

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 23 to Tuesday 29 September 2015

Summary

The past week has been dry across all of England. River flows have decreased at all but 2 of our indicator sites. Flows at just over half our indicator sites are **normal** or higher for the time of year, with most of the remaining sites being **below normal** for the time of year.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 3mm in north-east, central, east and south-east England to 5mm in north-west and south-west England (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- With just one day left in September cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from just 48% of the September long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 102% in east England, with central and northern England all receiving 70% or less of the September LTA (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at all but 2 of our indicator sites over the past week. The latest daily mean flows are currently **normal** or higher for the time of year at just over half of our indicator sites, with most of the remaining sites being **below normal** for the time of year. However there are now 4 sites that are **notably low** or lower for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

High pressure will continue to dominate across England for Thursday and Friday and into the weekend, bringing settled and dry conditions for all areas. There are signs that the high pressure will break down through Sunday, bringing rain for southern and western parts of England on Monday and Tuesday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 23 - 29 Sep '15	Latest month to date: Sep '15		Last month: Aug '15		Last 3 months: Jun '15 - Aug '15		Last 6 months: Mar '15 - Aug '15		Last 12 months: Sep '14 - Aug '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	5	54	48	112	108	268	101	562	113	1224	105
north-east	3	43	62	92	122	221	113	411	108	803	98
central	3	42	70	80	124	178	103	322	94	678	95
east	3	50	102	66	120	168	108	269	91	585	98
south-east	3	64	101	101	176	192	120	299	92	742	102
south-west	5	71	87	144	191	287	145	438	107	1020	101
England	3	54	78	97	140	214	115	368	101	808	100

Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright)¹

¹ 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.

