

NOVEMBER 2015

Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

- TEMPERATURES
- MPI
- RAINFALL
- RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY
- RIVER FLOW
- GROUNDWATER & SOIL

November update:

There goes another spring and it was a cool one, as expected, but unexpectedly wet. November gave us robust rainfall in northern parts of the region and ample helpings elsewhere. So river flows, groundwater and soil moisture levels aren't looking starved of Christmas pies and if anything nudge the belt a bit in places.

Temperatures weren't spectacular but at least the cooler minimums made for a decent night's kip. 'Tis the season we report on water quality at our swimming spots and most were well behaved but a couple won't see Santa down the chimney based on current form.

Have a great Christmas everyone.

Kathleen Kozyniak
Senior Scientist Climate & Air



SUMMARY

November in a nutshell – Uninspiring. A bit cool and a bit wet.

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

Data and images provided by HBRC.

December to February Forecast:

Temperature - Near average

Rain - Below normal

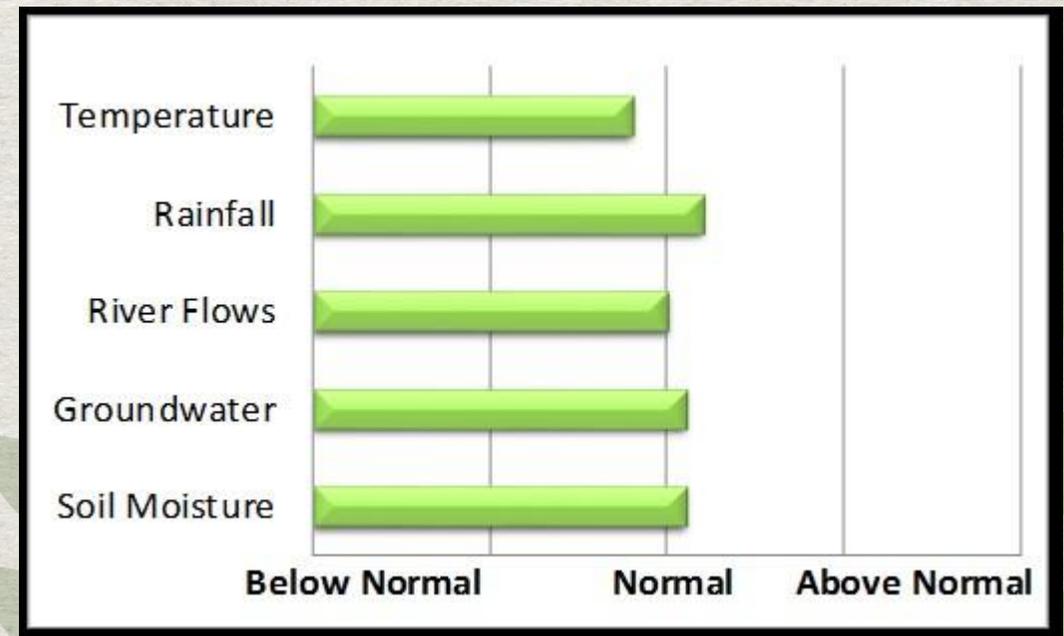
River flows - Below normal

Soil moisture - Near or below normal

For more information

www.hbrc.govt.nz

P: 06 835 9200



TEMPERATURES

Not that flash – near to below normal

Mean difference from normal

Maximum Temperature: -0.3°C

Minimum Temperature: -0.8°C

