

WHANGAEHU/TURAKINA CATCHMENT

STATE OF ENVIRONMENT SUMMARY 2019

Publish date: September 2019

MAIN WATER BODIES

Turakina and Whangaeahu Rivers

CLIMATE AND AIR

Mean annual rainfall ranges from less than **900 mm** near the coast to over **2,000 mm** in the Central Plateau.

Potential climate impact: Ohakune is expected to see the greatest change in winter precipitation in the region, with a projected increase of up to 18% by 2090. Climate change-induced drought is less likely to affect the Central Plateau than other areas of the region.

Air quality is not currently monitored in the Whangaeahu/Turakina.

LAND

CATCHMENT AREA: **295,300 hectares**

HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND:
68,936 ha

23% OF THE CATCHMENT

VERSATILE SOILS:
18,630 ha

6% OF THE CATCHMENT

LAND USE:

62% Sheep and/or beef
19% Native cover
3% Dairy
8% Forestry
8% Other



BIODIVERSITY

KNOWN WETLANDS:
995 ha

52 SITES

KNOWN BUSH REMNANTS:
6,232 ha

145 SITES

GROUNDWATER QUALITY

PREDOMINANT TYPE: **REDUCING**

1

BORES MONITORED QUARTERLY FOR GROUNDWATER QUALITY

7

BORES SURVEYED MONTHLY FOR GROUNDWATER LEVEL

0% OF SITES SHOW DECLINING WATER LEVELS

43% OF SITES SHOW INCREASING WATER LEVELS

WATER QUANTITY

2 COMMERCIAL HYDROELECTRICITY SCHEMES

2

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT ZONES

TURAKINA **5%** ALLOCATED

WHANGAEHU **1%** ALLOCATED

5

WATER MANAGEMENT ZONES AND **14** SUB ZONES, OF WHICH:

13

HAVE WATER AVAILABLE

1

ARE WITHIN 95 - 100% OF TOTAL ALLOCATION

0

OVER-ALLOCATED

WATER USE

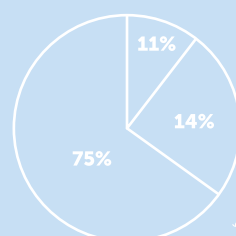
EXCLUDING HYDROELECTRICITY

CONSENTED WATER USE:

75% Agriculture and Horticulture

14% Municipal

11% Industry/Other



LAKES

LAKES OVER 1 HECTARE IN SIZE: **56**

10

LAKES SURVEYED FOR ECOLOGICAL HEALTH USING LAKESPI

3

EXCELLENT HEALTH

5

MODERATE - HIGH HEALTH

2

NON-VEGETATED OR POOR HEALTH

ESTUARIES AND COAST

TOTAL NUMBER OF ESTUARIES: **2**

VULNERABILITY TO SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENTS

LOW-MODERATE

2

MODERATE

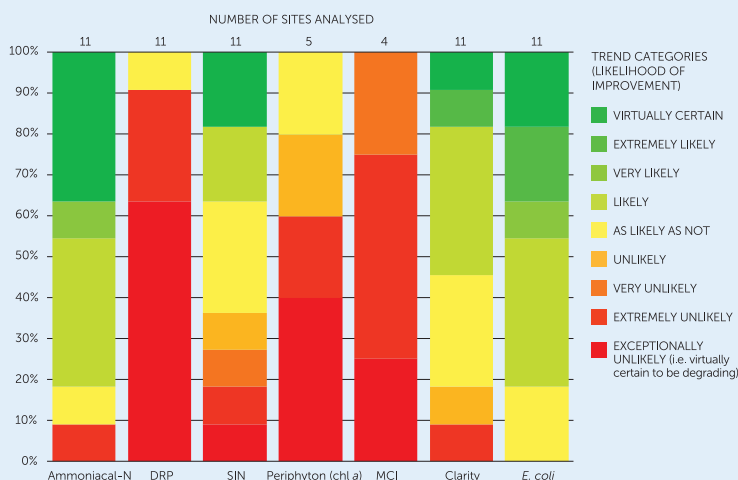
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MODERATE-HIGH

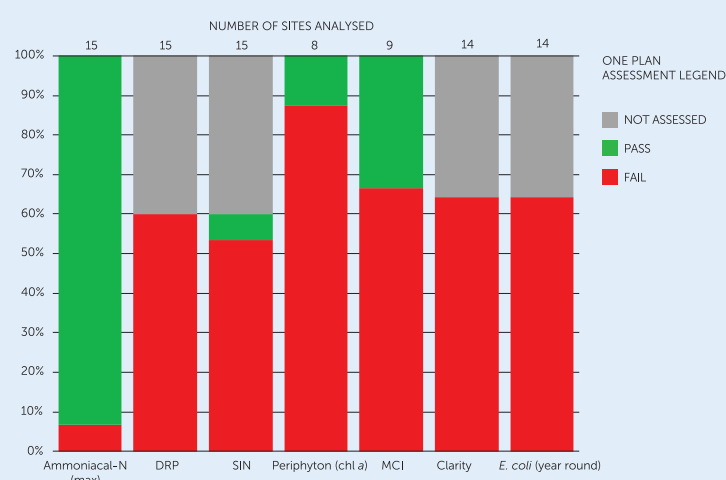
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RIVER WATER QUALITY

PROPORTION OF SITES SHOWING IMPROVING TRENDS FOR THE 10 YEAR PERIOD ENDING JULY 2017



STATE COMPARED TO ONE PLAN TARGETS



SWIM SPOTS

Proportion of the length of large rivers (Order 4 and above) in the catchment currently assessed as suitable for swimming under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (**NPS-FM**): **33%**

TOTAL STREAM LENGTH IN THE CATCHMENT:
4,942 km

TOTAL STREAM LENGTH FOR LARGE RIVERS (> ORDER 4):
739 km