

October 2018

Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

TEMPERATURES

RAINFALL

RIVER FLOW

GROUNDWATER & SOIL

LONGER FORECAST

HAWKE'S BAY | Environmental Science
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A dry October makes me appreciate the wet September. As splendid and gorgeous as October's weather was, it's perked up my rain-seeking antennae. A few lucky pockets of the region enjoyed late thunderstorms but for most, it's been drips and drabs since bucketing back in early September - single-figure amounts on a mere nine days out of 50 doesn't make for a lot of rain.

River flows are down from normal October levels and soil moisture is starting to dry in southern parts of the region. Groundwater has September rain to thank for currently looking like the month's poster child. Subdued October winds and temperatures meant at least whatever moisture met the ground got the chance to say more than a quick hello.

Kathleen Kozyniak
Principal Scientist Climate and Air



The short summary

Not a lot of rain and a few late frosts.

This is a summary of the regions rainfall, river flows, ground water, air quality and soil moisture levels. Data and images provided by HBRC.

November to January

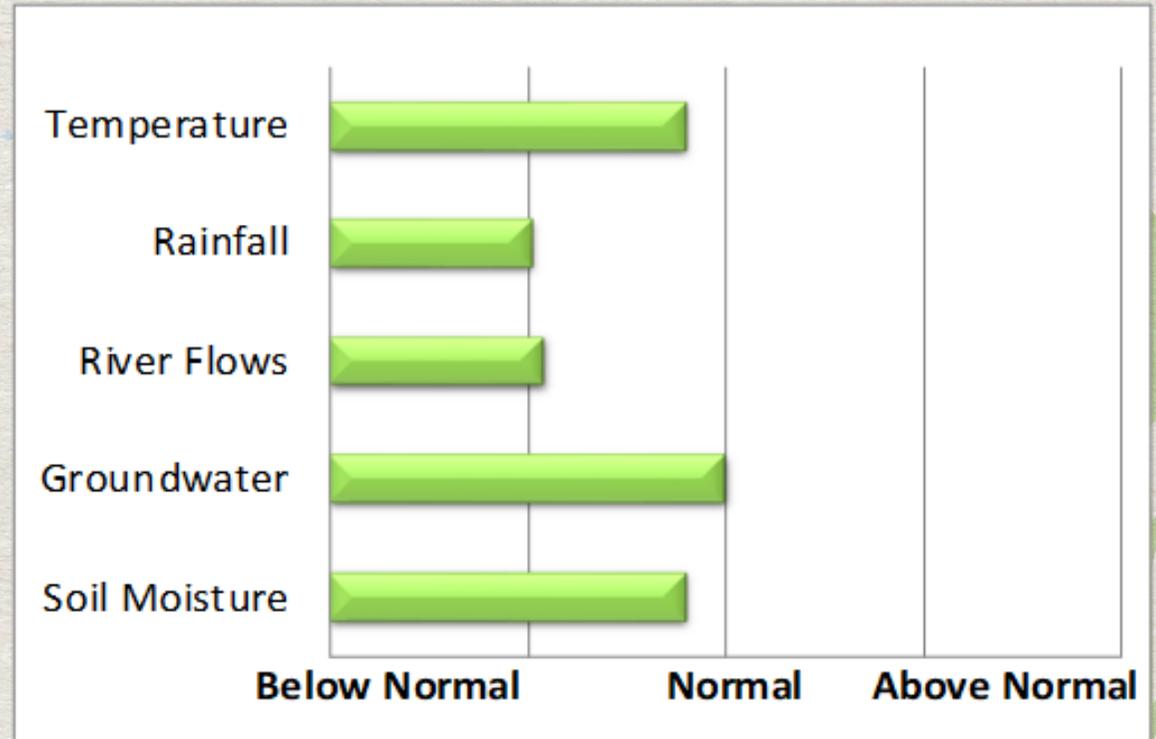
Temperature	Near or above average
Rain	Near or below normal
River flows	Near or below normal
Soil moisture	Near or below normal

(source : NIWA)

For more information

www.hbrc.govt.nz

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RAINFALL

Just half the average for October. Sixteen lightning strikes (cloud to ground).

