

SEPTEMBER 2016

# Hawke's Bay Trends

THE STATE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

TEMPERATURES

RAINFALL

RIVER FLOW

GROUNDWATER & SOIL

AIR QUALITY

MINISTRY OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

**HAWKE'S BAY** | Environmental Science  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

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REGIONAL COUNCIL

## September 2016

In the words of John Denver, “sunshine on my shoulders, makes me happy”. If you suffered an unexplained cheerfulness deficit in September, then there might lie your answer. Average solar radiation for September was down compared to all previous years in our short record of measurements. It was replaced, particularly at the end of the month, by a grey dross that seemed to have no purpose in life other than to be plain manky. Temperatures weren't a shining light either and, much like the local moggies, were lazy by day and adrenalised only at night. The overall dankness of the month equated to above average rainfall across the region and now means we hit the remainder of spring with river flows and soil moisture bolstered. Groundwater levels lag in their response but we'll most likely see a boost next month. The ray of sunshine in all this is that we say hurrah to smoky days as air quality gets a good spring clean. We'll replace our air quality watch with our bathing beaches report in a few months' time.

**Kathleen Kozyniak**

**Principal Scientist Climate and Air**



### The short summary

Dull, damp and indifferent temperature-wise

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

### *October to December Forecast*

Temperature – above average

Rainfall – near or above normal

River flows –above normal

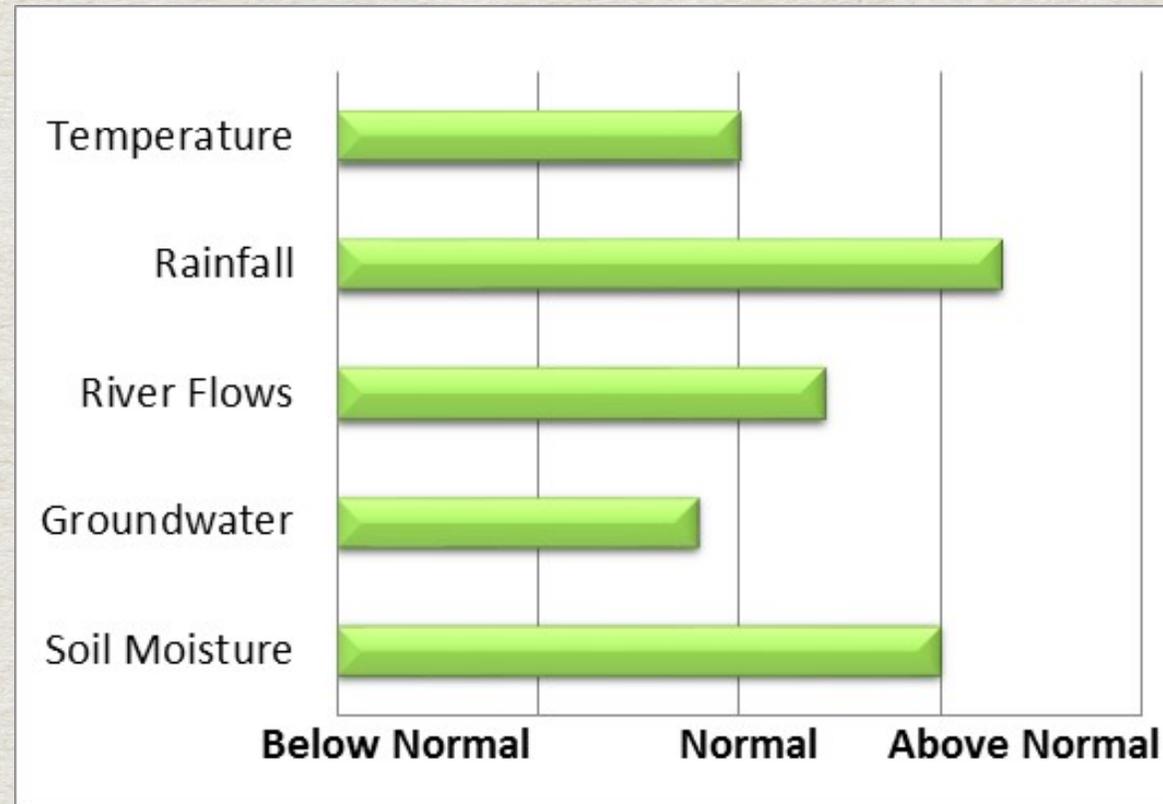
Soil moisture –above normal

*(source : NIWA)*

For more information

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

P: 06 835 9200



# TEMPERATURES

**Cool days, mild nights.**

Mean Difference from Normal

Maximum Temperature:  $-0.9^{\circ}\text{C}$

Minimum Temperature:  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$

Mean Daily Maximum:  $14^{\circ}\text{C}$

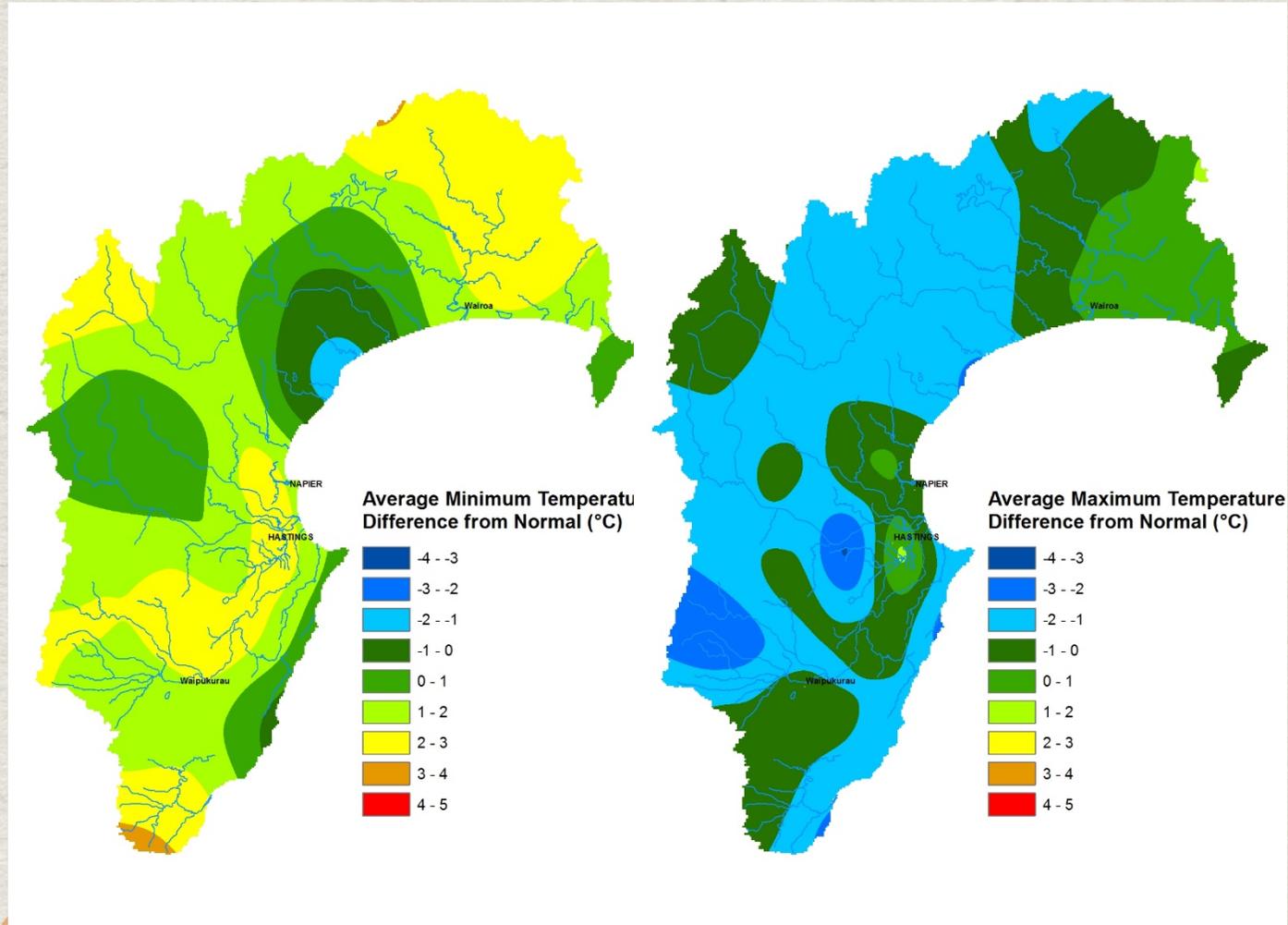
Mean Daily Minimum:  $7^{\circ}\text{C}$

