

January 2014

HAWKE'S BAY

trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT



Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua




HAWKE'S BAY
REGIONAL COUNCIL

JANUARY SUMMARY

Regional Council Science Summary

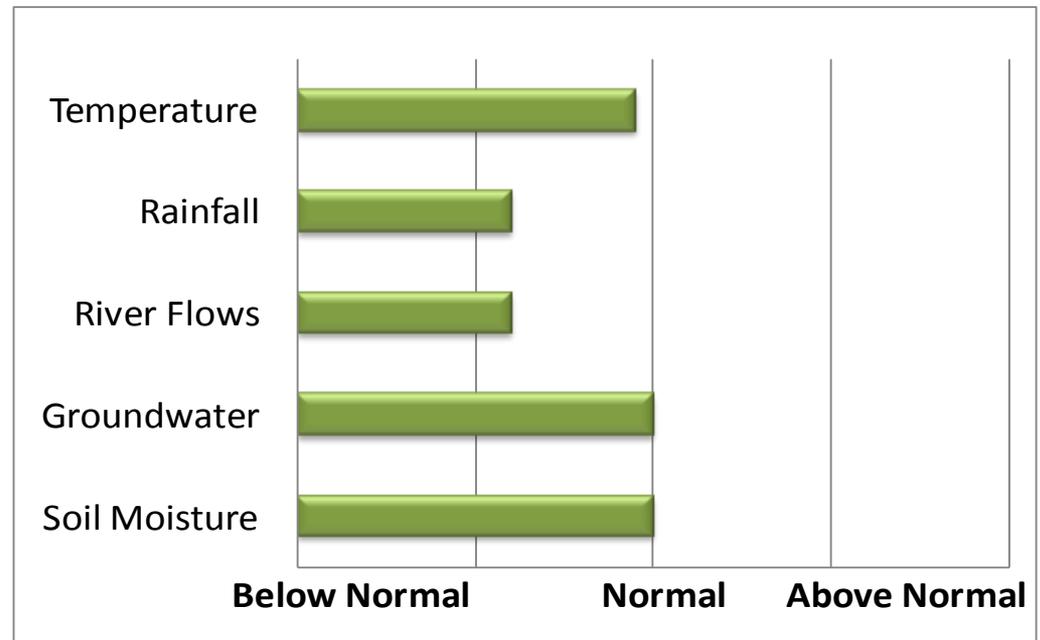
From what I've heard, it was good biking weather right through January – not too hot, not too windy and dry.

This is a summary of the region's rainfall, groundwater, river and soil moisture levels.

Data and images provided by HBRC and MPI.

www.hbrc.govt.nz

06 835 9200



Summary information in this report reflects regional averages. Specific situations between catchments will vary. More in-depth information is available on Council's website.

February to April Forecast

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Temperature | Near to above average |
| Rain | Near normal |
| River flows | Near normal |
| Soil moisture | Near normal |

source : NIWA

TEMPERATURES

Above normal

Typical daytime warmth but cooler than usual at night.

