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## Water Quality Data

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We monitor water quality at 14 stream sites and eight lake/lagoon sites on the main Island.

Samples are collected on a quarterly basis and sent away for laboratory analysis. The data is collated and reported on every year, with more comprehensive analysis undertaken approximately every ten years to look at trends in the data.

### Key findings from 2022

- Flow regimes of the major river systems are now well understood and characterised for both low flow and flood conditions.
- Poor and degrading water quality of waters across the island are likely caused primarily by climate patterns although changing farming emphasis to heavier livestock appear to strongly interact with climate.
- Reduction in state or degrading trends had reduced at some sites but were particularly notable at key sites.

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- The degrading water quality of Lake Rangitai is highly likely to be a result of its reducing area. Water is taken for stock water and domestic water use. With water resources largely used under sustained drought conditions, the lake becomes relatively small and shallow the water quality degrades.

Below are links to the reports published in the past 10 years:

[Surface Water Summary 2021/2022](#)

[Download PDF \(3.6 MB\)](#)

[Surface Water Summary 2020/2021](#)

[Download PDF \(3.9 MB\)](#)

[Chatham Islands Freshwater Investigation - State of the Water Resources Report June 2020](#)

[Download PDF \(4.1 MB\)](#)

[Chatham Islands Water Quality Summary 2018](#)

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[Chatham Islands Water Quality Summary 2016](#)

[Download PDF \(1.3 MB\)](#)

[Chatham Islands Water Quality Summary 2015](#)

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[Chatham Islands Water Quality Summary 2014](#)

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[Habitat mapping of Te Whanga Lagoon 2009](#)

[Download PDF \(2.2 MB\)](#)

The 22 sites we monitor and the site ID for each location. You can view the data for each site by searching the relevant site ID in Environment Canterbury's [Water quality data search\(external link\)](#).

Site Name	Site ID
Awamata Stream	SQ34829
Awatotara Creek	SQ34830
Te Awainanga River	SQ34832
Washout Creek	SQ34834
Whangamoe Inlet	SQ34838
Nth Trib Rakautahi	SQ34841
Blind Jims Creek	SQ34844
Mangape Creek	SQ34851
Mangahou Stream	SQ34854
Te One Creek	SQ34857
Waitamaki Creek	SQ34860
Waimahana Creek	SQ34863
Waitaha Creek	SQ34849
Te Whanga Lagoon @ Airbase	SQ34861
Te Whanga Lagoon @ Beach	SQ34843
Te Whanga Lagoon @ Southern Basin	SQ35082
Lake Huro	SQ34859
Lake Marakapia	SQ34893
Lake Rangitai	SQ34846
Lake Te Wapu	SQ34887
Tennants Lake	SQ34842

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Site Name	Site ID
Nairn River	SQ35078

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