



Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

August 2022

**HAWKES BAY**
REGIONAL COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

August 2022

Another month of generous rain, prompting a colleague to tell me “you can turn it off now”. Rainfall accumulations for the calendar year are tracking above average across the region and August rainfall helped to keep them on that track. Rainfall was especially generous on the Plains and the south coast, where roughly an extra 50% of the August average fell.

The main ranges received close to near normal totals, leading to August river flows that were mostly near normal too. Soil moisture levels during August were burgeoning... much to the relief of my outdoor potted plants, which must think I’m too limp-wristed to hold a hose or watering can because they’ve never seen me use one. Groundwater levels look mighty encouraging as we head into spring.

August temperatures strode well above average – about 1.5°C, which isn’t trivial. Both rainfall and warmth stripped us of air pollution worries during the month, leaving us with a wonderful clean slate for August and just the one exceedance in our urban airsheds for the whole of winter. While none would be better than one, it’s not a bad result.

Kathleen Kozyniak
Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science

SUMMARY August 2022

Short and sweet - wet and warm

September to November Forecast

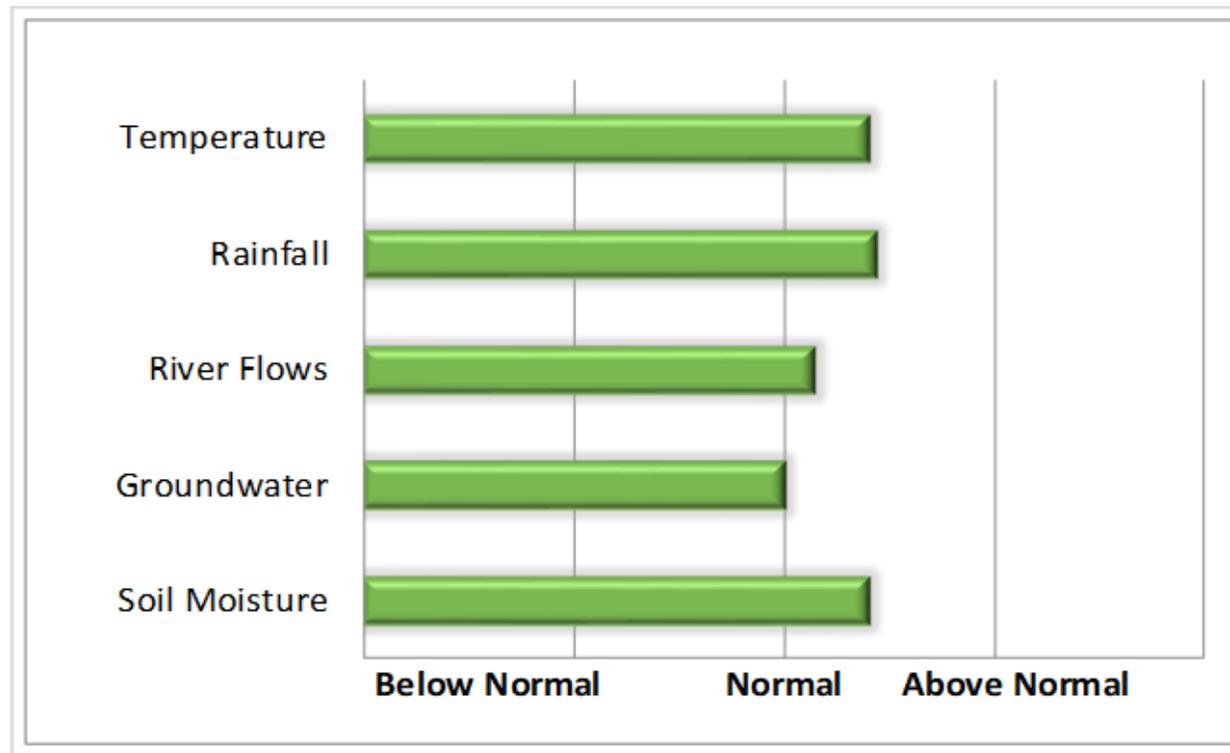
Temperature	Above average
Rain	Near normal
River flows	Near normal
Soil moisture	Near normal