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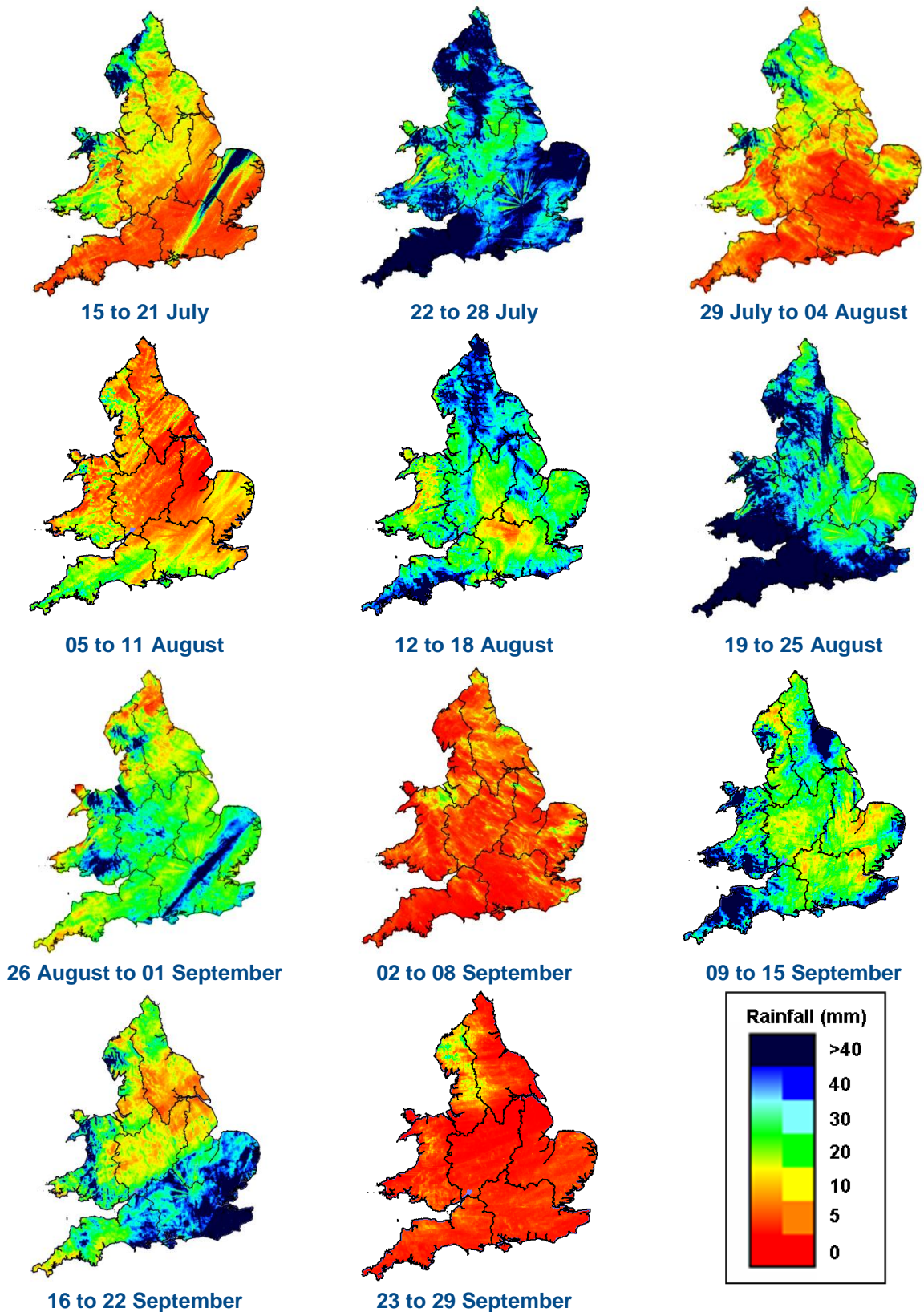
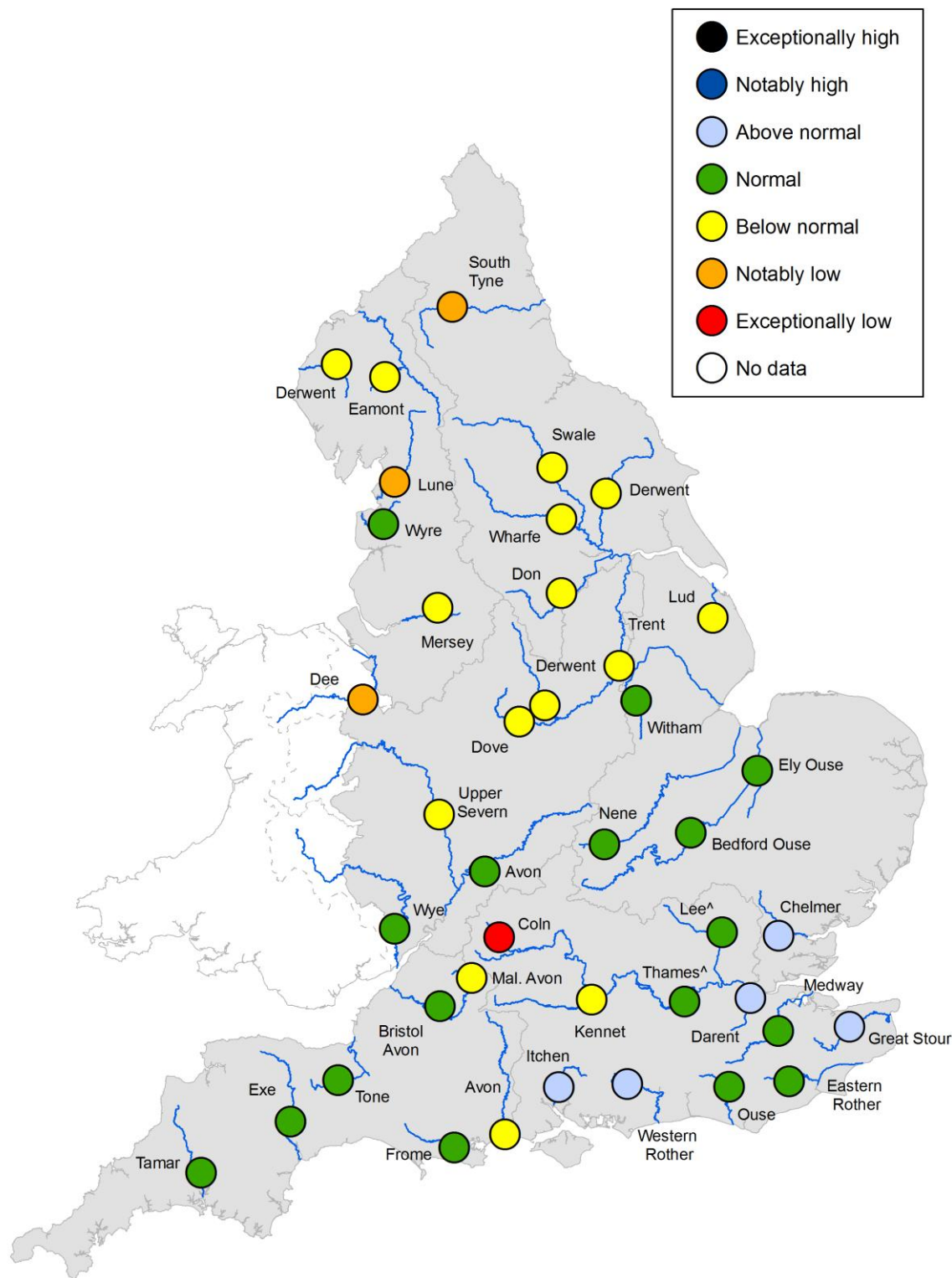


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

River Flow



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

Figure 2: Latest daily mean river flow, relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows, classed by flow percentile for the same time of year². (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

²Flow 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. Flow percentiles presented relate to an analysis for the time of year and not a whole year.