

A photograph of a lush field of purple and red flowers, likely irises, in a forest setting. The flowers are in the foreground, and the background shows dense green foliage and trees. The image is partially obscured by a white curved banner at the bottom.

Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

September 2022

The logo for Hawkes Bay Regional Council, featuring a stylized green leaf design above the text.

HAWKES BAY
REGIONAL COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

September 2022

September's theme is "well above". Feel free to interpret that as dismal. Rainfall was well above normal and roughly double the month's long-term average across the region. The Heretaunga Plains nudged towards three times the average. It's an area that has copped 20 days a month of showers or rain for the past three months. A better balance with dry days and more sun would make a nice change.

Cloudy skies and warm sea temperatures helped to push overnight temperatures one degree above the September average. Daytime temperatures resided on struggle street due to sunshine being there too but still managed to be about average for the month.

September's river flows were well above average and soil moisture levels the same. In some places soil moisture has been going rogue by wandering into the top 10% of readings for the time of year, causing headaches for those wanting to plant crops I understand. Groundwater levels remained impressive and so cast sunshine on the month in lieu of it coming from the sky.

Kathleen Kozyniak
Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science

SUMMARY September 2022

Very wet and warm nights.

October to December Forecast

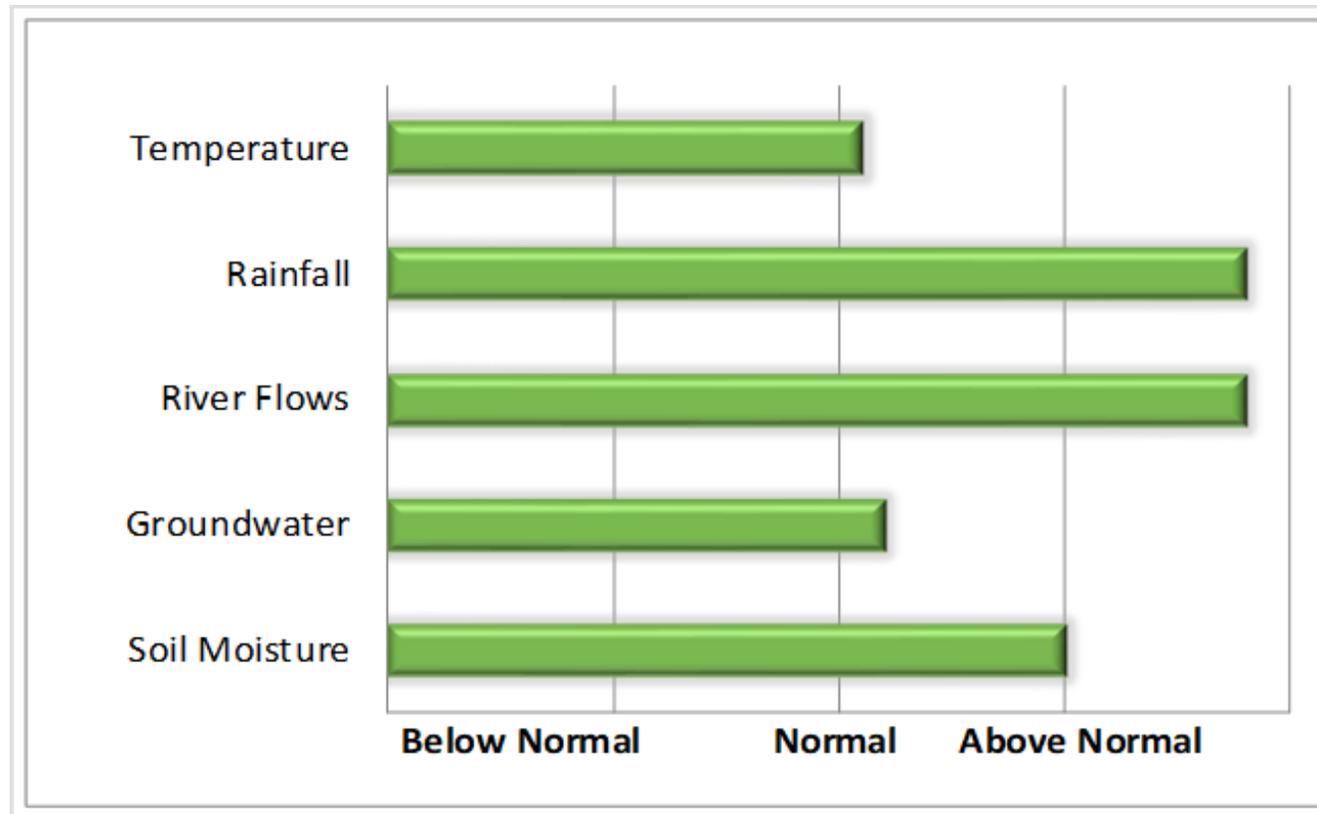
Temperature Above average
Rain Near or above normal
River flows Near or above normal
Soil moisture Near or above normal