Highest Daily:  $23.1^{\circ}\text{C}$

Location: Hastings AWS

Lowest Daily:  $-2.2^{\circ}\text{C}$

Location: Taharua



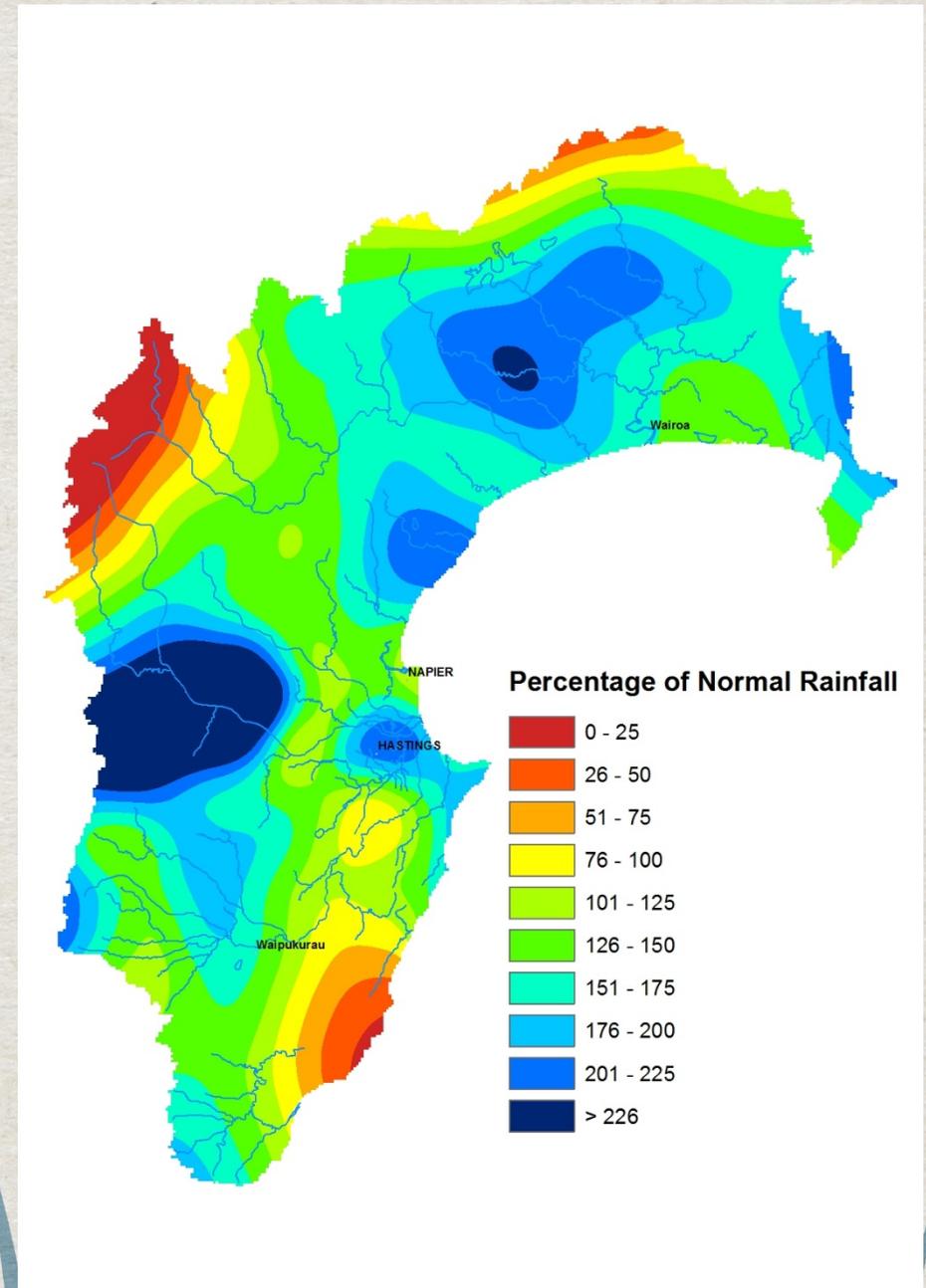
# RAINFALL

**Rather wet - above normal region-wide**

Percentage of normal September rainfall  
