprehensive summary of all the impacts.

For more information about the impacts of climate change please contact: info@mfe.govt.nz or visit the website: www.mfe.govt.nz/issues/climate/