

# Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 26 March – Tuesday 01 April 2014

## Summary

The last seven days have been relatively dry across the south east of England and East Anglia, with higher rainfall totals elsewhere, particularly in northern England. The total rainfall for March was below the long term average across England. River flows have fallen at two thirds of our indicator sites compared to the previous week. Flows at two of our indicator sites are *below normal* for the time of year; the remaining sites are *normal* or higher.

- Rainfall totals for the last seven days range from 7 mm in the south east to 26 mm in the north west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- River flows have decreased at two thirds of our indicator sites compared to last week.
- Flows remain *above normal* or higher for the time of year at a third of the sites.

## Outlook

Changeable weather is expected over the coming days with showers in the west and southwest on Thursday, clearing north eastwards through Friday. Saturday is likely to be bright in the east, with showery weather again in the west. From Sunday the weather will become unsettled for most, with heavy rain at times.

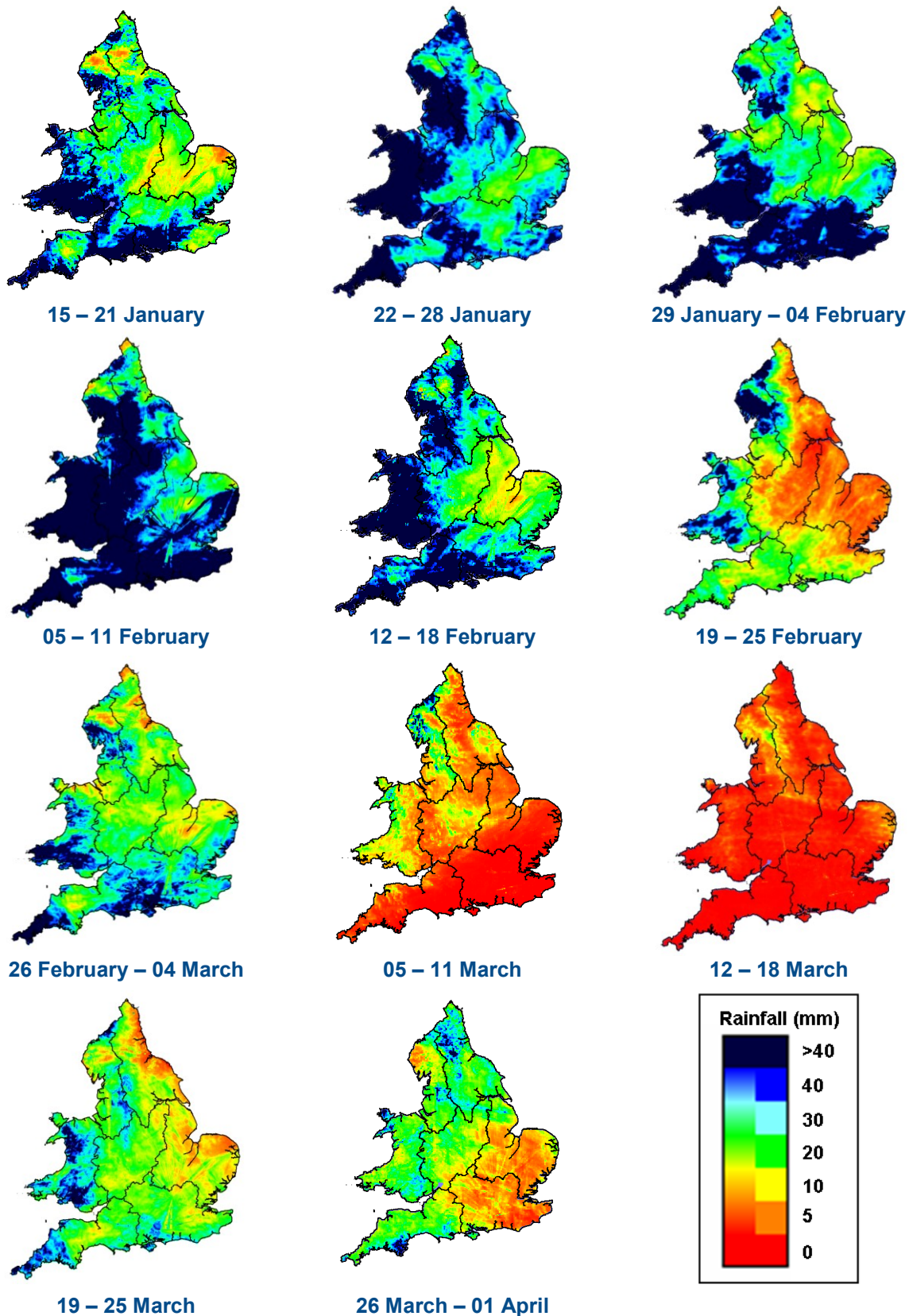
Author: [Tom Schnetler](#) (Water Resources Technical Services)

Region	Latest Week: 26 Mar - 01 Apr '14	Latest month to date: Apr '14		Last month: Mar '14		Last 3 months: Jan '14 - Mar '14		Last 6 months: Oct '13 - Mar '14		Last 12 months: Apr '13 - Mar '14	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
North West	26	0	0	90	98	435	155	870	135	1364	118
North East	24	0.9	2	58	85	293	144	577	132	916	112
Midlands	13	0	0	44	77	284	163	553	149	850	119
Anglian	8	0.1	0.2	24	51	186	138	388	130	610	102
South East	7	0	0	37	59	372	190	719	174	962	129
South West	15	1	2	65	76	470	166	925	154	1247	124
England	15	0	0.5	49	76	328	163	649	147	954	118