source : NIWA

For more information

www.hbrc.govt.nz

P: 06 835 9200



RAINFALL

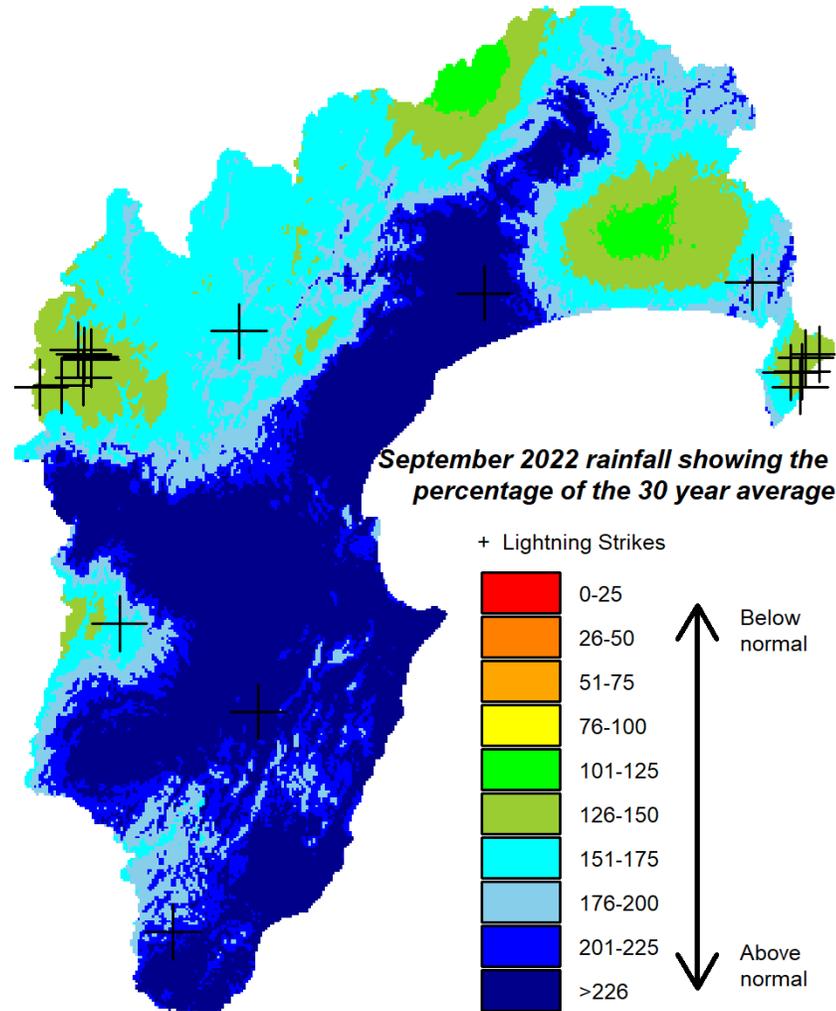
Well above normal, especially the Heretaunga Plains. 18 cloud to ground lightning strikes.

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

Percentage of normal September rainfall
(30 year average)

For areas in the region:

Waikaremoana	185%
Northern HB	185%
Tangoio	220%
Kaweka	199%
Ruahine	182%
Heretaunga Plains	291%
Ruataniwha Plains	233%
Southern HB	258%
Hawke's Bay Region	219%



TEMPERATURES

Average during the day, warmer than usual overnight.

