

# TOPICAL SCIENCE UPDATES



## Hurricane Season

September 2019

Image from NOAA



The Bahamas and the east coast of America are bracing themselves for yet another category 4 hurricane sweeping in from the Atlantic Ocean.

With winds approaching 145mph, Hurricane Dorian is predicted to be one of the most dangerous in recent history. But, because of the incredible tracking technology now available most people have already being moved out of the predicted path of the storm.

[How do hurricanes form?](#)

[Hurricane Dorian](#)

[How do you track a hurricane?](#)

[Tracking Hurricanes](#)

[NOAA – National Hurricane Centre](#)

[What Hurricanes do](#)

## Amazon Disaster

Thousands of fires are still raging out of control across the Amazon rainforest and there seems to be no end in sight to the destruction of one of Earth's most important ecosystems.

So far this year the National Institute for Space Research, in Brazil, has reported a record 87,000 fires – and the dry season has only just begun!

The vast majority of the fires are started deliberately to clear land for farming, logging and livestock. When added to the ever increasing deforestation across the areas rainforests it all adds up to a major global climate and ecological disaster.

The Amazon is home to about 3 million species, produces about 20% of Earth's oxygen and absorbs about 2.2 billion tons of CO<sup>2</sup> a year, about four times the UK's total CO<sup>2</sup> emissions.



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[Amazon fires in pictures](#)

[Amazon fires in maps and numbers](#)

[Why the Amazon matters](#)

[Special Amazon Report](#)

[Rainforest Ecosystem](#)