



State of the Environment **Report Card 2017**

What's happening in our rivers?

River flow records have been analysed for the 2017 calendar year and compared to the long-term average flow for each site.

The 'percentage of the long-term average flow' for each site has been calculated.

River flows at 100% of average flow are equal to the long-term average, while river flows within $\pm 25\%$ of the long-term average flow are referred to as being within the 'normal range' or 'close to the long-term average'.

During 2017, annual average river flows were either close to or above the long-term average. The Awanui Stream at Flume (located in the TANK area in the map below), showed the greatest deviation from the long-term average, with an average flow calculated at 186% of the long-term average.

QUICK FACTS

The largest catchment in the region is the Wairoa River, with an area of

3,563
square kilometres

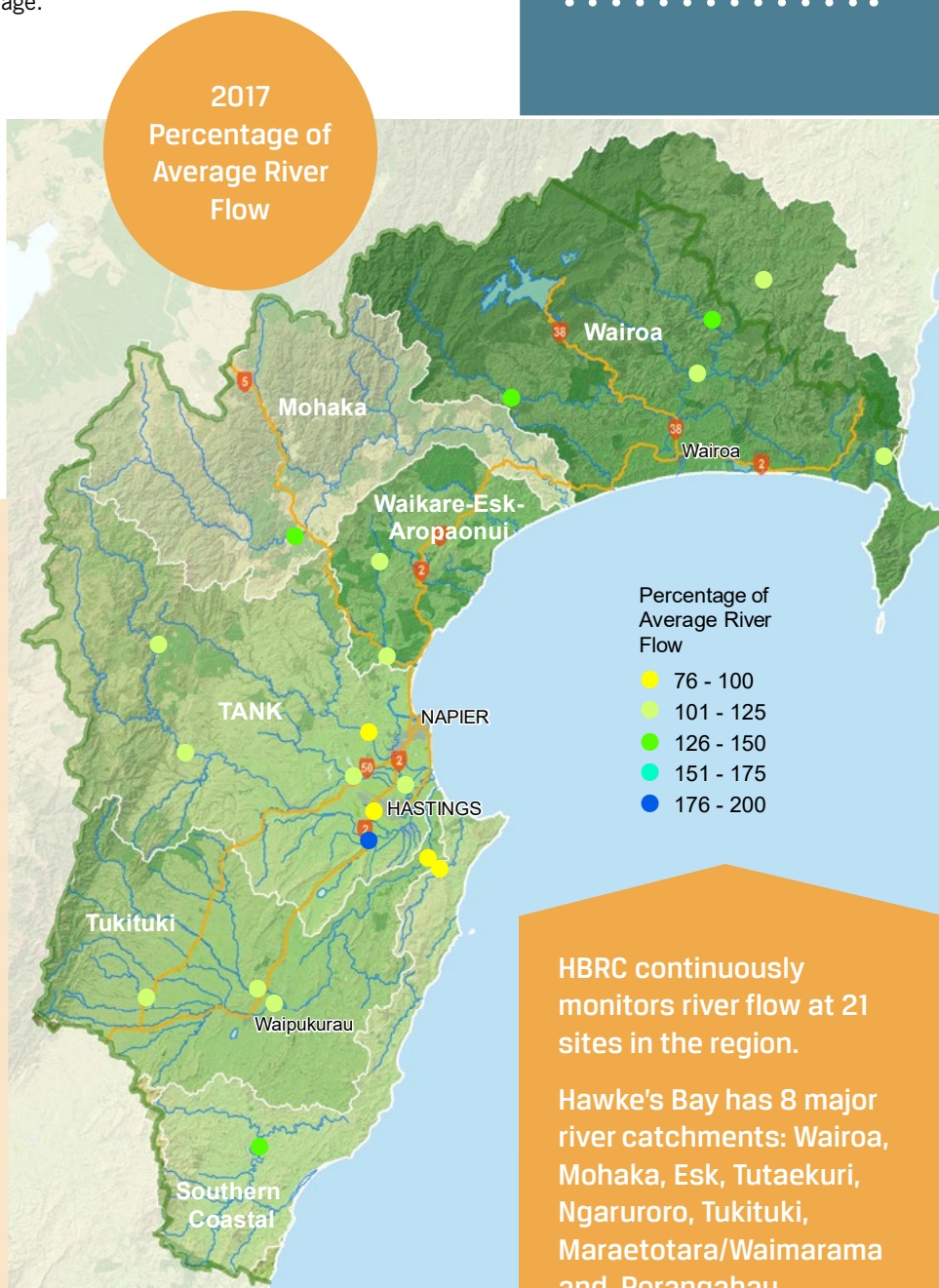
WHAT WE MONITOR

Hawke's Bay Regional Council runs a programme that monitors a range of things, including rainfall, river flow, groundwater levels and river water quality.

This assists HBRC in managing the quantity and quality of water resources in Hawke's Bay.

HBRC's hydrological monitoring network provides data for:

- (a) State of the Environment monitoring
- (b) Detecting long and short-term trends in climate and in water resources
- (c) Assessing minimum flows, to support compliance monitoring of resource consents
- (d) Flood warning and monitoring
- (e) Engineering design for catchment management systems
- (f) Analysis to support modifications of HBRC's Regional Resource Management Plan
- (g) General use in catchment-based projects.



HBRC continuously monitors river flow at 21 sites in the region.

Hawke's Bay has 8 major river catchments: Wairoa, Mohaka, Esk, Tutaekuri, Ngaruroro, Tukituki, Maraetotara/Waimarama and Porangahau.



State of the Environment Report Card 2017 Breaking up the weeds

Did you know HBRC has a purpose-built weed boat used in Hawke's Bay rivers?

The boats are mainly used in drains and slow flowing rivers. They have a cutter bar on the front to cut the weed. It has a small motor, which powers hydraulics, which drive the paddle wheels and the cutter bar.

It is important to break up the weeds that accumulate in rivers as they prevent good flow down the waterways.



QUICK FACTS

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HBRC's surface water network consists of automatic water level recording stations throughout the region
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River monitoring FLASHBACK

HBRC has been keeping an eye on the region's rivers for a long time.

Water levels in the Ngaruroro River at Fernhill have been monitored since 1952, with 670 flow measurements completed to date.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council did not exist in the 1950's. What started out as a Ministry of Works site was transferred to our predecessor - the Hawke's Bay Catchment Board. The technology has changed, from driving an old land rover to change a rolling piece of paper driven by clockwork motors to using radar sensors that are relayed as digital information direct to our computer servers and straight to the internet.



Find out more

Hawke's Bay Regional Council monitors our land, water and air.

We use this data to inform our work with communities to improve and protect the environment.

Each year we develop a series of report cards to provide you with a snapshot of how our environment is tracking.

For more details including the full technical reports visit www.hbrc.govt.nz (search: report search)

For up to the minute monitoring results from Hawke's Bay and other parts of the country visit www.lawa.org.nz