Mean Difference from Normal

Maximum Temperature: -0.1°C

Minimum Temperature: 1.0°C

Mean Daily Maximum: 15°C

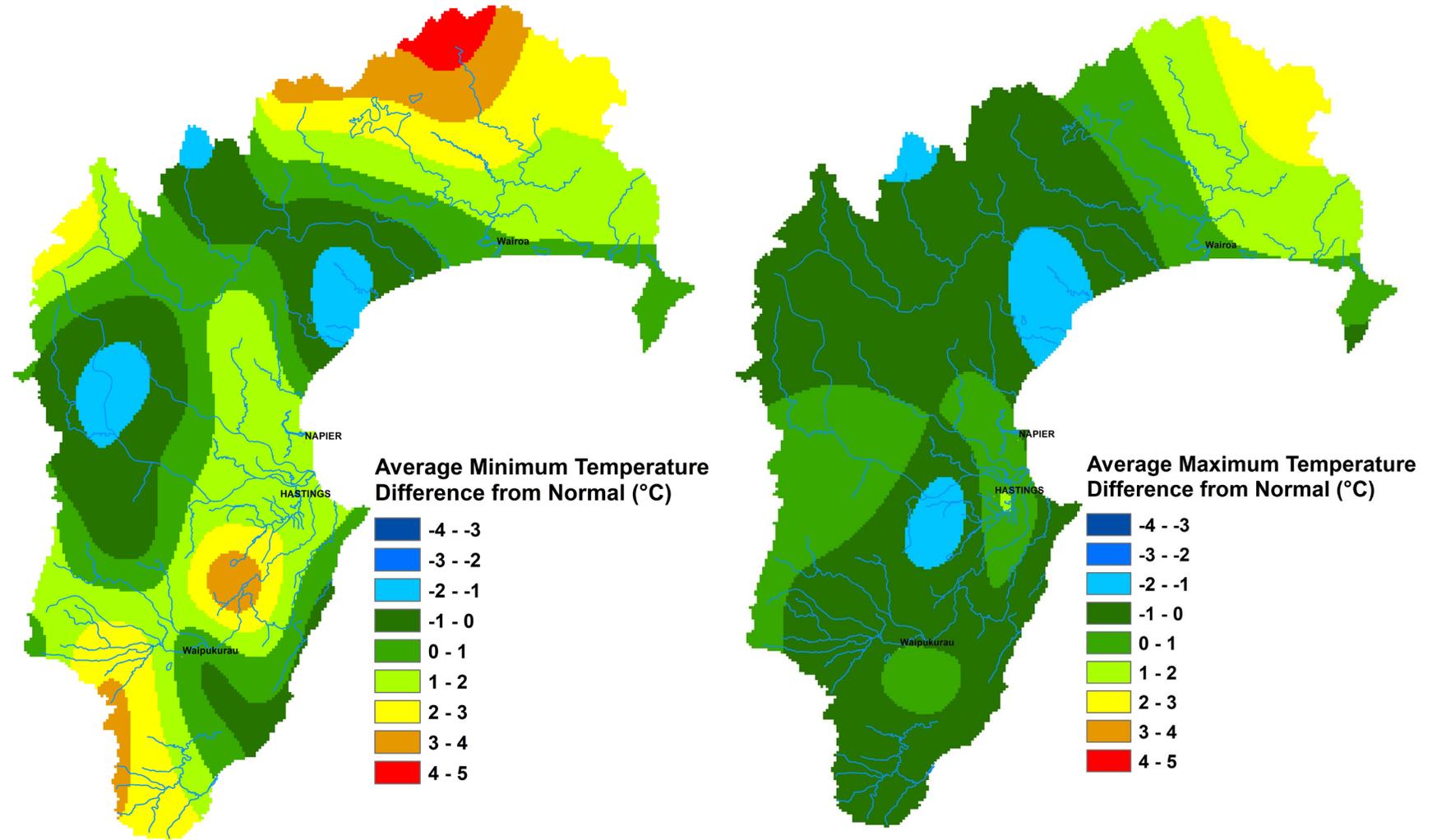
Mean Daily Minimum: 7°C

Highest Daily: 23.1°C

Location: Hastings AWS (Metservice)