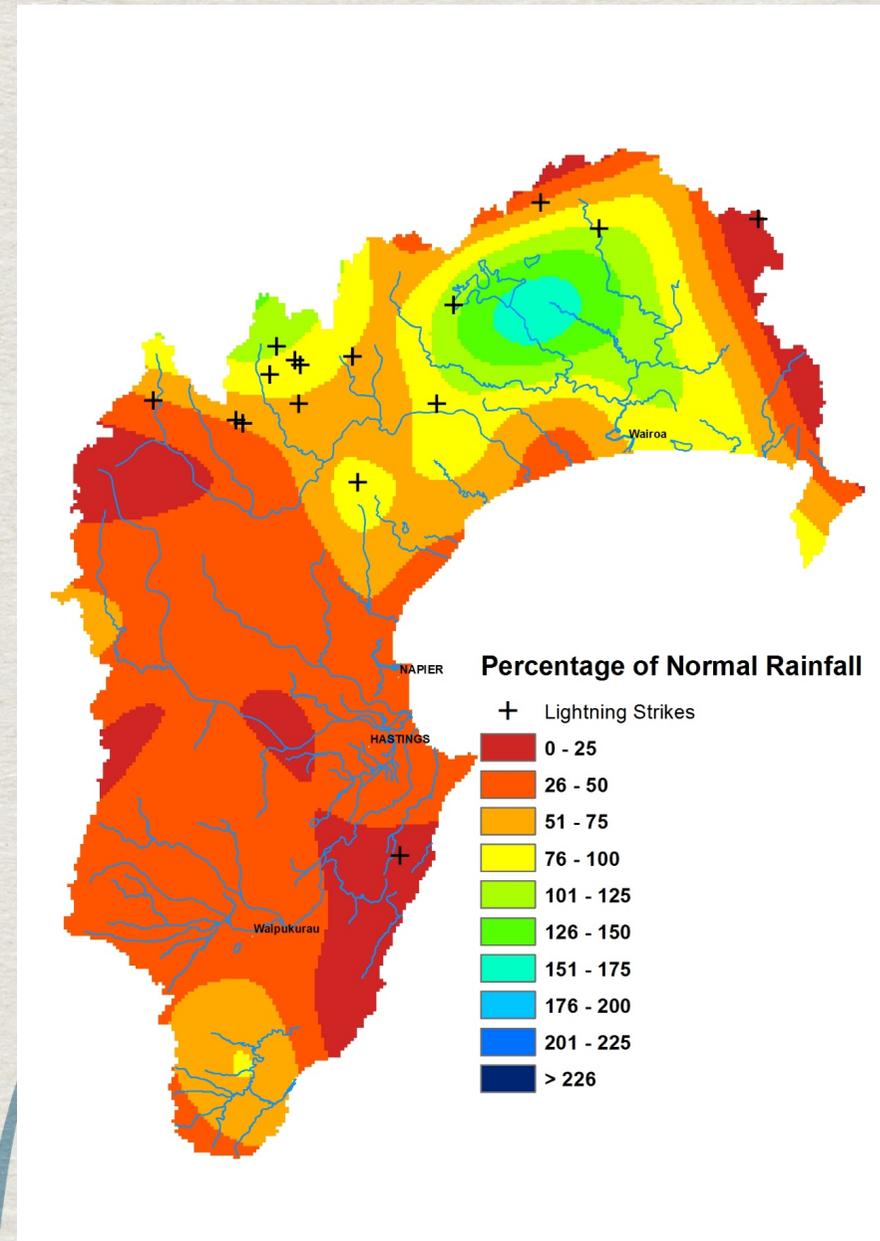
Lightning counts come from the Blitzortung.org lightning network to which HBRC contributes.