Mean Daily Maximum: 18°C

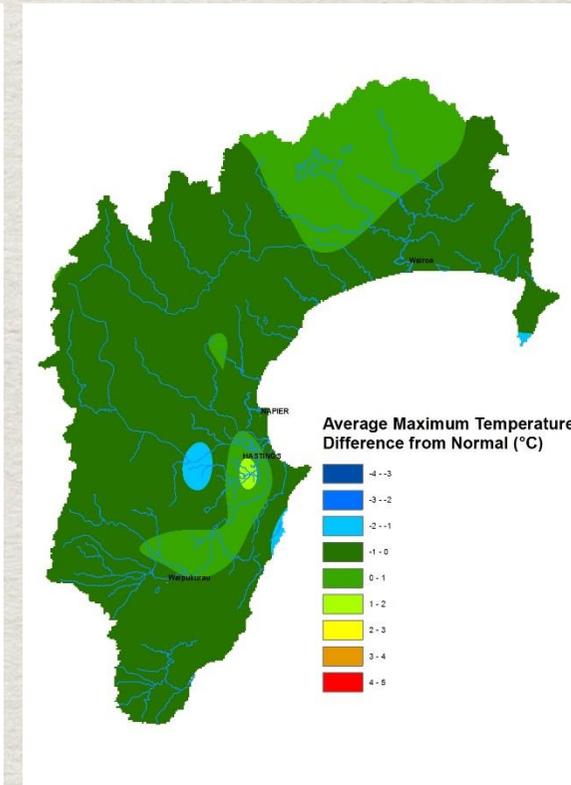
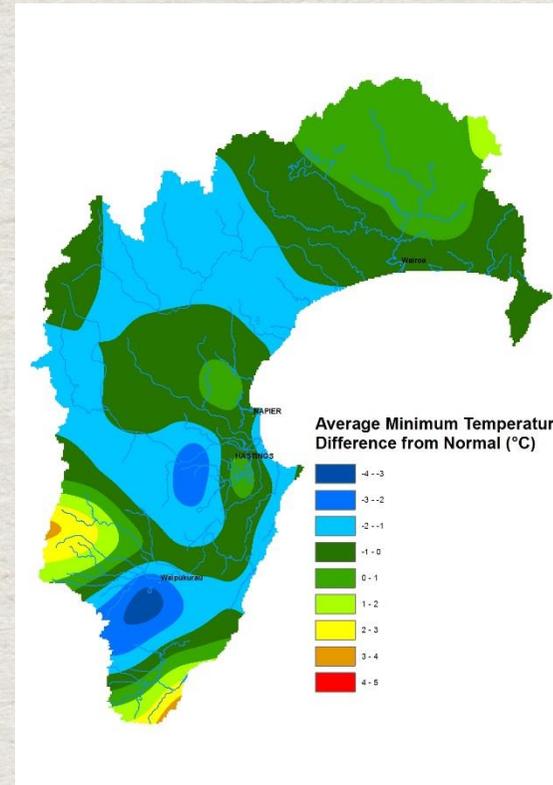
Mean Daily Minimum: 8°C

Highest Daily: 31.7°C

Location: Hastings AWS

Lowest Daily: -2.7°C

Location: Taharua



November 2015

Warmer temperatures, adequate rainfall and little wind provided favourable conditions for pasture growth during November, and feed covers are very good for this time of year. This has taken the pressure off somewhat as farmers will have adequate feed through early summer. There are good levels of clover in the sward and standing hay will help carry beef cattle through if it becomes dry.

Plenty of hay and silage has been made, including on dairy farms. Cow condition has been good over the mating period, which bodes well for next season.

Dairy farmers have little spare cash, so the good soil moisture levels have helped by keeping costs down and production up. Store lamb prices have come back sharply. Farmers with feed could make good margins on trading lambs but the potential impact of El Nino is creating a level of caution.

Grapes are flowering now, with the recent warmer temperatures condensing the flowering period. The cool spring delayed planting of some vegetable crops but warmer temperatures at the end of November lifted growth rates.

The summerfruit harvest has started with good crops.

RAINFALL

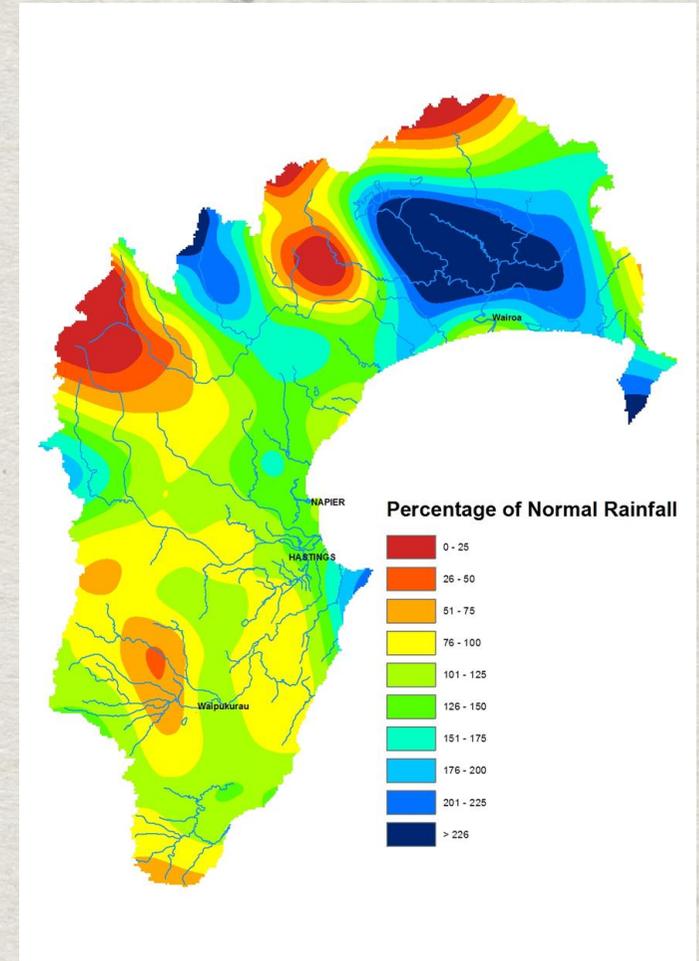
Above normal in the north but near normal elsewhere