**Table 1:** Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)<sup>1</sup>

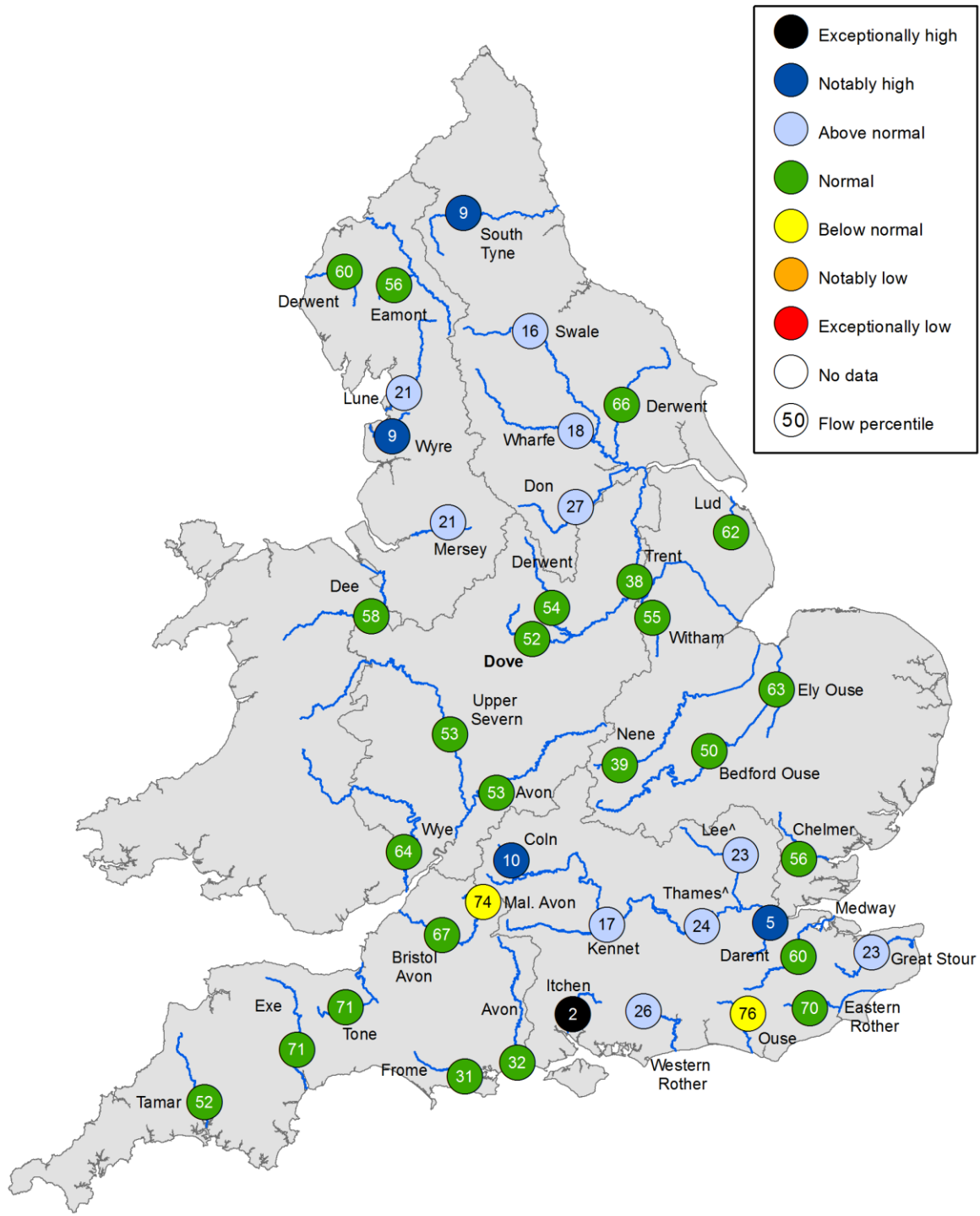
<sup>1</sup> Notes:

- LTA = long term average rainfall for 1961 – 1990
- Data for the current month are calculated using MORECS (Met Office Rainfall and Evaporation Calculation System); data for past months are provisional values from the National Climate Information Centre (NCIC).
- The data is rounded to the nearest millimetre or percent (except when values are less than 1).
- Recorded amounts of rainfall are likely to be underestimated during snow events.



**Figure 1:** Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages in some regions may give anomalous totals in some areas.

# River Flow



^ – ‘Naturalised’ flows are provided for the Thames at Kingston and the Lee at Feildes Weir.

**Figure 2:** Latest daily mean river flow expressed as a percentile<sup>2</sup> and classed relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year (Source: Environment Agency)

<sup>2</sup> Flow percentiles describe the percentage of time that a particular flow has been equalled or exceeded compared to the historic flow record for that site for the time of year. For example, a flow percentile of 5 indicates that the current flow has only been equalled or exceeded approximately 5% of the time within the historic record for that time of year – i.e. a very high flow. A flow percentile of 95 indicates that the current flow has been equalled or exceeded approximately 95% of the time – i.e. a low flow. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.