Percentage of normal October rainfall

(30 year average)

For areas in the region:

Waikaremoana	94%
Northern HB	80%
Tangoio	57%
Kaweka	37%
Ruahine	28%
Heretaunga Plains	29%
Ruataniwha Plains	39%
Southern HB	41%
Hawke's Bay Region	51%

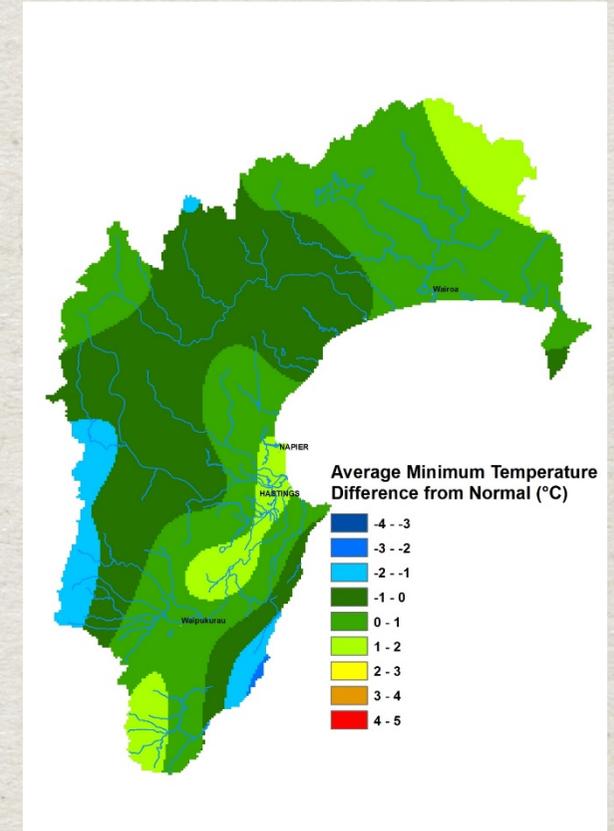
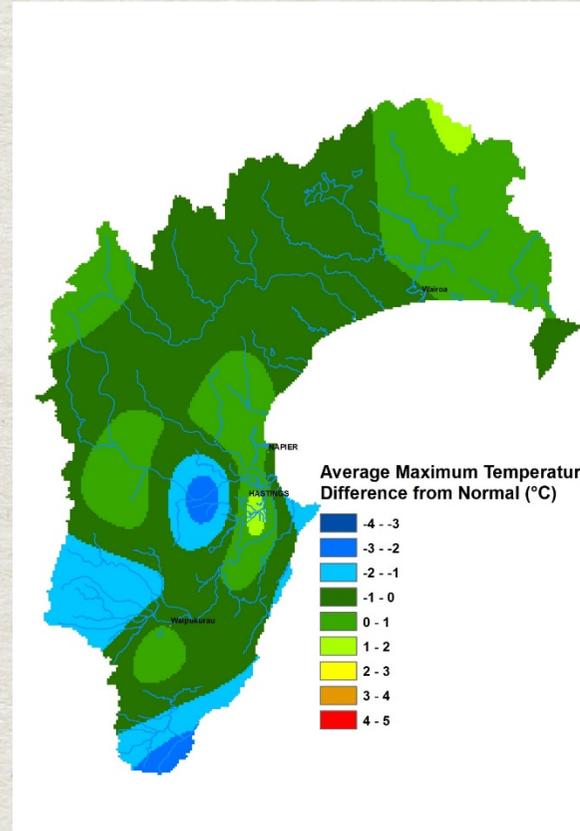


TEMPERATURES

Cooler than usual nights.