(30 year average)

**For areas in the region:**

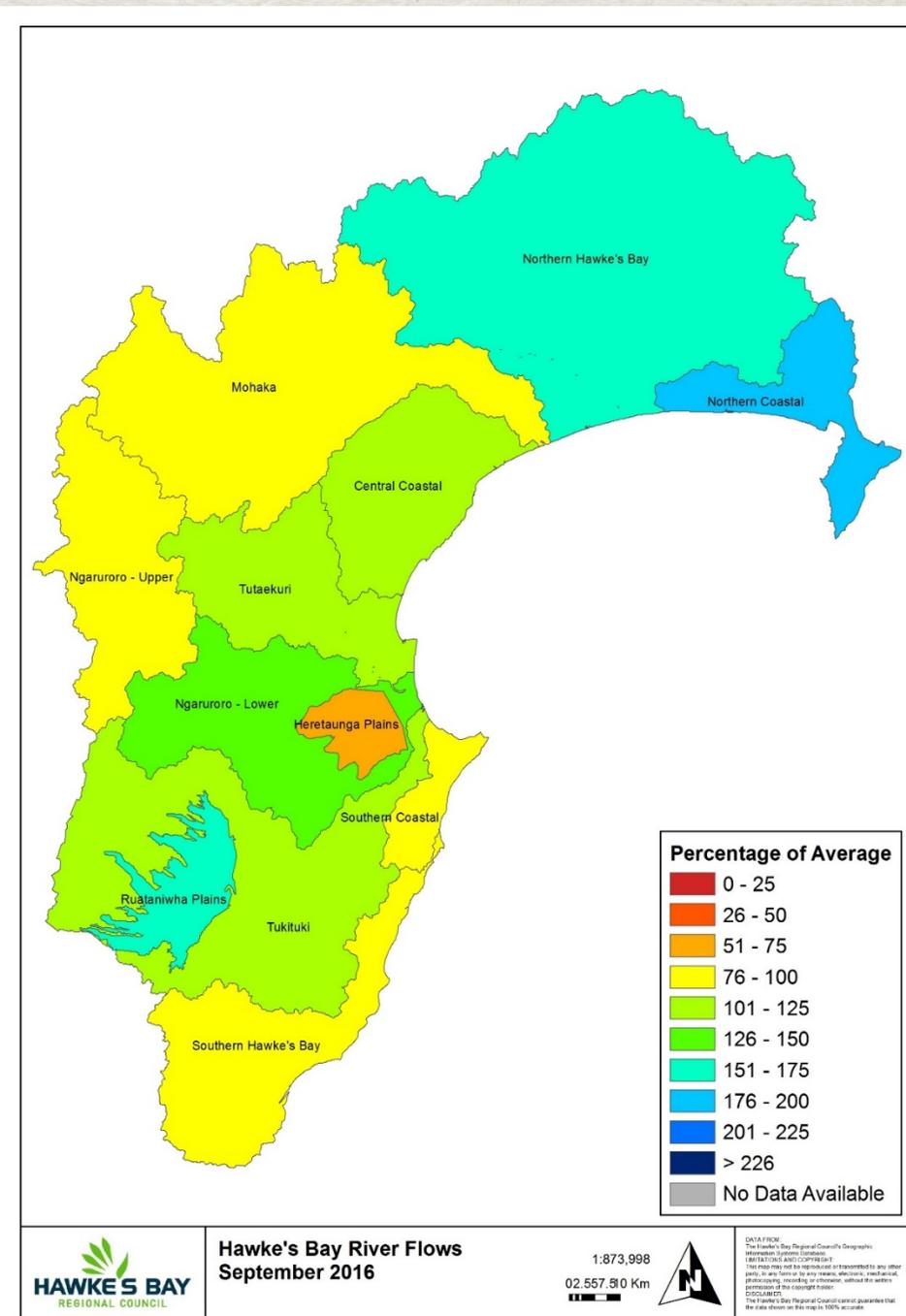
Waikaremoana	170%
Northern HB	180%
Tangoio	163%
Kaweka	170%
Ruahine	198%
Heretaunga Plains	157%
Ruataniwha Plains	147%
Southern HB	125%
<b>Hawke's Bay Region</b>	<b>164%</b>