source : NIWA

For more information

www.hbrc.govt.nz

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RAINFALL

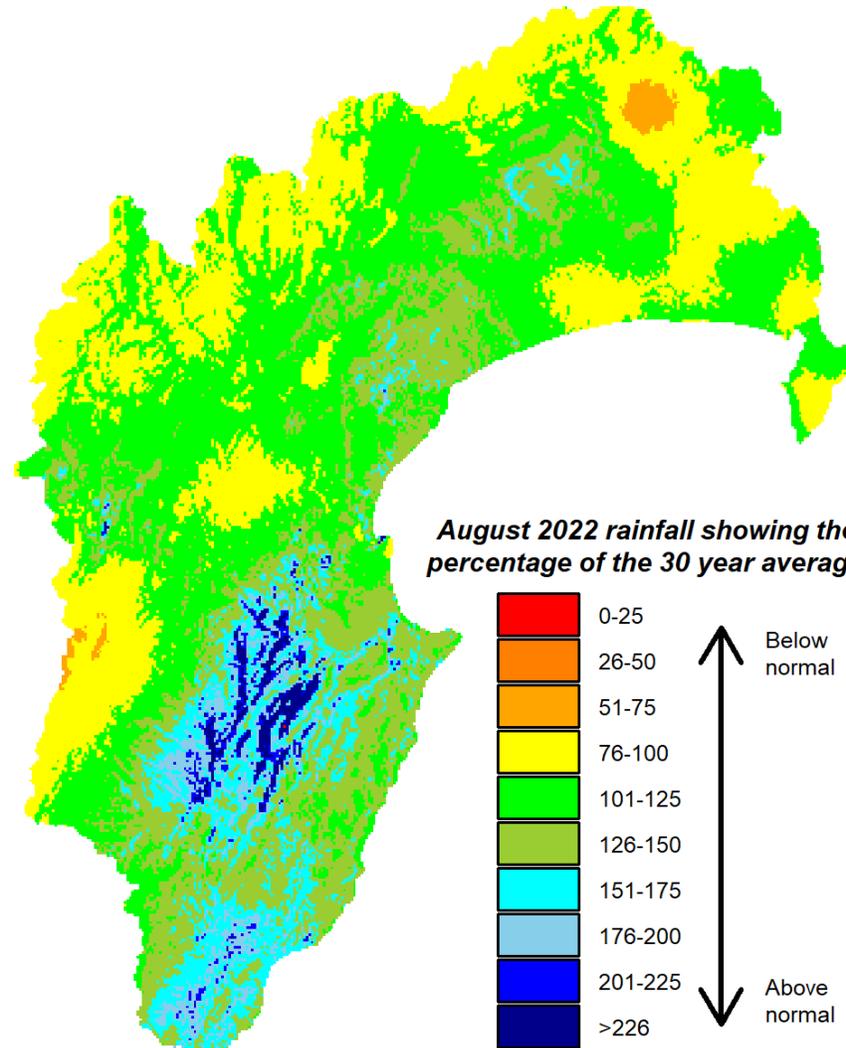
Above normal, especially the Plains and south coast. No cloud to ground lightning strikes.

Lightning counts come from the Blitzortung.org lightning network to which HBRC contributes.

