



# Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

October 2022

  
**HAWKES BAY**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

TE KAUNIHERA Ā-ROHE O TE MATAU-A-MĀUI

## October 2022

The “big wet” continued in October - the region chalked up another month of above normal rainfall. Most of the region saw 30-40% more rain than usual though the Ruahine Range, which at 96%, managed to limbo under its long-term average.

River flows were all generously above average and in some cases more than double average October flows. Groundwater levels have truly reaped the fruits of recent wet months. A solid majority of wells measured in October fell in the above normal category. A spell of craved for sunshine bookended the month and gently nudged soil moisture levels on a downward trajectory, which is typical for spring. They still finished the month well above average for the time of year.

Temperatures were... slightly nasty. Overnight temperatures sat close to the October average but daytime temperatures were half a degree below average. However, you know it's spring when within the same month you get a sneaky frost and an equally sneaky foray above 30°C. That hint of summer gets us fossicking for our togs so it's time to resurrect our recreational water quality reporting, which will kick in next month.

**Kathleen Kozyniak**  
**Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science**

## SUMMARY October 2022

A little bleak – cool and wet.

### November to January Forecast

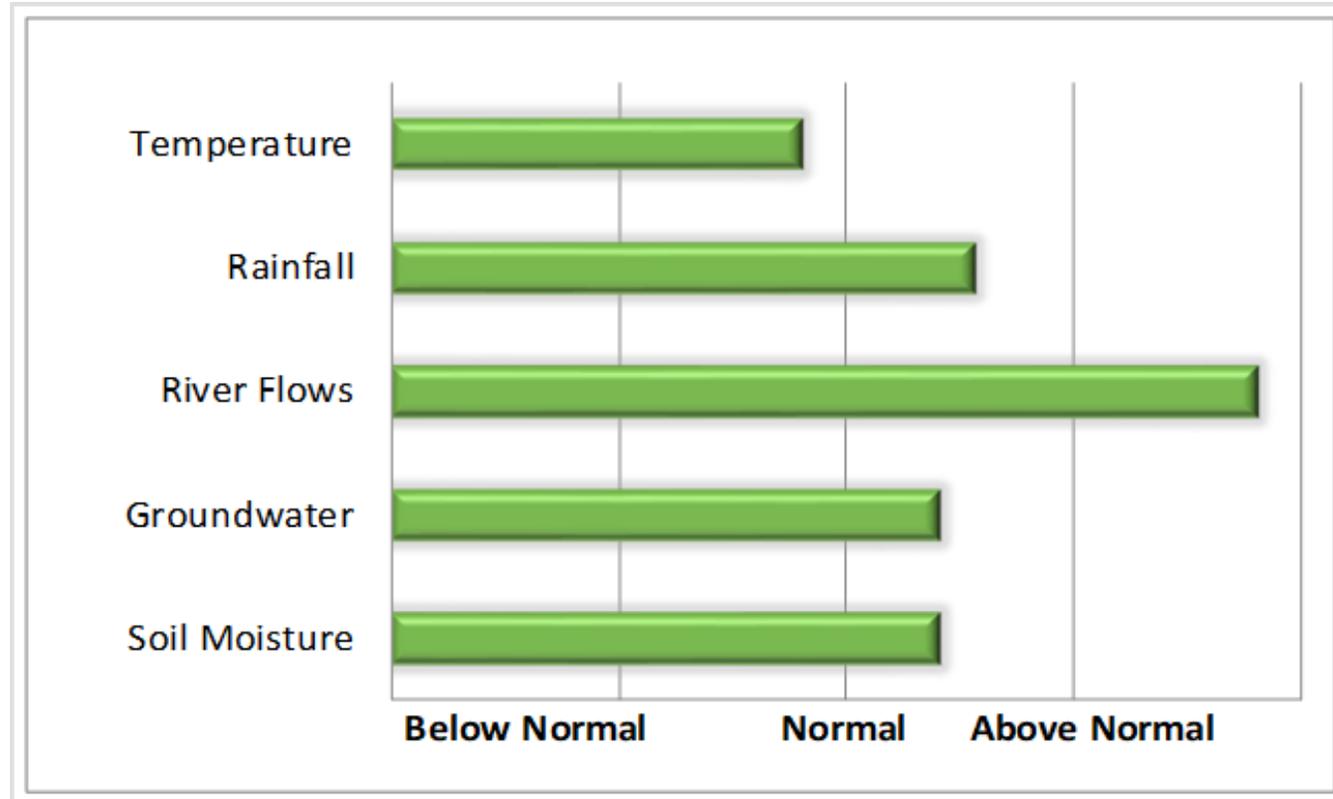
Temperature Above average  
Rain Near or above normal  
River flows Near or above normal  
Soil moisture Near normal

