



State of the Environment **Report Card 2016**

What's happening in our rivers?

River flow records have been analysed for the 2016 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 mean flow are equal to the long-term mean, 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 2016, annual average river flows were either close to or below the long-term mean. The Taurekaitai Stream at Wallingford (located in the Porangahau Catchment in the map below), showed the greatest deviation from the long-term mean, with an average flow calculated at 35% of the long-term mean.

QUICK FACTS

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

3,563
square kilometres

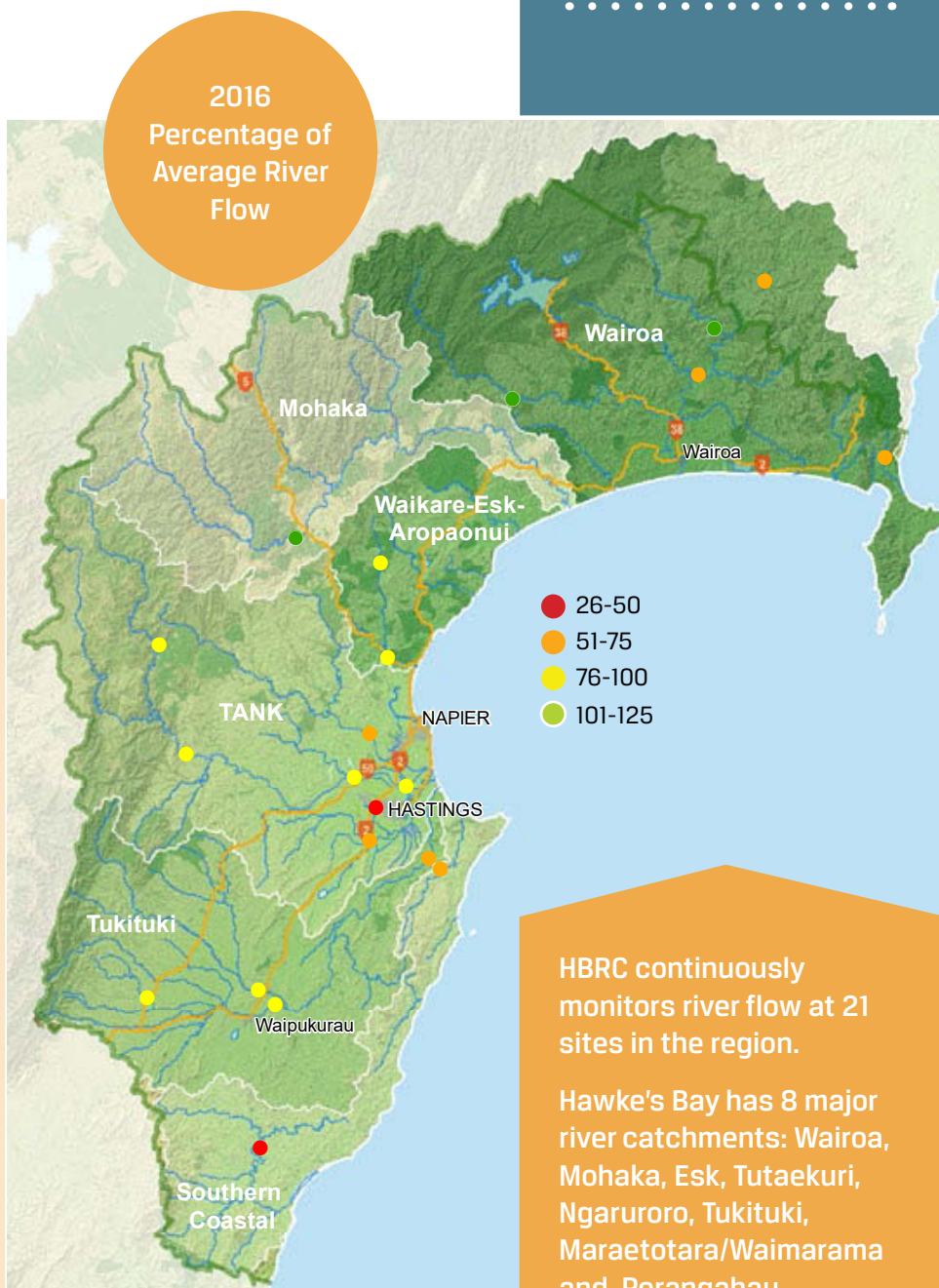
WHAT WE MONITOR

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 2016 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 The purpose of HBRC's State of the Environment report is to:

- Report on issues that affect our shared environment
- Help councils and communities set priorities for environment management
- Monitor the effectiveness of how we manage the environment
- Provide information people can use in their decision-making

This report card is part of a series prepared by Hawke's Bay Regional Council. It outlines the high-level results from HBRC's monitoring programme.

For more details, including full technical reports and up to the minute monitoring results visit www.lawa.org.nz

