

**DECEMBER  
2014**

**HAWKE'S BAY**

# trends

**THE STATE OF OUR  
ENVIRONMENT**



# DECEMBER SUMMARY

## Regional Council Science Summary

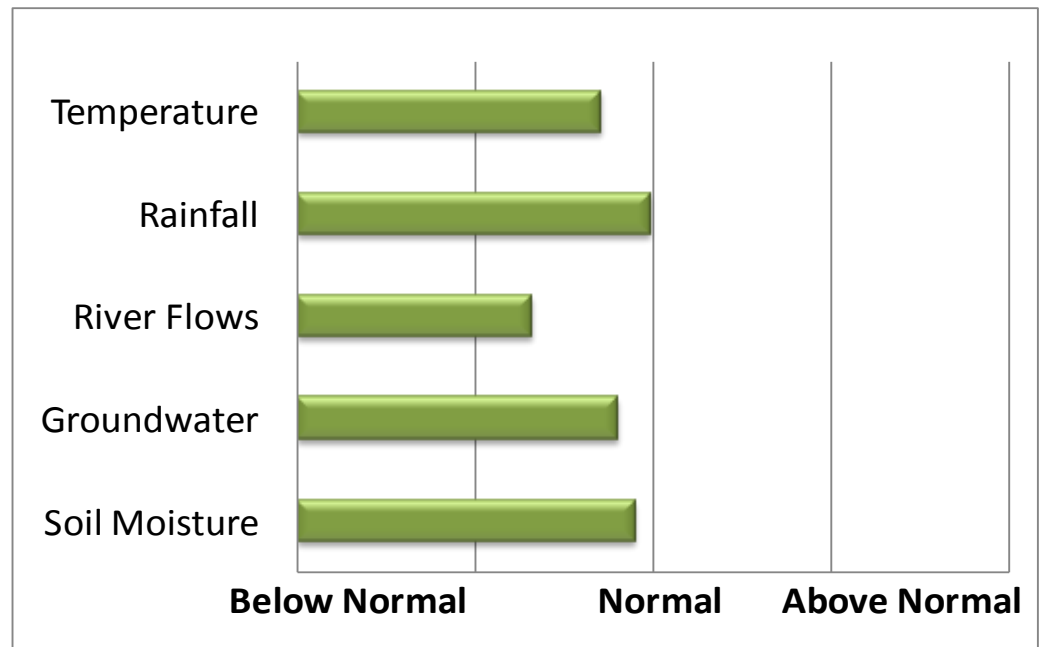
December was a classic month of two halves. Fairly wet first half; dry as a bone second half (most places). All up, totals for the region were very normal.

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

Data and images provided by HBRC.

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

## January to March Forecast

Temperature	Average to above average
Rain	Near to above normal
River flows	Near to below normal
Soil moisture	Near to below normal

source : NIWA

# TEMPERATURES

## *Pretty average*

We had average overnight temps and lack-lustre day temps.