Maximum Temperature: 0.4°C
Minimum Temperature: -0.6°C

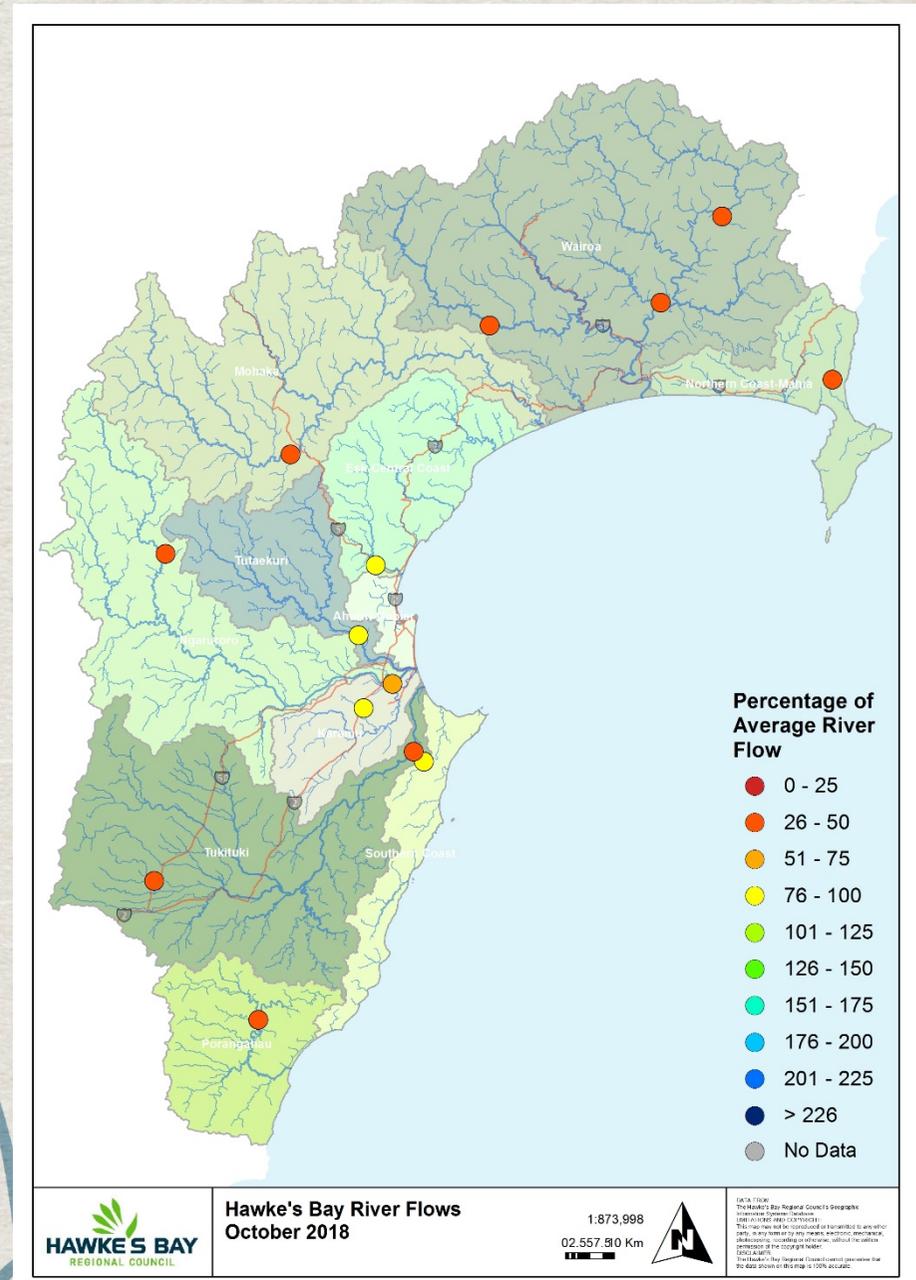
Mean Daily Maximum: 17°C
Mean Daily Minimum: 7°C
Highest Daily: 26.5°C
Location: Napier Aero AWS
Lowest Daily: -4.4°C
Location: Taharua



RIVER FLOW

Percentage of average October flows for areas in the region:

Northern Coastal	43%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	41%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	50%
Northern HB – Waiau River	41%
Mohaka	35%
Central Coastal	98%
Tūtaekuri	78%
Karamu	83%
Ngaruroro - Upper	41%
Ngaruroro - Lower	69%
Southern Coastal	85%
Ruataniwha Plains	37%
Tukituki	37%
Southern HB	38%
Hawke's Bay Region	55%