# RIVER FLOW

## Percentage of average September flows for areas in the region:

Northern Coastal	181%
Northern HB – Hangaroa River	188%
Northern HB – Wairoa River	162%
Northern HB – Waiau River	134%
Mohaka	84%
Central Coastal	124%
Tūtaekuri	111%
Heretaunga Plains	58%
Ngaruroro - Upper	100%
Ngaruroro - Lower	140%
Southern Coastal	82%
Ruataniwha Plains	157%
Tukituki	102%
Southern HB	84%
<b>Hawke's Bay Region</b>	<b>122%</b>



# GROUNDWATER & SOIL MOISTURE

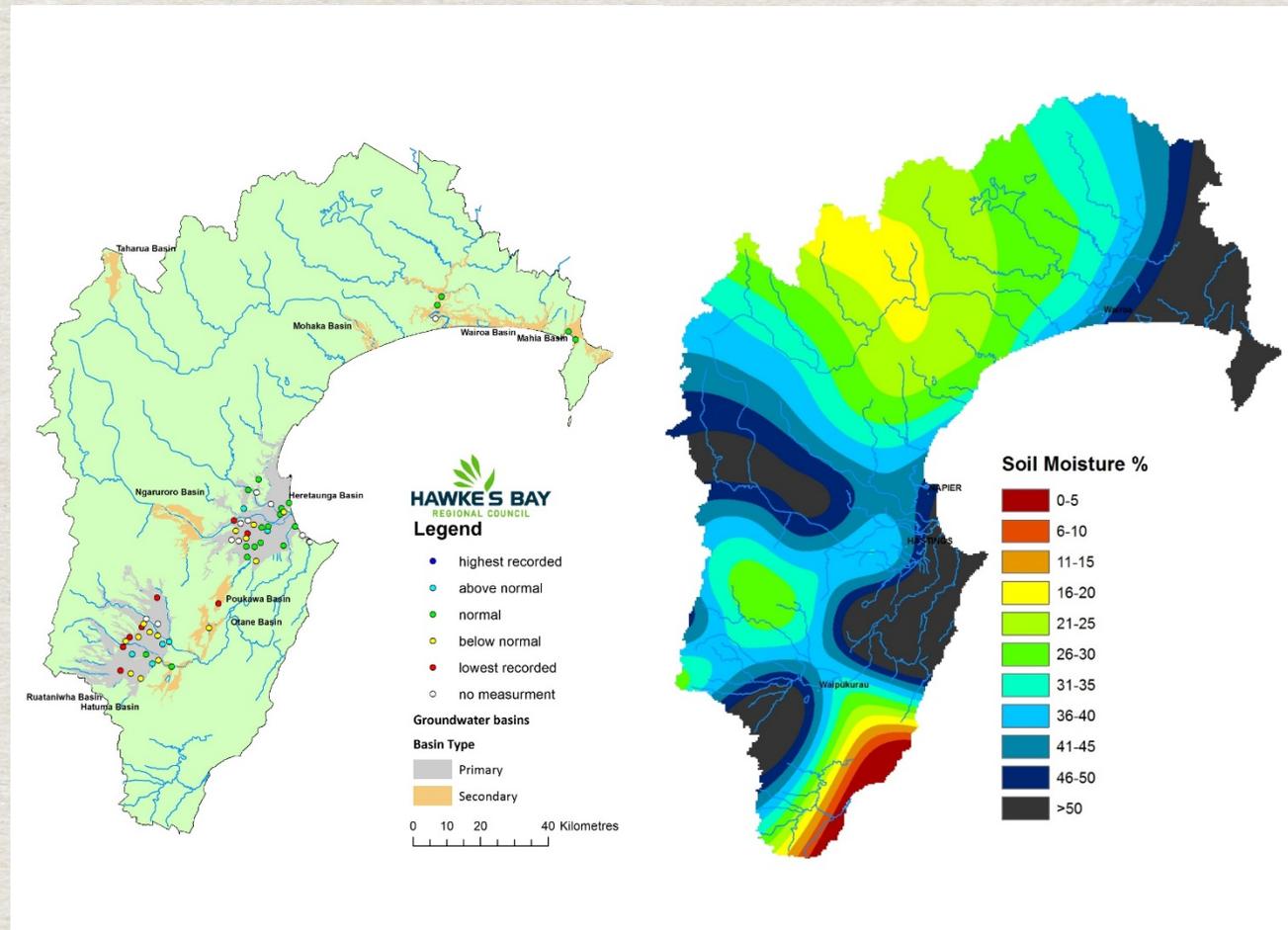
## Groundwater:

**Heretaunga basin** – Mostly normal to below normal water levels. A number of missed measurements due to staff changes.

**Ruataniwha basin** – Mostly below normal water levels.

**Secondary basin** – Mostly normal water levels

**Soil Moisture**  
Above normal



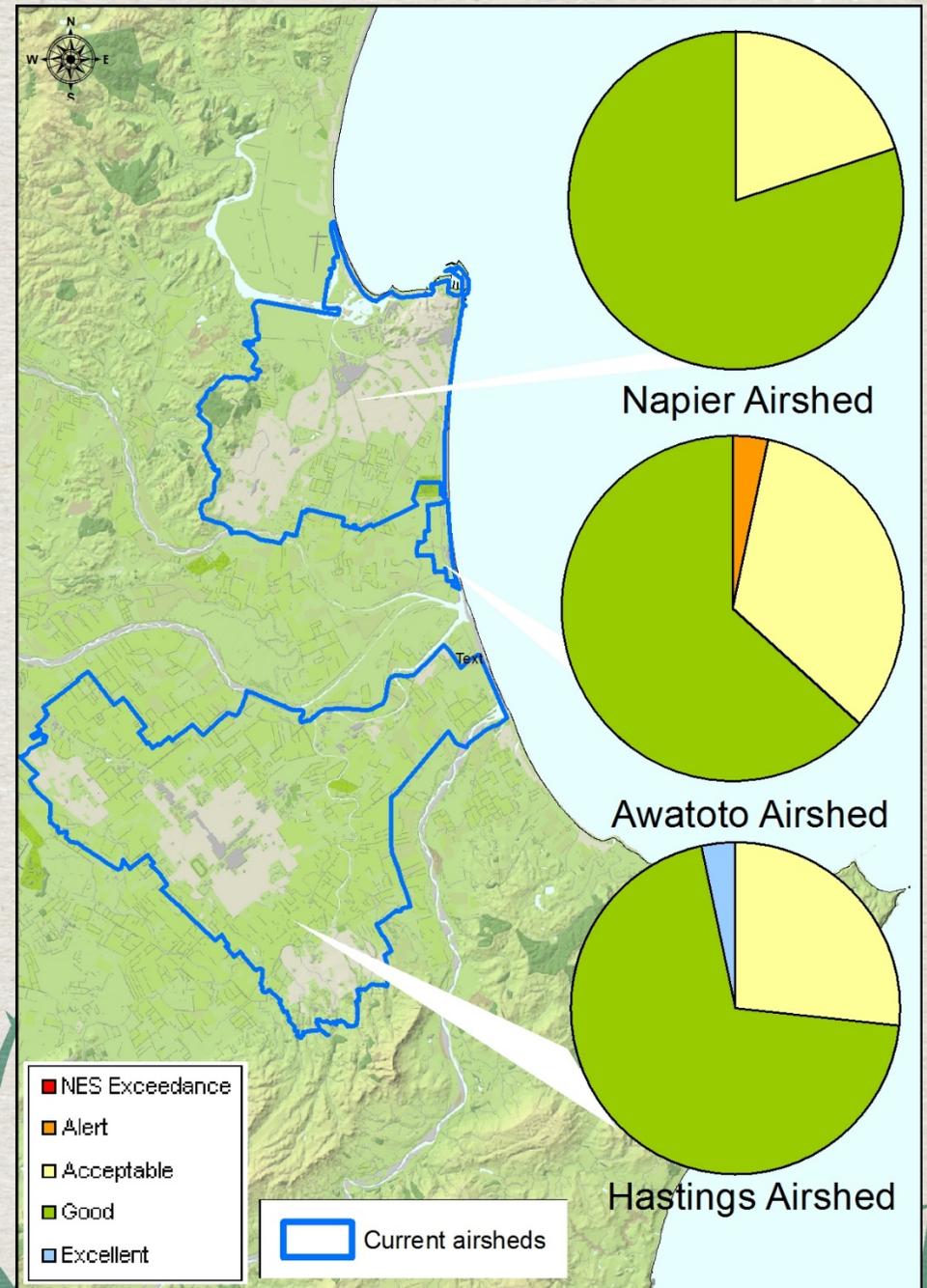
## September 2016 – Good

### PM<sub>10</sub> exceedances:

The National Environmental Standard (NES) for particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) of 50 micrograms per cubic metre (24 hour average) was not exceeded in the Napier, Hastings and Awatoto airsheds in August 2016.

*The monitoring sites are located at:*

- Marewa Park in the Napier airshed.
- St Johns College in the Hastings airshed.
- Waitangi Road in the Awatoto airshed.



**SEPTEMBER 2016**

At the end of September, indications are that the seasons for pipfruit and summerfruit continue to run later than last year, which was itself a late season. A large pipfruit crop is anticipated - growers are hoping for warm settled weather in October to assist with flowering and fruit set.

Pollination of summerfruit orchards in bloom towards the end of September will have been hampered by the run of around 10 days of wet dull weather. Managing the increased disease risk would have been a challenge for growers.

Later lambing districts in the foothills of the ranges and in the north of the region suffered lamb losses during the cold snap early in September and subsequent rain events. Many areas are likely to be wetter now than they have been all year. Pastures responded well to the increasing soil moisture and warmer temperatures in the second half of September and can be expected to take off when we see the sunshine. The drizzly weather hampered farming activities and farmers will be hoping for settled weather for docking and sowing crops. The general lack of livestock and a growthy spring are likely to see a lot of feed being conserved over coming months. While pastoral farmers are feeling more confident about the growing season there is somewhat less confidence around market returns for the year ahead.