Lowest Daily: -3.9°C

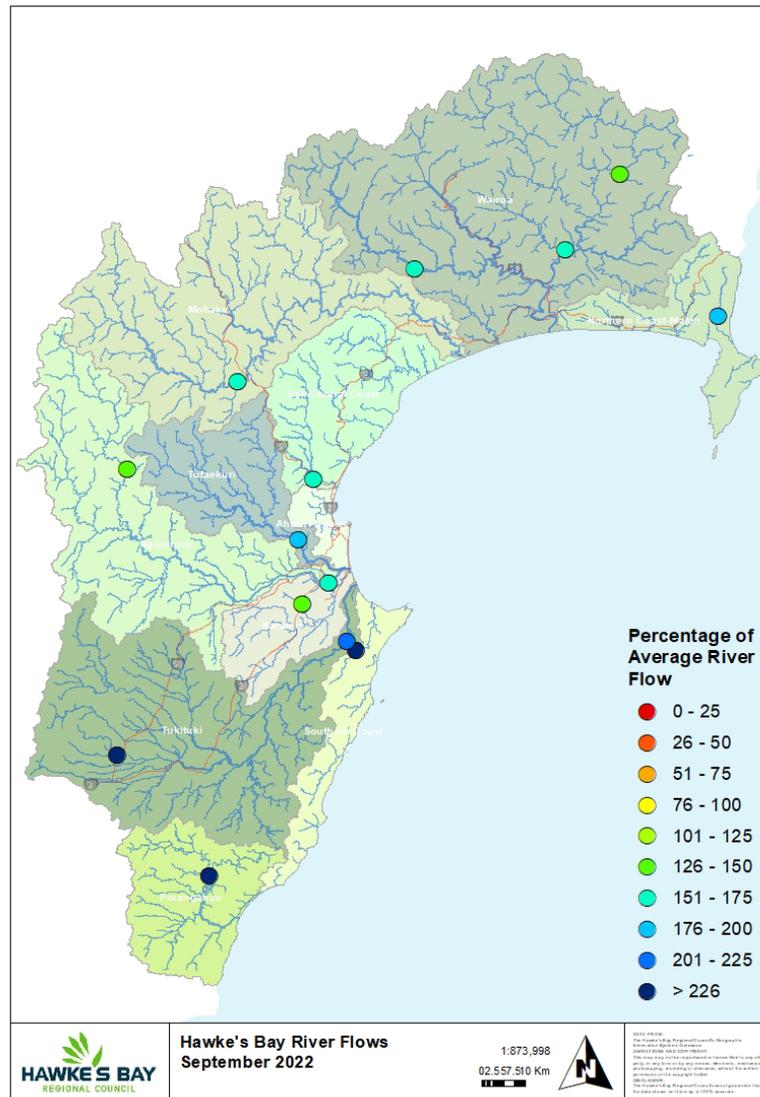
Location: Taharua Climate



RIVER FLOW

Percentage of average September flows
for areas in the region:

Northern Coast – Mahia	196%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	149%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	161%
Northern HB – Waiau River	152%
Mohaka	154%
Esk-Central Coast	155%
Tūtaekuri	181%
Karamu	131%
Ngaruroro – Kuripapango	137%
Ngaruroro – Chesterhope	164%
Southern Coast	227%
Tukituki – Tukipo River	283%
Tukituki – Tukituki River	210%
Porangahau	484%
Hawke's Bay Region	199%



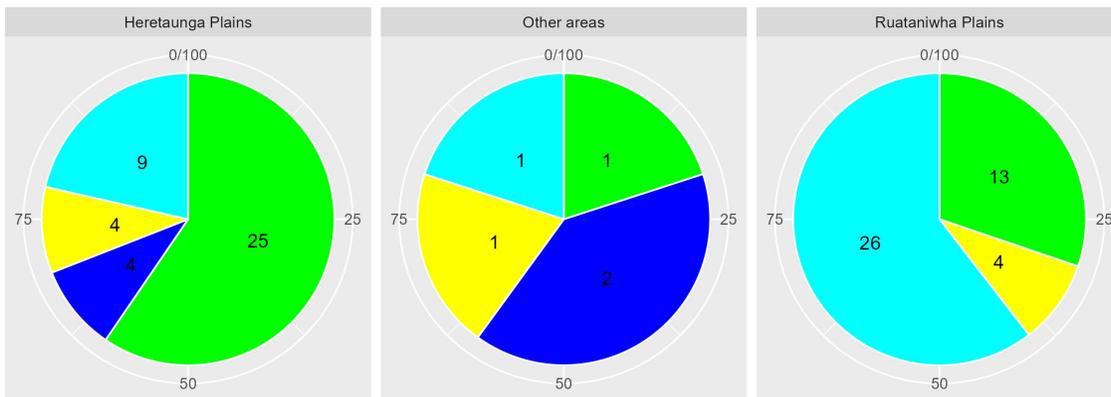
GROUNDWATER & SOIL MOISTURE

Soil Moisture: Above normal.