*source : NIWA*

For more information

[www.hbrc.govt.nz](http://www.hbrc.govt.nz)

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## RAINFALL

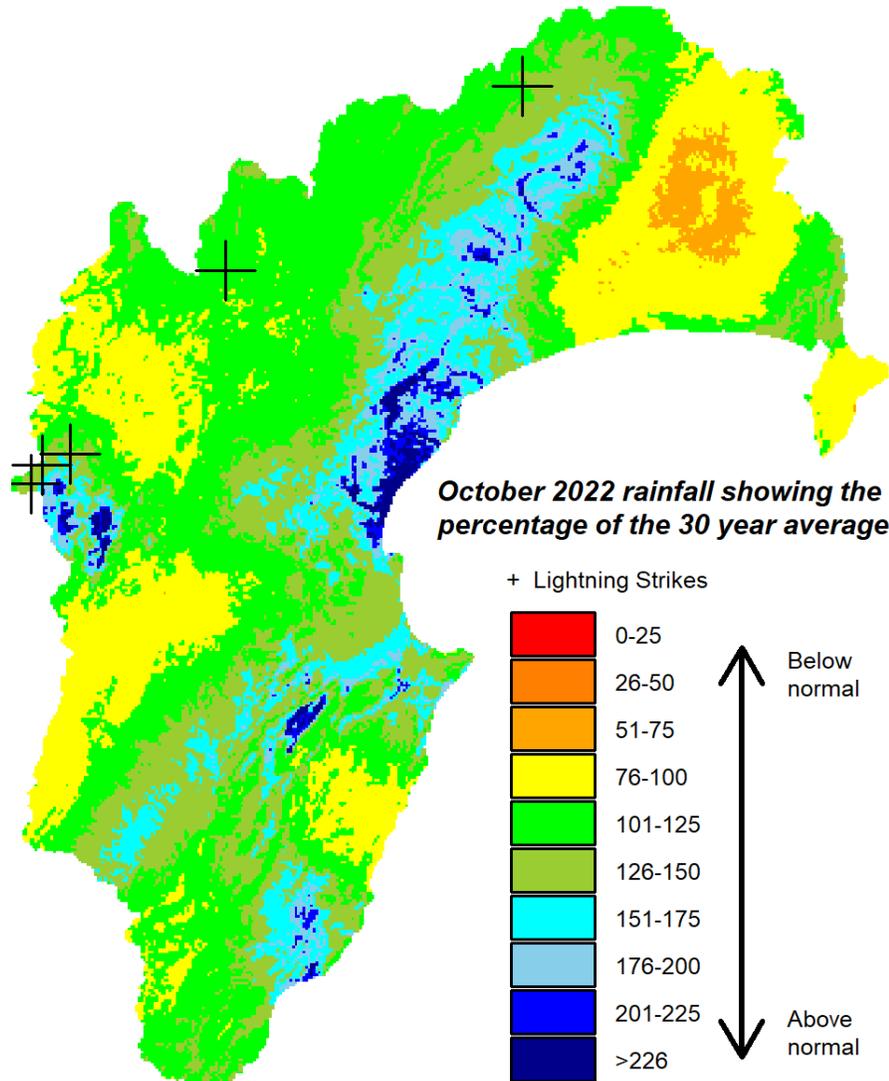
Above normal, except about the Ruahine Range.  
5 cloud to ground lightning strikes.

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

Percentage of normal October rainfall  
(30 year average)

### For areas in the region:

Waikaremoana	143%
Northern HB	116%
Tangoio	144%
Kaweka	116%
Ruahine	96%
Heretaunga Plains	138%
Ruataniwha Plains	130%
Southern HB	138%
<b>Hawke's Bay Region</b>	<b>128%</b>



## TEMPERATURES

Cooler than usual.