GROUNDWATER & SOIL MOISTURE

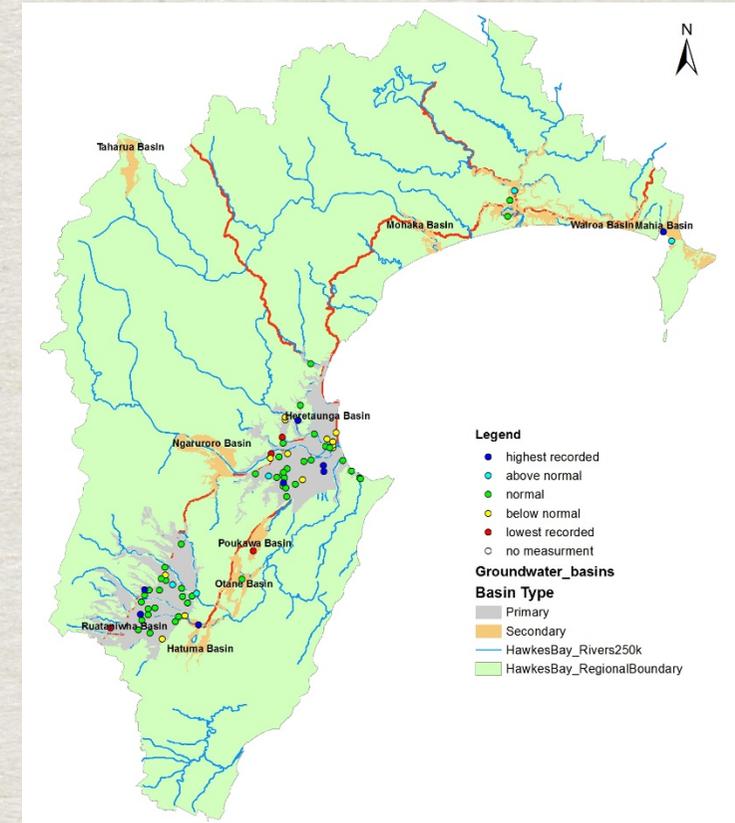
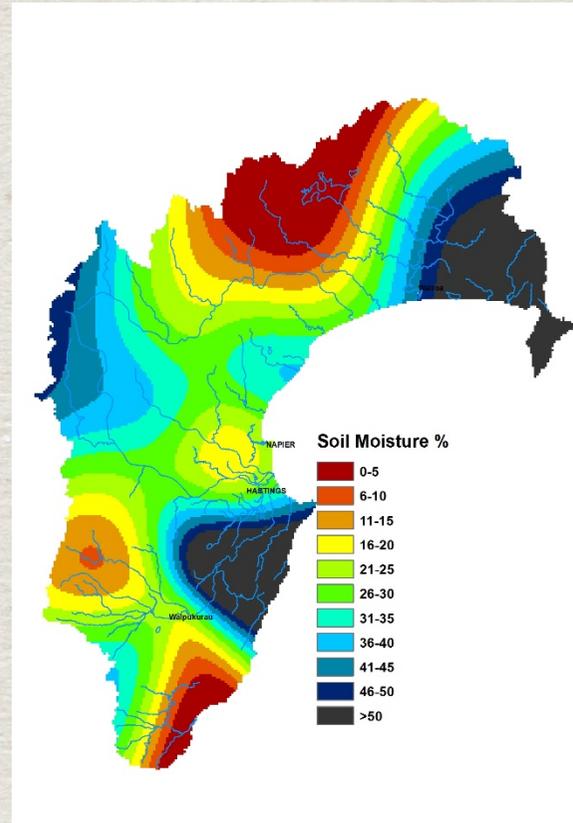
Groundwater:

Heretaunga basin:
Mostly normal levels.

Ruataniwha basin:
Mostly normal levels.

Secondary basins: Mostly normal and above normal levels.

Soil Moisture: Ranging from above normal in the north to below normal in the south



LONGER FORECAST

An El Niño looks set to become a reality as we head toward Christmas. The forecast maps suggest more of a westerly component in the wind than of late, for the next two months anyway and not so much January. Pressures tend to be lower to the south of the country, though possibly also to the northeast for a period.

The latter gives a glimmer of hope that something wet might come our way, but the general picture is for normal or below normal rainfall over the next few months. Temperatures look about normal or above normal so it's not looking to shabby for holidaymakers.