Percentage of normal August rainfall
(30 year average)

For areas in the region:

Waikaremoana	111%
Northern HB	113%
Tangoio	105%
Kaweka	104%
Ruahine	83%
Heretaunga Plains	146%
Ruataniwha Plains	154%
Southern HB	165%
Hawke's Bay Region	122%

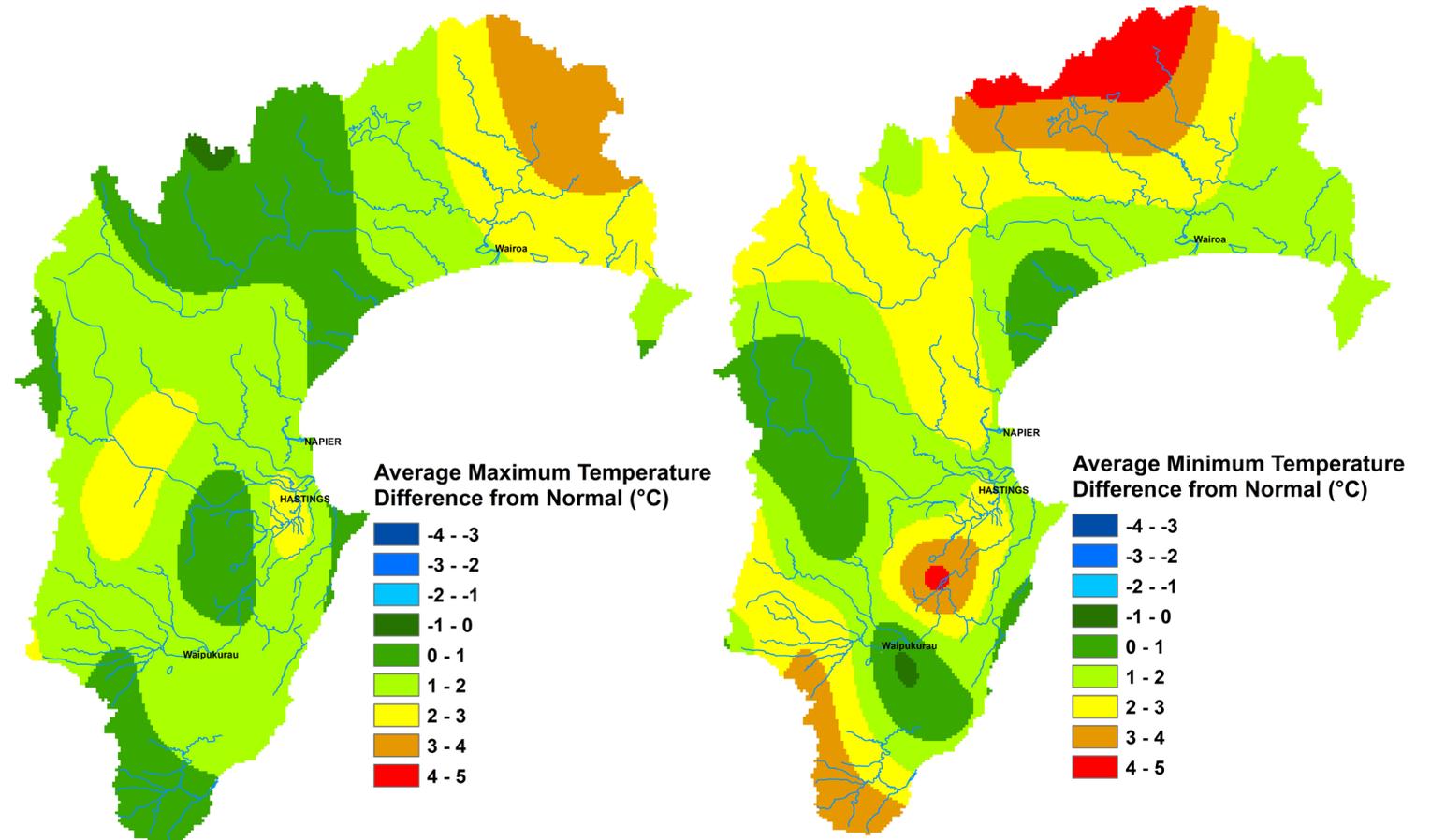


TEMPERATURES

Well above average.