### Mean Difference from Normal

Maximum Temperature: 0.5°C

Minimum Temperature: -0.1°C

Mean Daily Maximum: 20°C

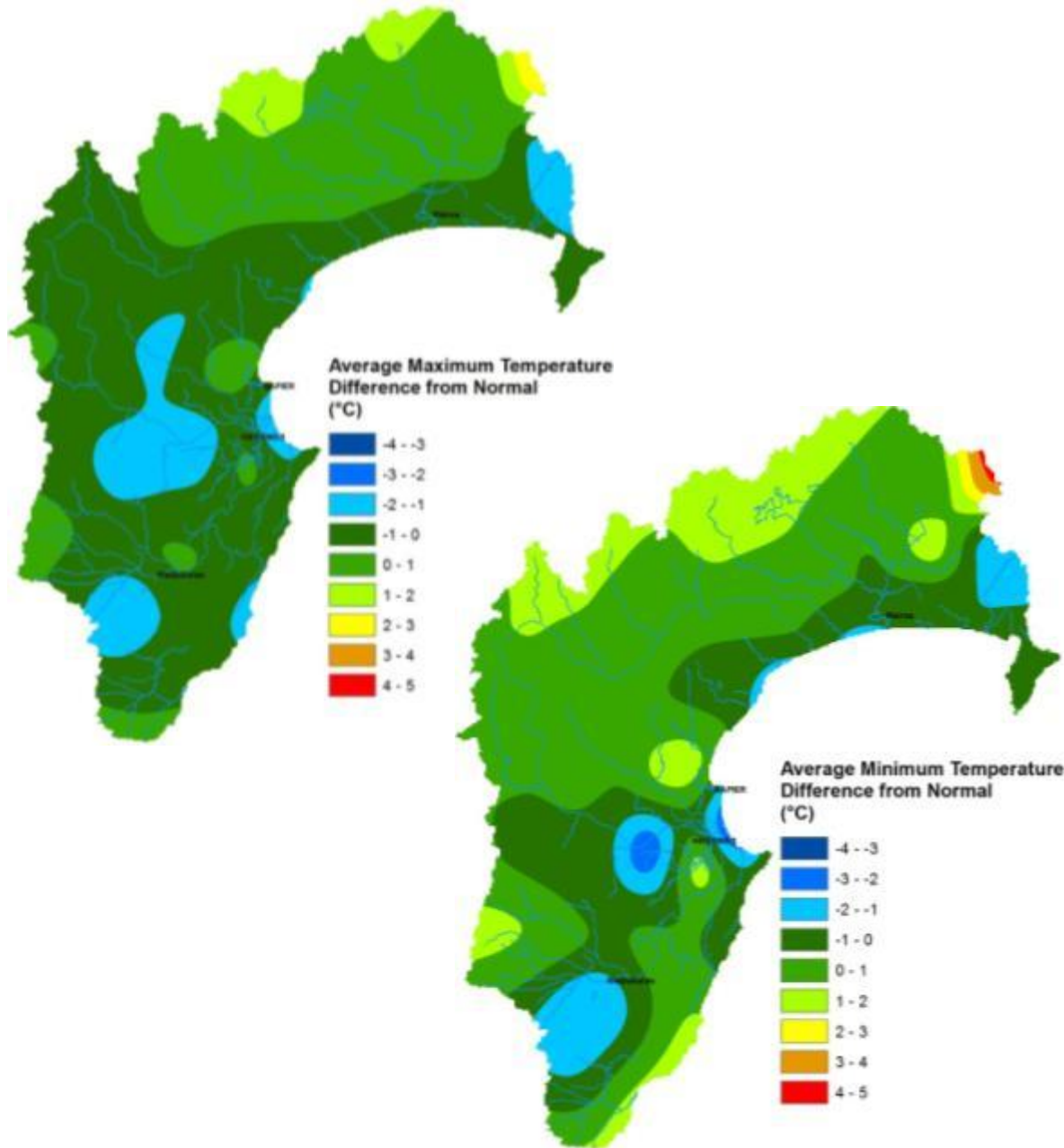
Mean Daily Minimum: 11°C

Highest Daily: 30°C

Location: Napier Airport

Lowest Daily: -1°C

Location: Taharua



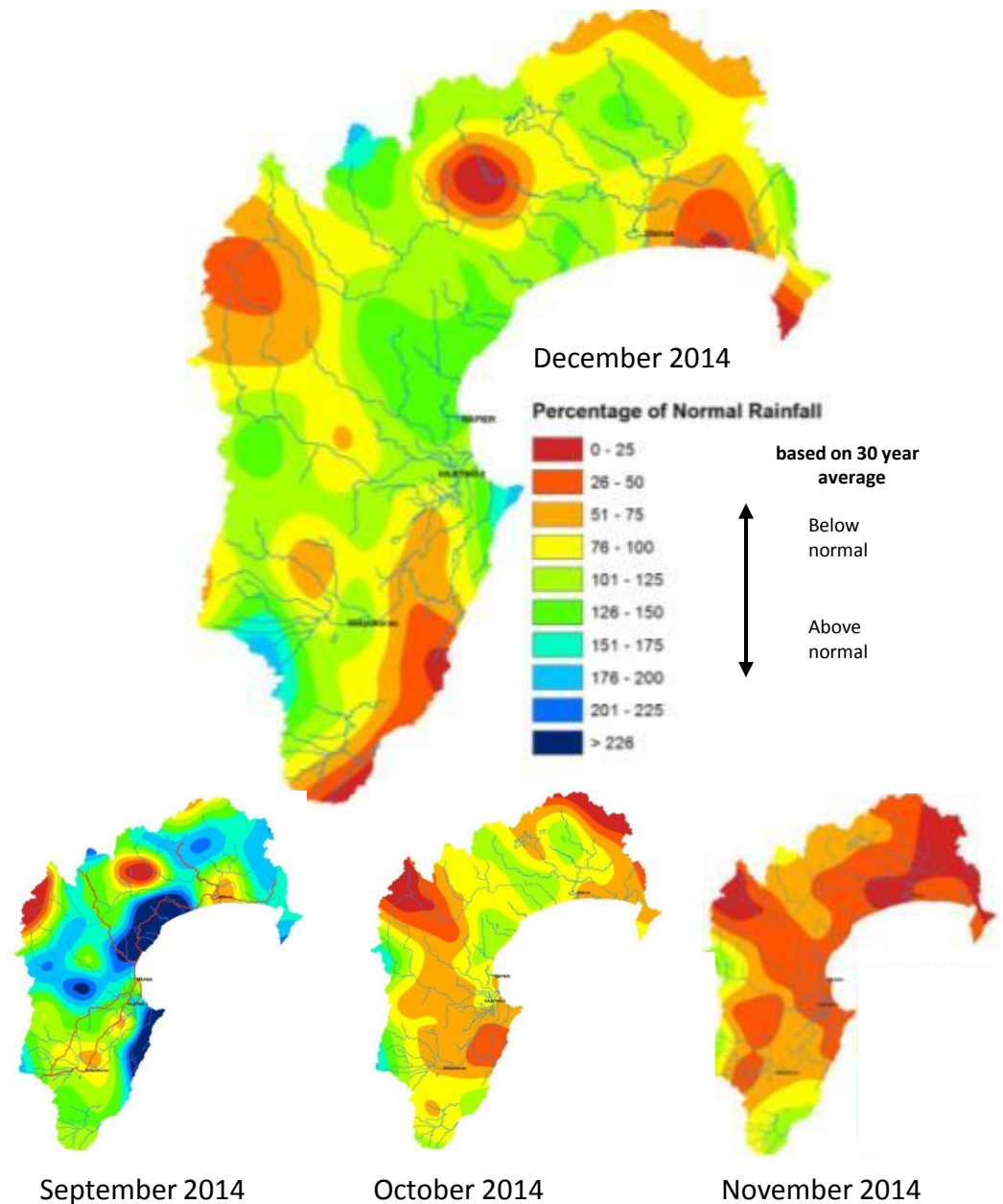
# RAINFALL

## *Very near normal*

Thanks to a very wet first half of the month, rainfall was very near normal.