Mean Difference from Normal

Maximum Temperature:  $-0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Minimum Temperature:  $-0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$

Mean Daily Maximum:  $16^{\circ}\text{C}$

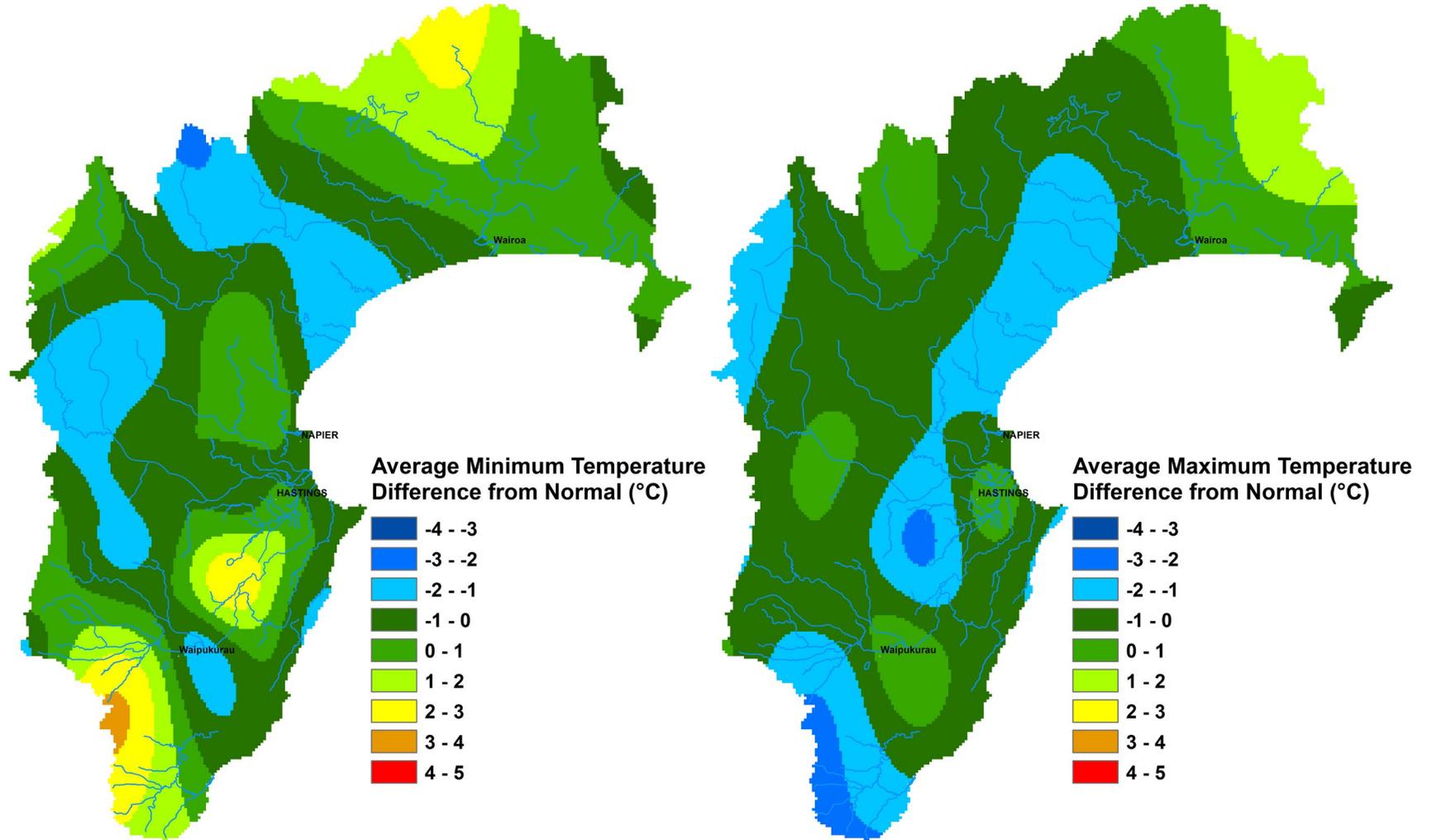
Mean Daily Minimum:  $7^{\circ}\text{C}$

Highest Daily:  $30.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Location: Waipawa EWS (NIWA)