Mean Difference from Normal
Maximum Temperature: 1.4°C
Minimum Temperature: 1.7°C

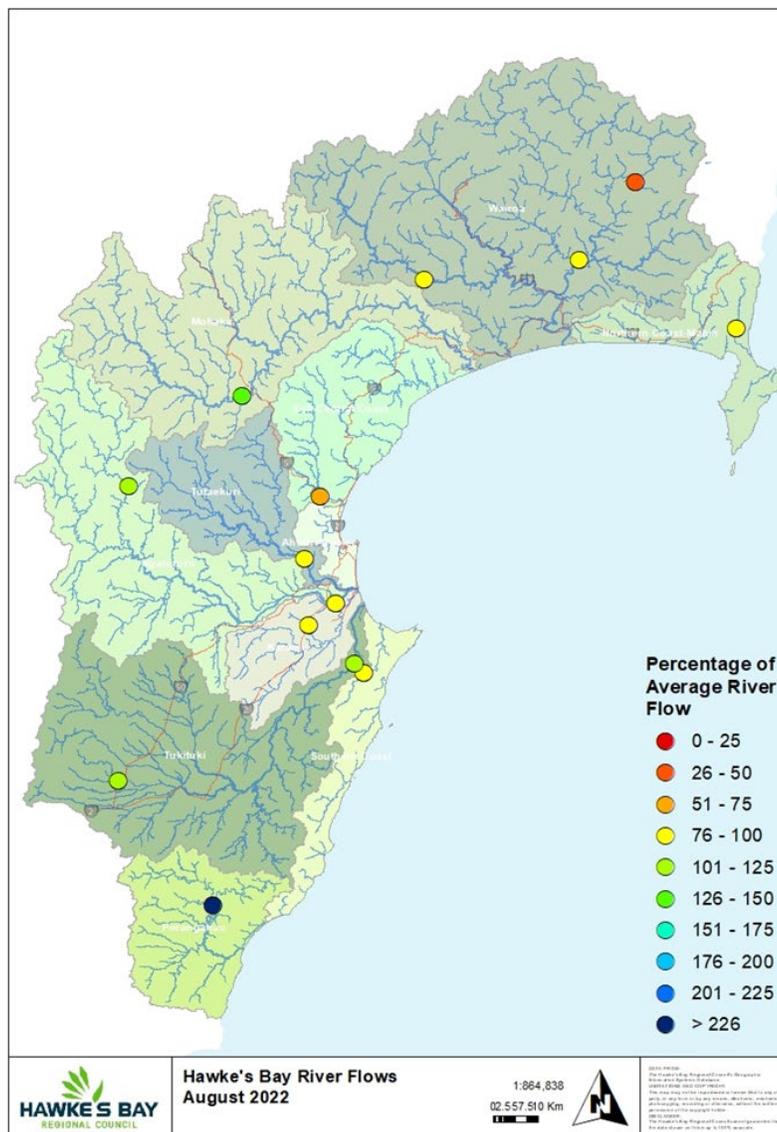
Mean Daily Maximum: 14 °C
Mean Daily Minimum: 6°C
Highest Daily: 24.3 °C
Location: Wairoa North Clyde EWS
(NIWA)
Lowest Daily: -5.7 °C
Location: Taharua Climate



RIVER FLOW

Percentage of average August flows
for areas in the region:

Northern Coast – Mahia	83%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	49%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	92%
Northern HB – Waiau River	100%
Mohaka	130%
Esk-Central Coast	73%
Tūtaekuri	100%
Karamu	78%
Ngaruroro – Kuripapango	118%
Ngaruroro – Chesterhope	97%
Southern Coast	96%
Tukituki – Tukipo River	119%
Tukituki – Tukituki River	102%
Porangahau	267%
Hawke's Bay Region	107%