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

Waikaremoana	100%
Northern HB	92%
Tangoio	127%
Kaweka	87%
Ruahine	102%
Heretaunga Plains	98%
Ruataniwha Plains	101%
Southern HB	87%
<b>Hawke's Bay region</b>	<b>99%</b>



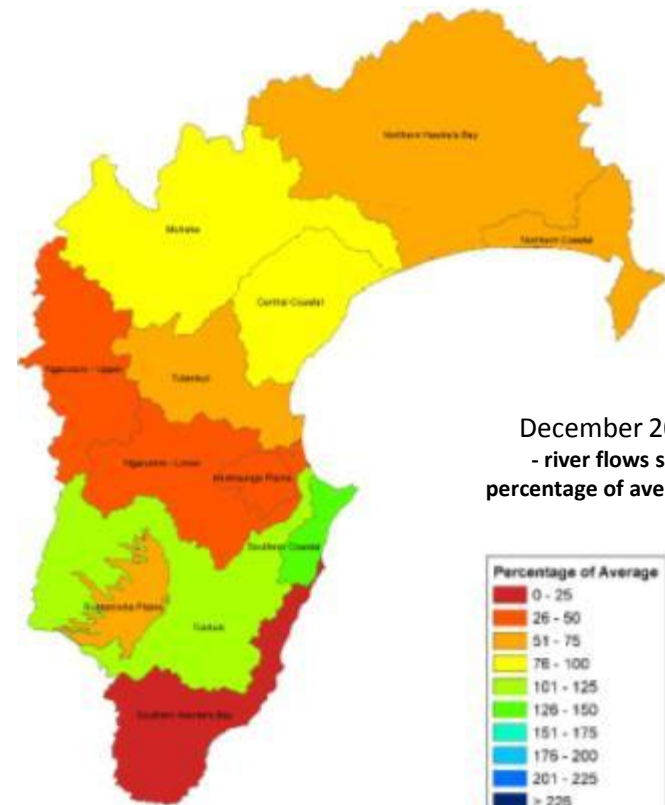
# RIVER FLOWS

## *A mixed bag*

The region averaged 66% of normal river flows.