Percentage of normal November rainfall
(30 year average)

For areas in the region:

Waikaremoana	179%
Northern HB	200%
Tangoio	133%
Kaweka	106%
Ruahine	89%
Heretaunga Plains	104%
Ruataniwha Plains	89%
<u>Southern HB</u>	<u>111%</u>

Hawke's Bay Region 126%



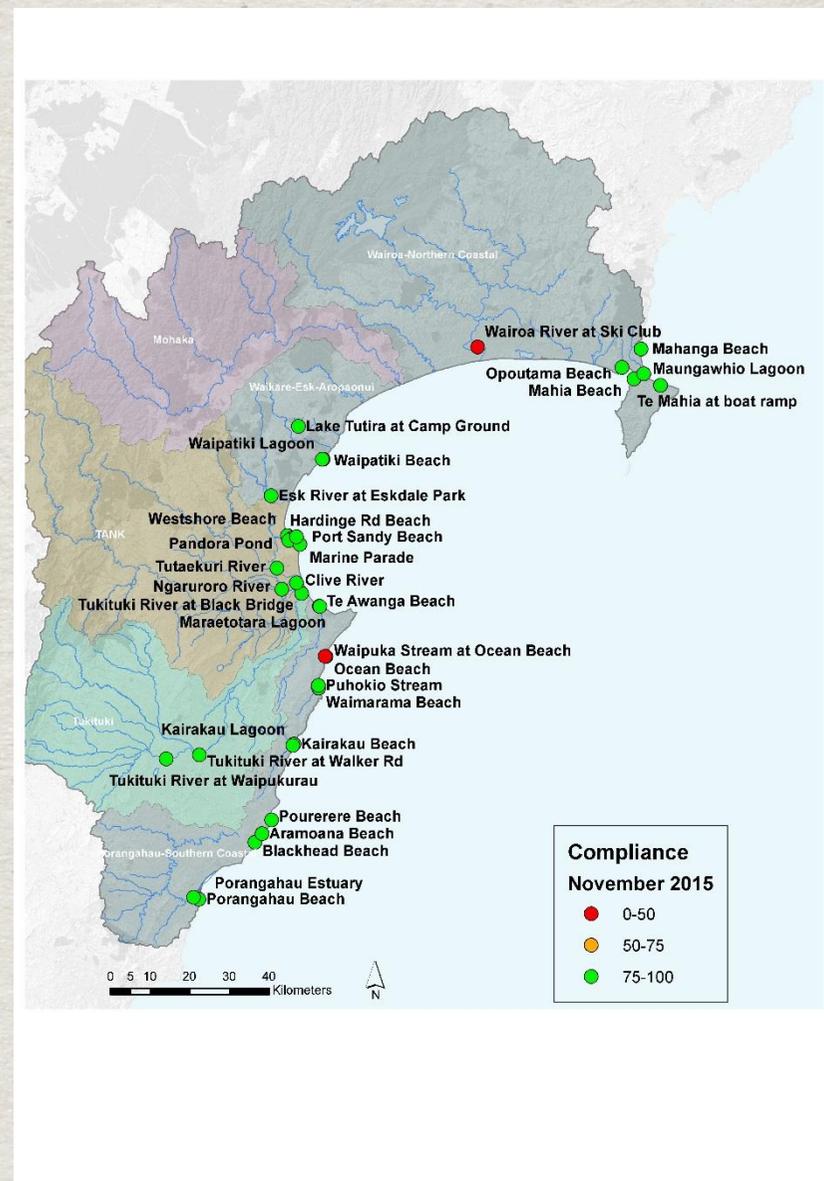
RECREATIONAL WATER QUALITY

November 2015

Recreational water quality monitoring started on the first Monday of the month - the programme goes for 20 weeks throughout the summer.

The season has got off to rough start with 50% compliance at the Waipuka Stream and Wairoa River sites. These exceedances have been both related and unrelated to rainfall events. Faecal source tracking samples have been sent away for investigation from 2 sites this month: Te Mahia (Whangawehi estuary) and the Wairoa River.

The rest of coastal and freshwater sites in the region had typical bacterial levels for November.



RIVER FLOW

Percentage of average November flows for areas in the region:

Northern Coastal	190%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	87%
Northern HB – Waiau River	78%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	188%
Mohaka	99%
Central Coastal	97%
Tūtaekuri	85%
Heretaunga Plains	82%
Ngaruroro - Upper	56%
Ngaruroro - Lower	79%
Southern Coastal	90%
Ruataniwha Plains	149%
Tukituki	92%
Southern HB	169%
Hawke's Bay Region	110%