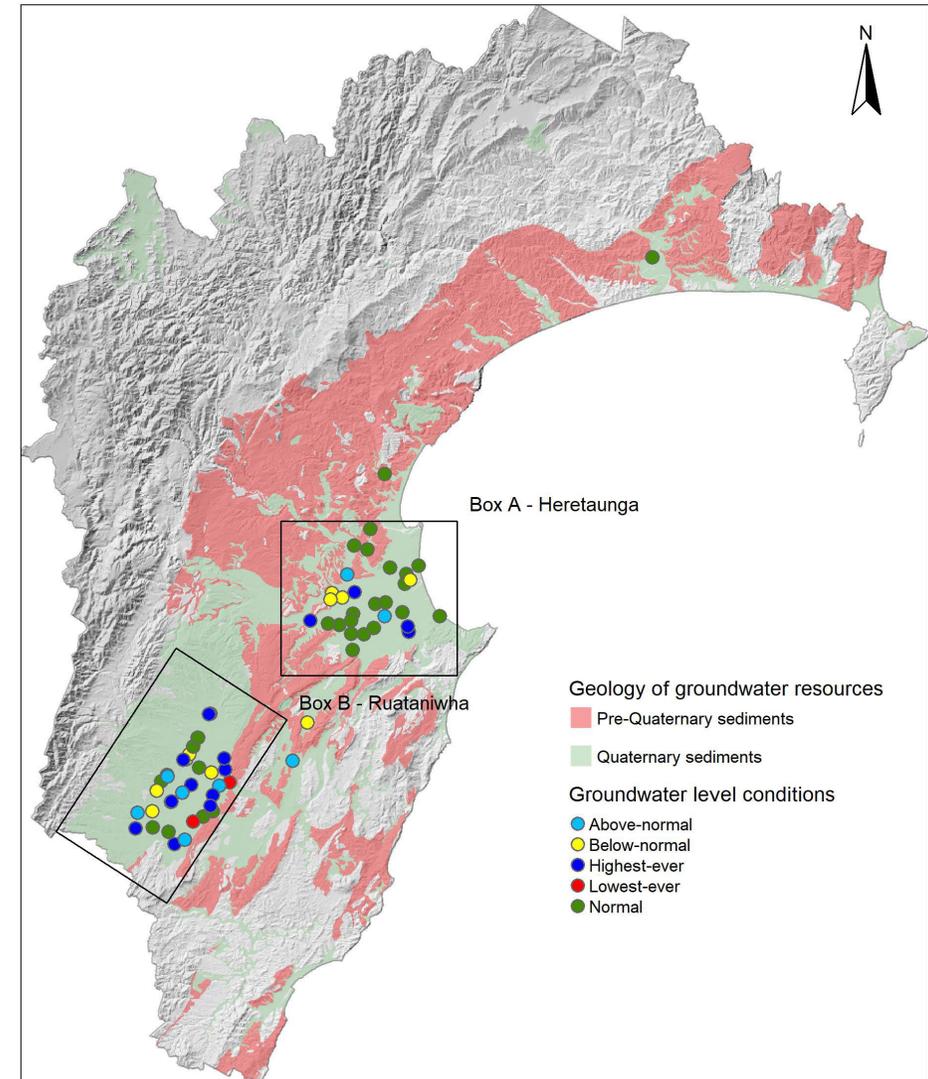
GROUNDWATER & SOIL MOISTURE

Soil Moisture: Above normal.

Current state of Groundwater levels:

This report compares groundwater levels in June with historic readings to evaluate current conditions. To assess these conditions, we have grouped groundwater levels at each well relative to their monthly percentiles.

Groundwater levels measuring between their monthly minimum and 25th percentile are considered below-normal, groundwater levels measuring between the 25th and 75th percentiles are classed as normal, and groundwater levels measuring between the 75th-maximum are considered above-normal. Wells with less than 5 years of record are excluded from the analysis.



AIR QUALITY

A great end to winter – no exceedances.