Lowest Daily:  $-5.8^{\circ}\text{C}$

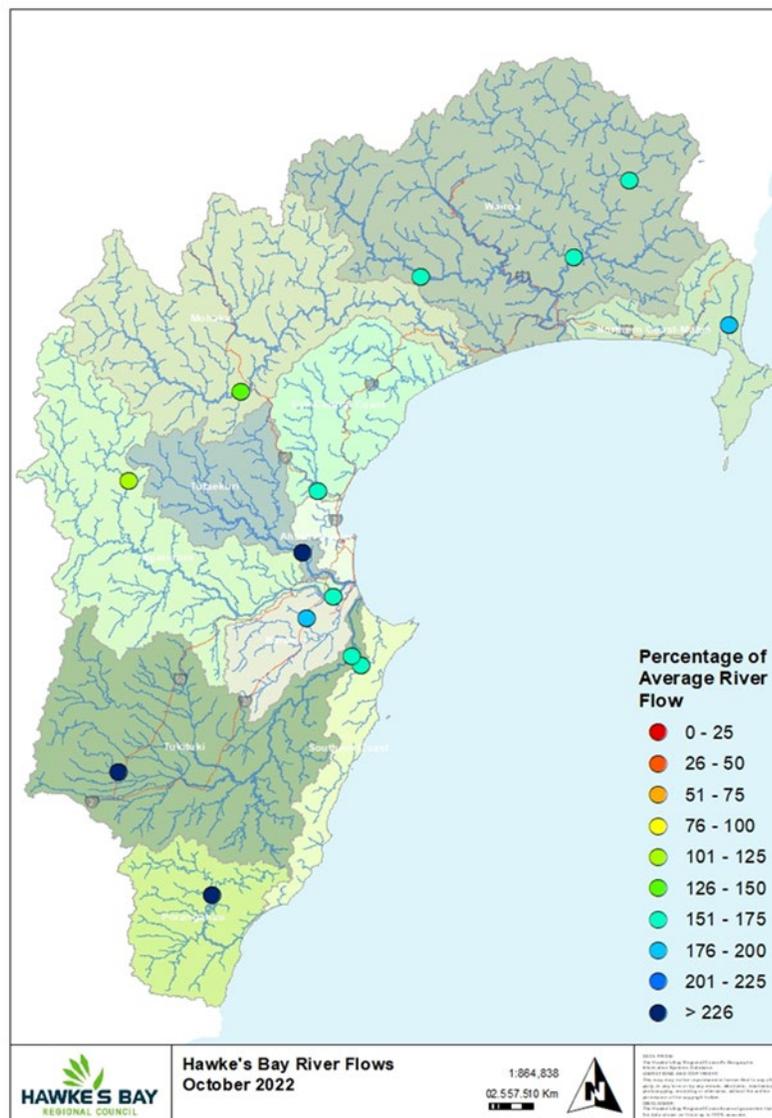
Location: Taharua Climate



## RIVER FLOW

Percentage of average October flows  
for areas in the region:

Northern Coast – Mahia	183%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	160%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	157%
Northern HB – Waiau River	169%
Mohaka	135%
Esk-Central Coast	168%
Tūtaekuri	245%
Karamu	180%
Ngaruroro – Kuripapango	119%
Ngaruroro – Chesterhope	171%
Southern Coast	158%
Tukituki – Tukipo River	238%
Tukituki – Tukituki River	175%
Porangahau	490%
<b>Hawke's Bay Region</b>	<b>196%</b>