Mean Difference from Normal

Maximum Temperature: 0.0 C

Minimum Temperature: -1.2 C

Mean Daily Maximum: 22.5 C

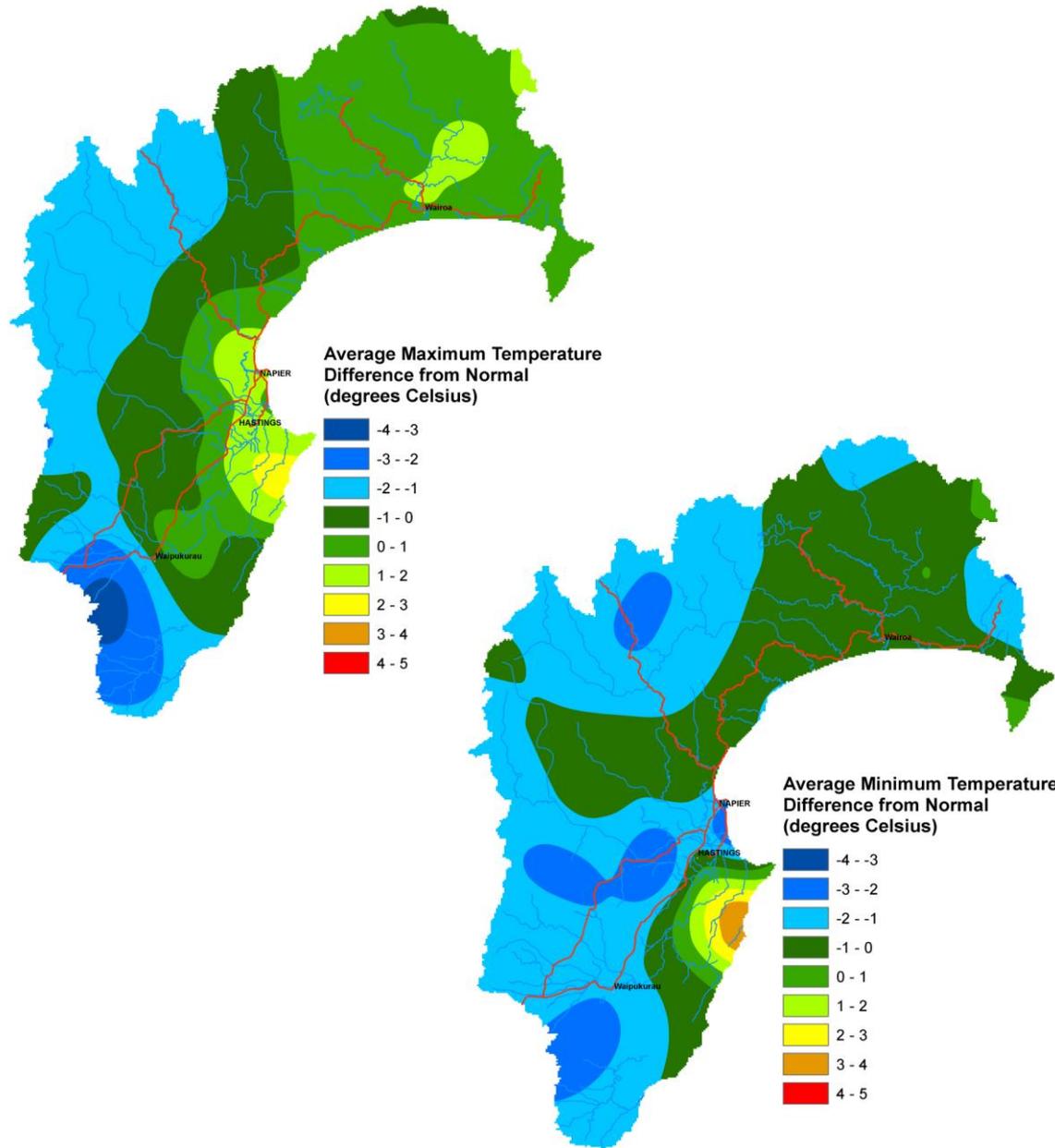
Mean Daily Minimum: 10.8 C

Highest Daily: 33.2 C

Location: Napier Airport

Lowest Daily: 0.7 C

Location: Taharua





January Roundup

It has been an excellent growing season for pasture up until early January. While it is drying off now, this is typical for Hawke's Bay. There is a lot more feed about than last year. Hawke's Bay farms are set up to handle these summer dry conditions. Normal autumn rains are the key to a good outcome for pastoral operations.

Haymaking has been somewhat delayed and is still underway although pasture quality is declining. Feed crops have grown quite well.

The season for pipfruit and wine grapes is about a week to ten days ahead of normal for the region. Apart from a hail storm in mid-December, it has been a very favourable growing season for pipfruit with good fruit size and quality expected. Grape crops are also performing well. Grape growers will be hoping for warm settled weather from now until the end of harvest.

Arable and vegetable crops benefited from the warm spring providing an early start to the season, and in general have grown well.