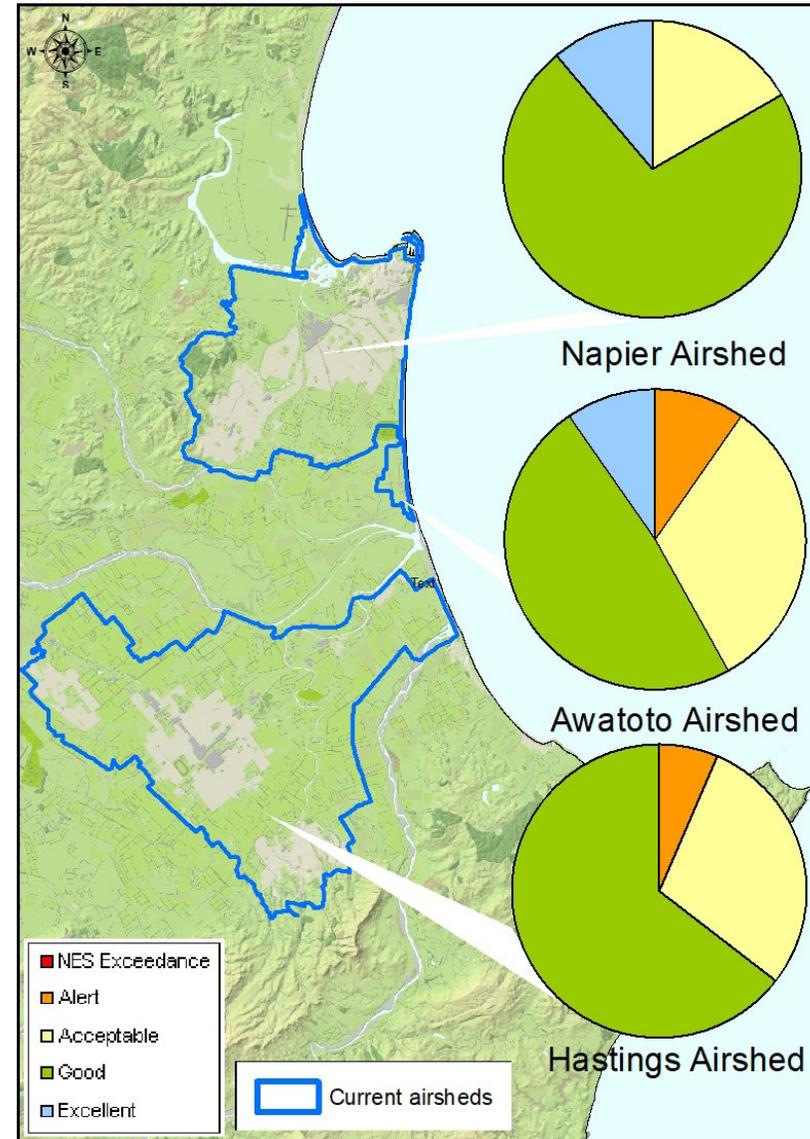
PM₁₀ exceedances:

The National Environmental Standard (NES) for particulate matter (PM 10) of 50 micrograms per cubic metre (24 hour average) was not exceeded in the Napier, Hastings and Awatoto airsheds during August 2022.

The monitoring sites are located at:

- Marewa Park in the Napier airshed.
- St Johns College in the Hastings airshed.
- Waitangi Road in the Awatoto airshed.

Further information is available at www.hbrc.govt.nz



LONGER FORECAST

La Niña conditions are in play along with a negative Indian Ocean Dipole for spring at least. Their presence suggests we'll get northeasterlies and ample rain. However, the seasonal weather models aren't quite so bullish in their rainfall predictions as they have been in past months, instead toning down their expectations of above average rainfall.

Lower than normal sea level pressure is expected to the northwest of the country while higher than normal pressure is forecast to extend over and to the east of New Zealand. In previous months it was largely confined to the east. This hints at a weather pattern that involves decent spells of settled weather, interspersed with the odd good rainfall event that tips totals towards near normal rainfall for spring. As for temperatures, the predictions follow their recent form – above average.

Kathleen Kozyniak

Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science