Percentage of normal December flows for areas in the region:

Northern Coastal	69%
Northern HB	59%
Mohaka	84%
Central Coastal	91%
Tūtaekuri	61%
Heretaunga Plains	41%
Ngaruroro-Upper	47%
Ngaruroro-Lower	36%
Southern Coastal	126%
Ruataniwha Plains	61%
Tukituki	102%
Southern HB	13%



October 2014



November 2014

# GROUNDWATER + SOIL

## GROUNDWATER LEVELS

### *Heretaunga basin*

Mostly normal to lowest-ever water levels in the west, mainly normal over the aquifer

### *Ruataniwha basin*

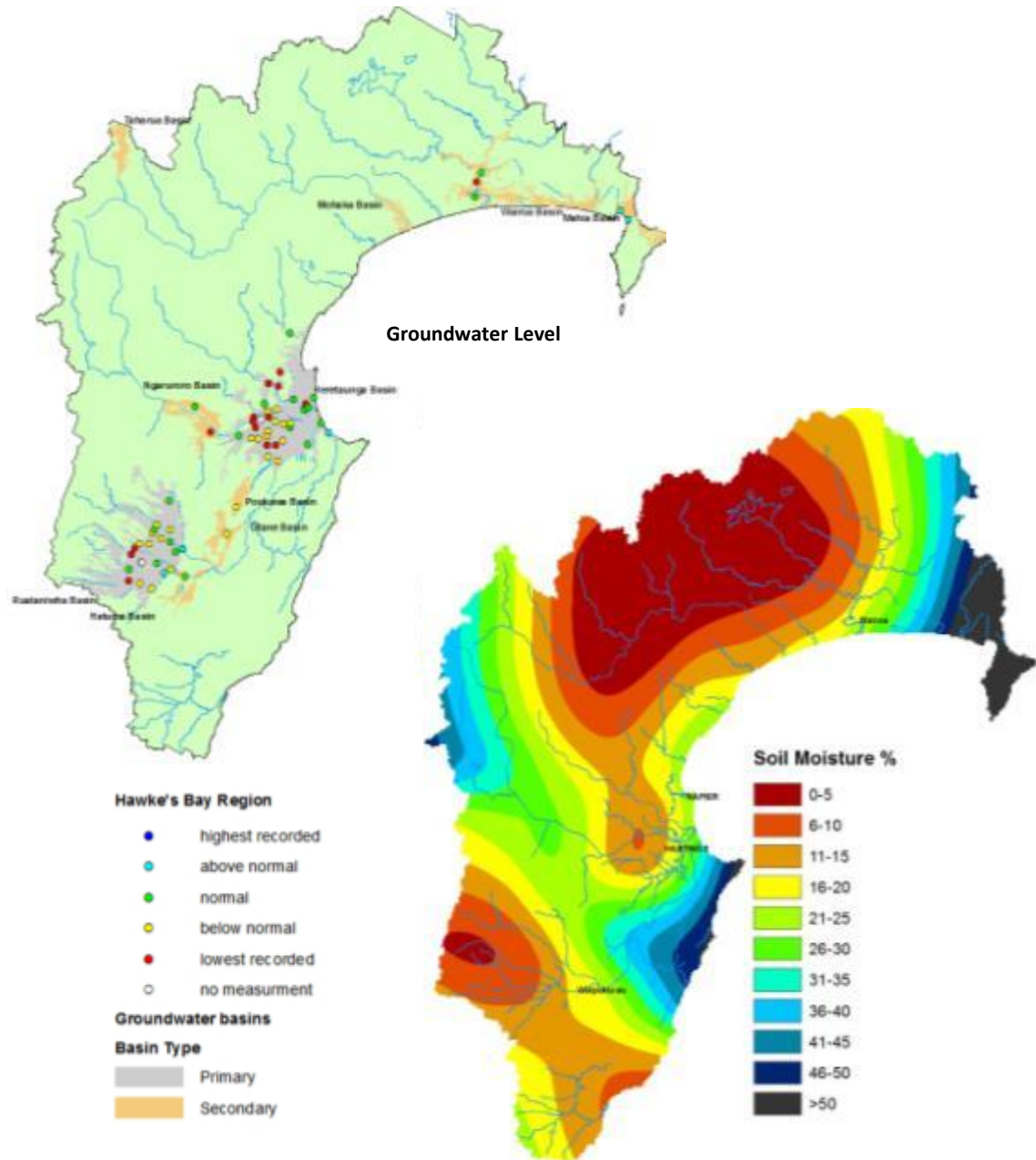
Below normal water levels

### *Secondary basins*

A mix of normal and below normal water levels

## SOIL MOISTURE

Near normal levels  
*(compared to last 5 years)*



# RIVER + BEACH SWIM MONITORING

## RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY

Our water quality team monitors where people like to swim until 17 March

Our second month of the swimming season saw a few water quality exceedences in our fresh water and coastal environments. The Clive River site failed twice and extra samples were sent away for faecal source tracking.

All site exceedences were rainfall-related, with more than 8mm rainfall in 72 hours before the samples are taken. This amount of rain is enough to move bacteria in surface runoff from agricultural land.

The rule of thumb for swimming after rain is, if you can't see your feet in knee deep water, try another location or simply don't swim.