Gillian Mangin & Annette Carey
Ministry for Primary Industries
Policy, Hastings



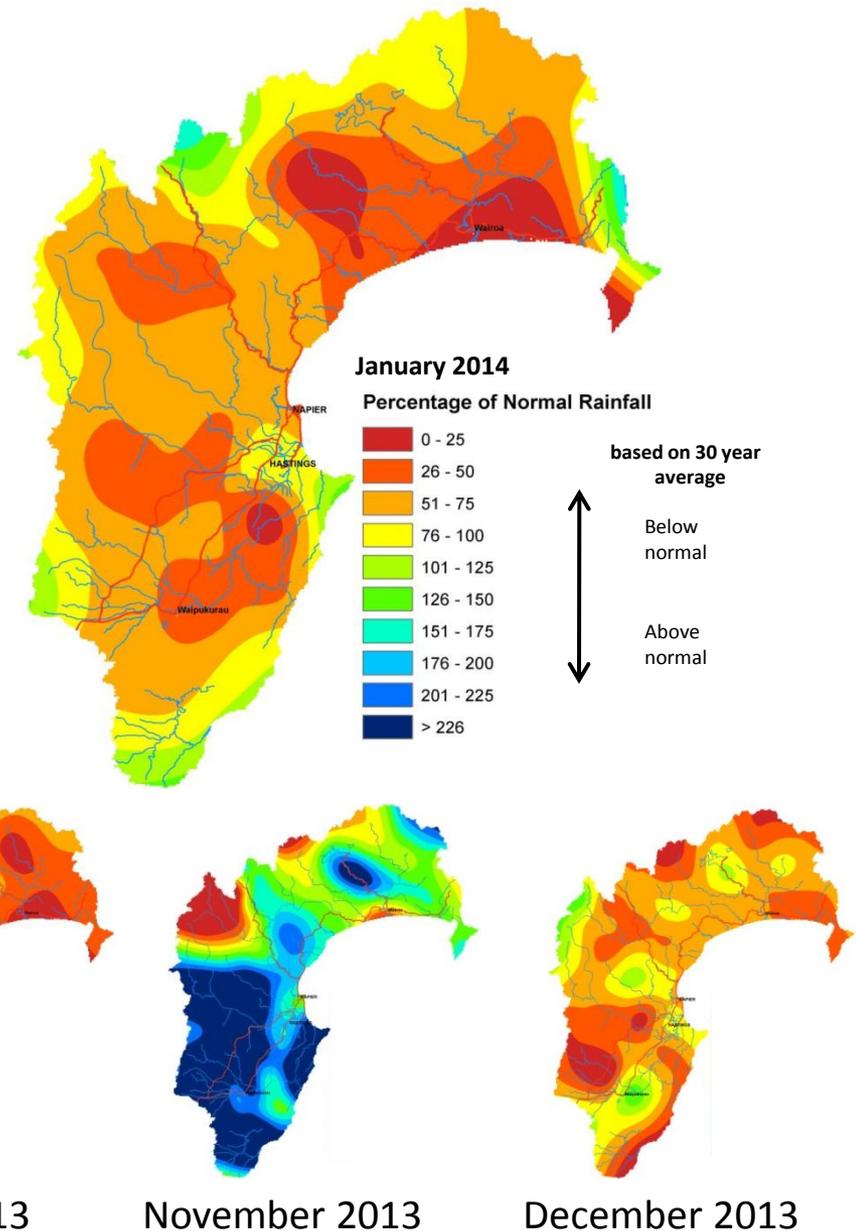
RAINFALL

Below normal

January was our second consecutive month of below normal rainfall.

Percentage of normal December rainfall (30 year average) for areas within the region:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Waikaremoana | 65% |
| Northern HB | 48% |
| Tangoio | 60% |
| Kaweka | 63% |
| Ruahine | 77% |
| Heretaunga Plains | 54% |
| Ruataniwha Plains | 47% |
| Southern HB | 76% |
| Hawke's Bay region | 61% |



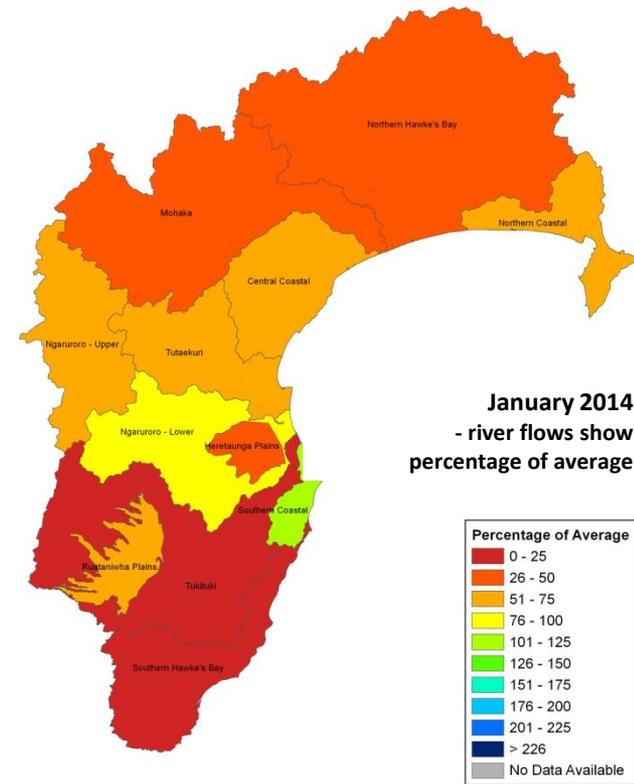
RIVER FLOWS

Below normal flows

The region averaged around 50% of normal river flows.

Percentage of normal December flows for areas in the region:

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Northern Coastal | 53% |
| Northern HB | 36% |
| Mohaka | 47% |
| Central Coastal | 63% |
| Tutaekuri | 63% |
| Heretaunga Plains | 49% |
| Ngaruroro-Upper | 55% |
| Ngaruroro-Lower | 77% |
| Southern Coastal | 120% |
| Ruataniwha Plains | 52% |
| Tukituki | 16% |
| Southern HB | 20% |



November 2013



December 2013

GROUNDWATER & SOIL

GROUNDWATER LEVELS

Heretaunga basin

Mostly normal water levels.