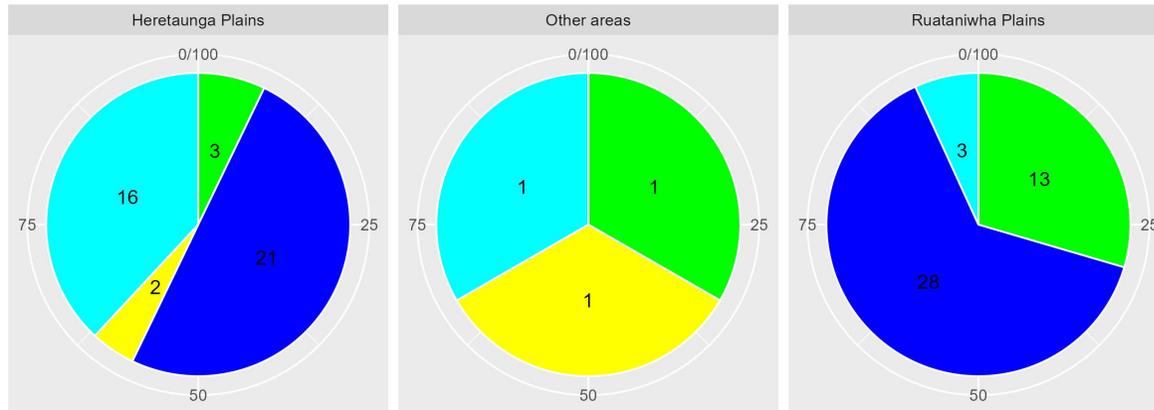
# GROUNDWATER & SOIL MOISTURE

**Soil Moisture:** Above normal.

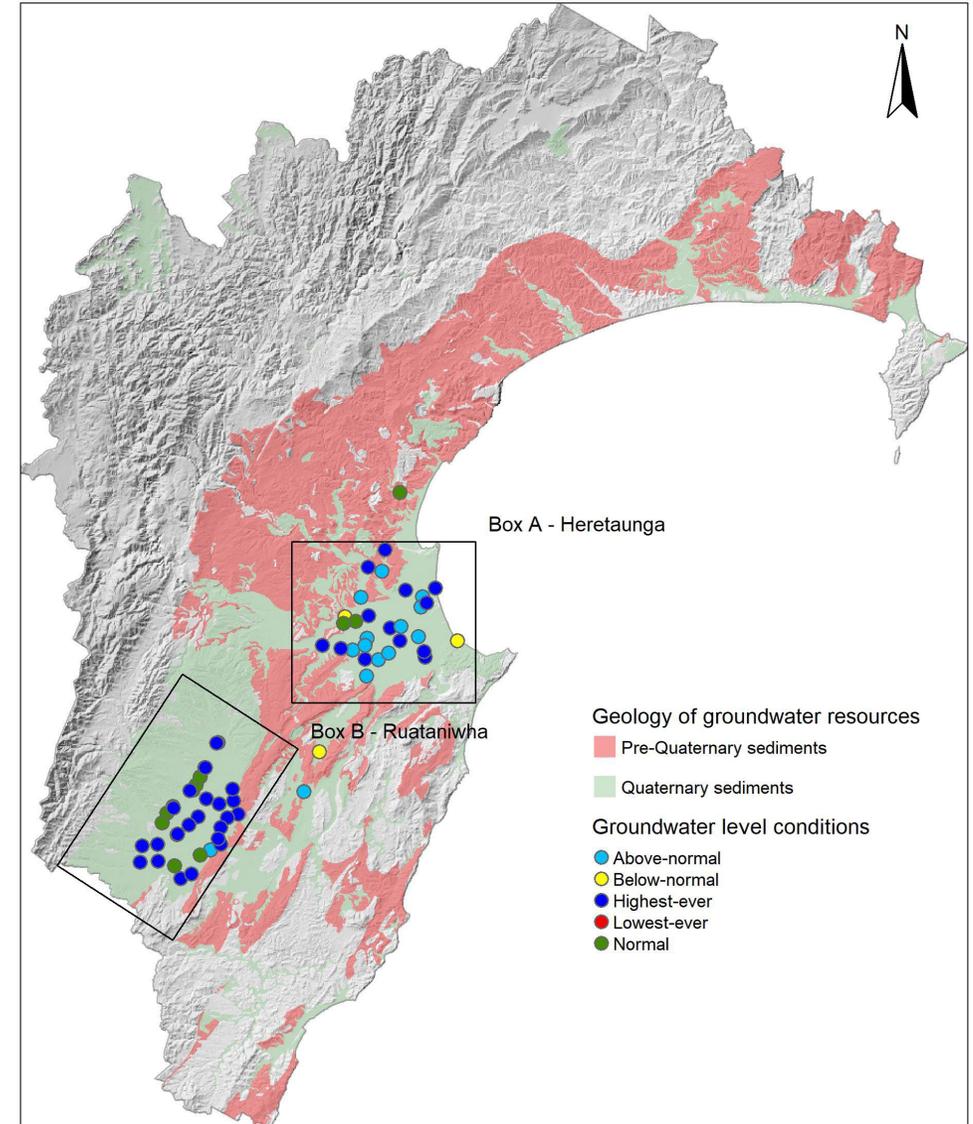
## Current state of Groundwater levels:

This report compares groundwater levels in October 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

The La Niña event is expected to rumble through the remainder of spring and summer then potentially fizzle in autumn. The negative Indian Ocean Dipole that has plagued spring should fade as summer arrives. Frankly, we won't be upset to see the back of it.

The predicted sea level pressure pattern remains unchanged from last month – below normal north of New Zealand and above normal over central and southern parts of the country. As mentioned last month, that means more easterlies.

The higher than average pressure over the region should give us more spells of welcome sunshine but rainfall predictions over the next three months remain as they have been for a while now. Near or above normal rainfall is expected and normal or above normal temperatures alongside.

**Kathleen Kozyniak**  
Team Leader Marine Air and Land Science