

The Australian military is concerned that the frequent wildfires that plague the Australia continent could be used for nefarious purposes by certain foreign governments and terrorist-based organizations. They have requested that the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) prepare an independent briefing on the Australian climate. The DOD in turn has chosen **you** to prepare a written synopsis of the climate of Australia that can be used to brief the top brass in the U.S. Armed Forces. The DOD has ordered you to prepare a typed, single-space, one-page briefing on the climate of Australia climate that emphasizes seasonal temperature, rainfall, relative humidity and wind variations known to be conducive to the outbreak, spread and persistence of wildfires in the Australia outback. Although the DOD has access to a number of web sites (see below) that contain climate information for Australia, they are having trouble interpreting the information and they need your help. Because the DOD folks don't have the time to conduct a detailed investigation of the Australian climate, you have been tasked with preparing the aforementioned **typed, single-space, one-page briefing** on the Australian climate. So, settle in at a table at the nearest Outback Restaurant, think about wildfire outbreaks, seek help "outback of the Outback" as required, and prepare your briefing while chowing down accordingly.

Here are some useful websites (feel free to find others):

CPC Regional Climate Maps for Australia:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/regional_monitoring/australia.shtml

CPC Global Precipitation Time Series:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/global_monitoring/precipitation/global_precip_accum.shtml

CPC Global Temperature Time Series:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/global_monitoring/temperature/global_temp_accum.shtml

NOAA/ESRL/PSD Monthly and Seasonal Climate composites:

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/cgi-bin/data/composites/printpage.pl>

NOAA/ESRL/PSD Daily Mean Composites:

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/composites/day/>

NOAA/ESRL/PSD Linear Correlations in Atmospheric Seasonal /Monthly Averages: <http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/correlation/>

NOAA/ESRL/PSD ENSO Climate Comparisons:

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/enso/compare/>