Ruataniwha basin

A mix of normal and below normal water levels.

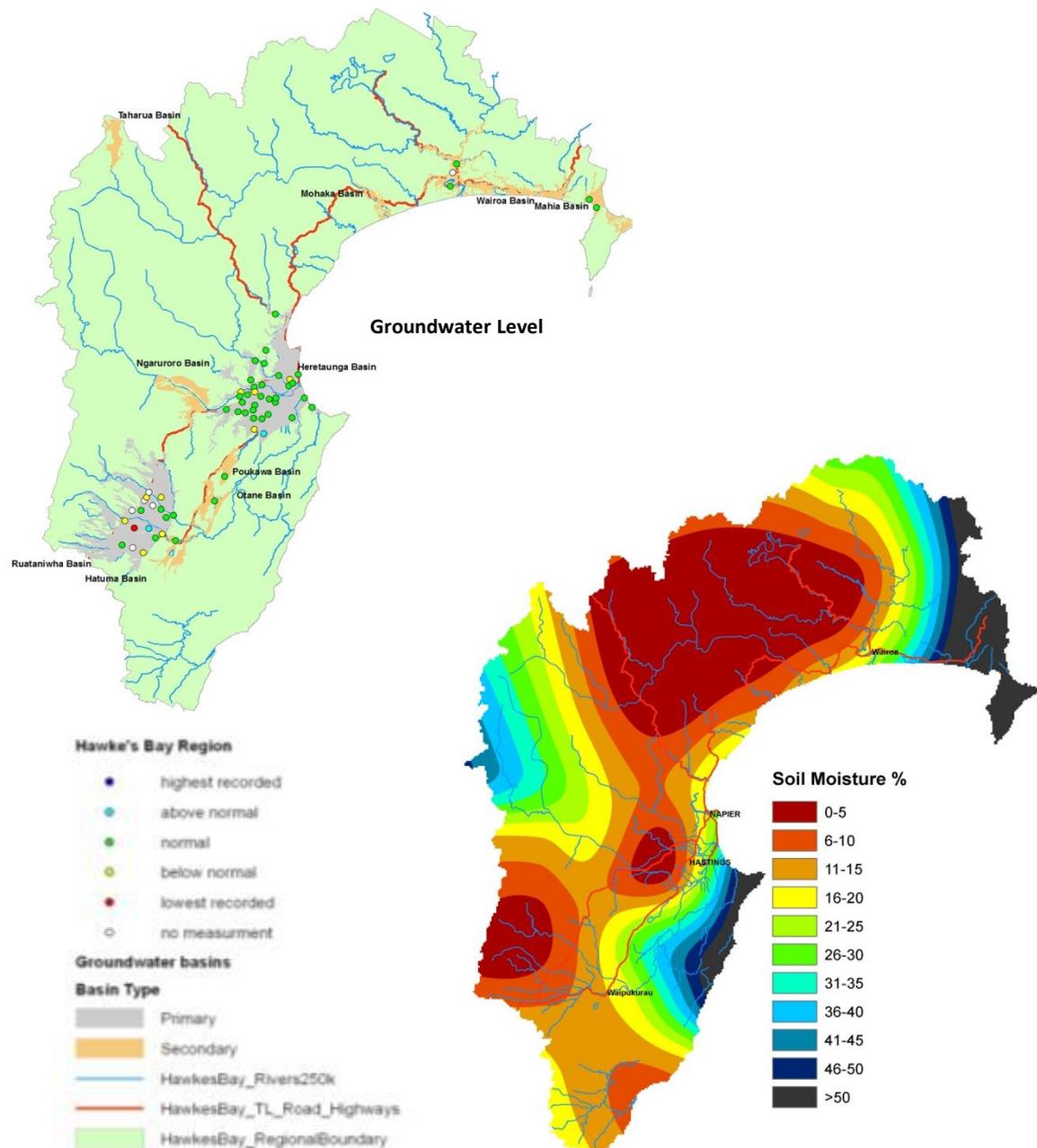
Secondary basins

Mostly normal water levels

SOIL MOISTURE

Near to above normal

(compared to last 5 years).



RIVER & BATHING BEACH MONITORING

RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY

Our water quality monitoring where people like to swim runs until 17 March.

There were several exceedences above guideline levels in both dry and rainfall related conditions. The sites with multiple exceedences were Waipatiki Stream/Lagoon, Waipuka Stream at Ocean Beach and the Esk river. There have been extra samples taken at each of these sites and submitted to the lab for further analysis to determine the origin of the bacterial source. However the remaining coastal and other river sites have remained very suitable for all recreational activities.

The rule of thumb for swimming after rain is that if you cannot see you're feet in knee deep water you should try another location or simply not swim.