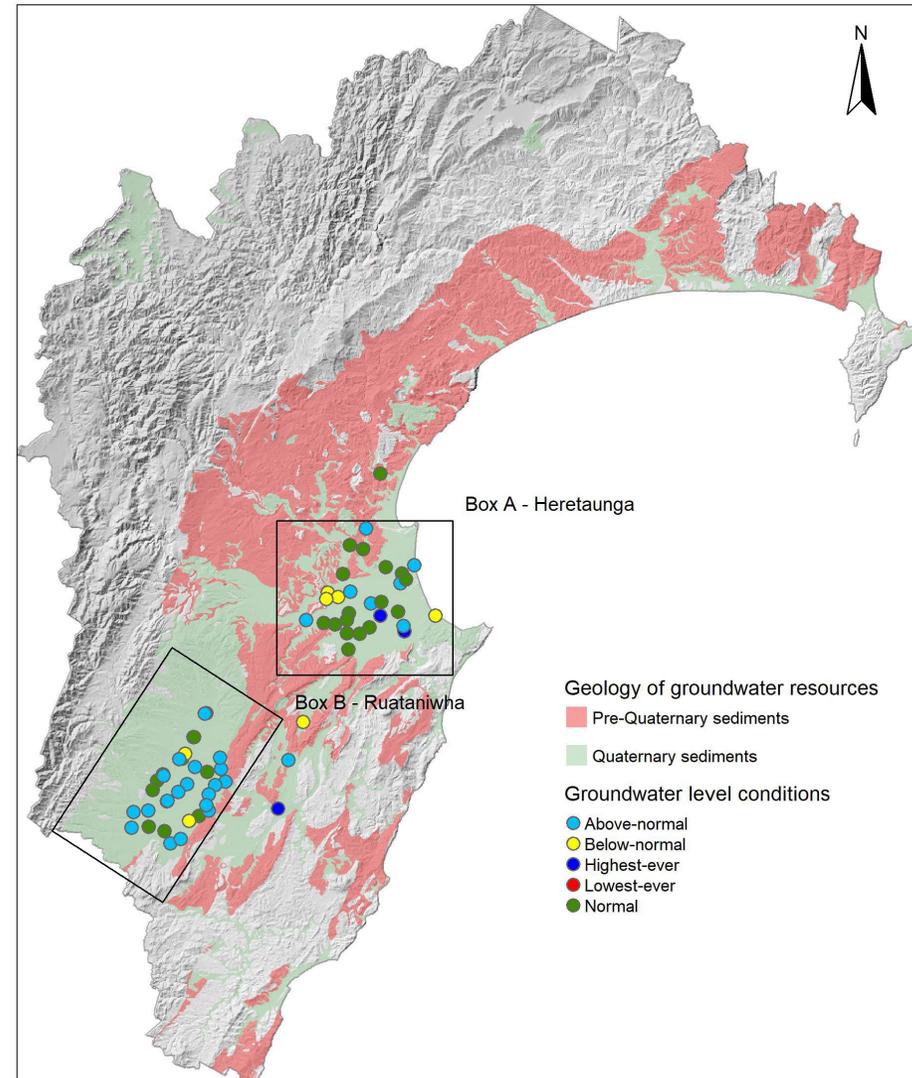
Current state of Groundwater levels:

This report compares groundwater levels in September 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.



■ Above-normal
 ■ Below-normal
 ■ Highest-ever
 ■ Lowest-ever
 ■ Normal



LONGER FORECAST

Our triple dip La Niña and the negative Indian Ocean Dipole are in charge of our weather. Sea level pressure is expected to be higher than normal over central and southern New Zealand and lower to the north of the country. That means easterly flows will still feature prominently and make cloudy skies a bit hard to shake.

The onshore winds and clouds may subdue our daytime temperatures again but nights will likely be warmer than usual. The rain...well. Normal or above normal. The latter more likely for northern parts of the region, while further south the forecast higher than normal pressures might help us get closer to normal. That's doubtful for October however, given that two thirds of the month's average rainfall fell in the first week.

Kathleen Kozyniak

Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science