Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 25 June – Tuesday 01 July 2014

Summary

The past week has been relatively dry across northern England, whilst the south has received a combination of frontal and convective rainfall, particularly in the southwest. The rainfall total for the month of June was below the long term average for most of England, with the exception of the southwest, where near-average rain fell. River flows have decreased at half of our indicator sites over the past week.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 6 mm in northwest and northeast England to 28 mm in the south west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month of June range from 56% of the June long term average (LTA) in northwest England to 102% in southwest England (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at half of our indicator sites this week compared to last week. The latest daily mean river flows are *normal* for the time of year at over half of our indicator sites, and *below normal* or lower at a fifth of the sites (Figure 2).

Outlook

Southeast England is likely to remain settled with fine weather for Thursday and Friday. Northern and western parts however will be cloudier with patchy rain on Thursday. On Friday wet and windy weather will spread from the northwest, reaching the southeast by early Saturday. The weekend is likely to be changeable in most areas with showery outbreaks of rain. Changeable conditions continue thereafter.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 25 Jun - 01 Jul '14	Latest month to date: Jul '14		Last month: Jun '14		Last 3 months: Apr '14 - Jun '14		Last 6 months: Jan '14 - Jun '14		Last 12 months: Jul '13 - Jun '14	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
North West	6	0	0	44	56	192	87	632	126	1352	116
North East	6	0.1	0.2	46	77	201	114	495	130	961	117
Central	16	0.1	0.2	53	93	197	118	487	143	916	128
East	14	0.1	0.2	37	73	155	106	346	123	671	112
South East	14	0	0	36	67	182	114	548	161	1016	140
South West	28	0	0	64	102	252	133	741	157	1384	137
England	14	0	0	46	78	195	113	527	141	1015	126

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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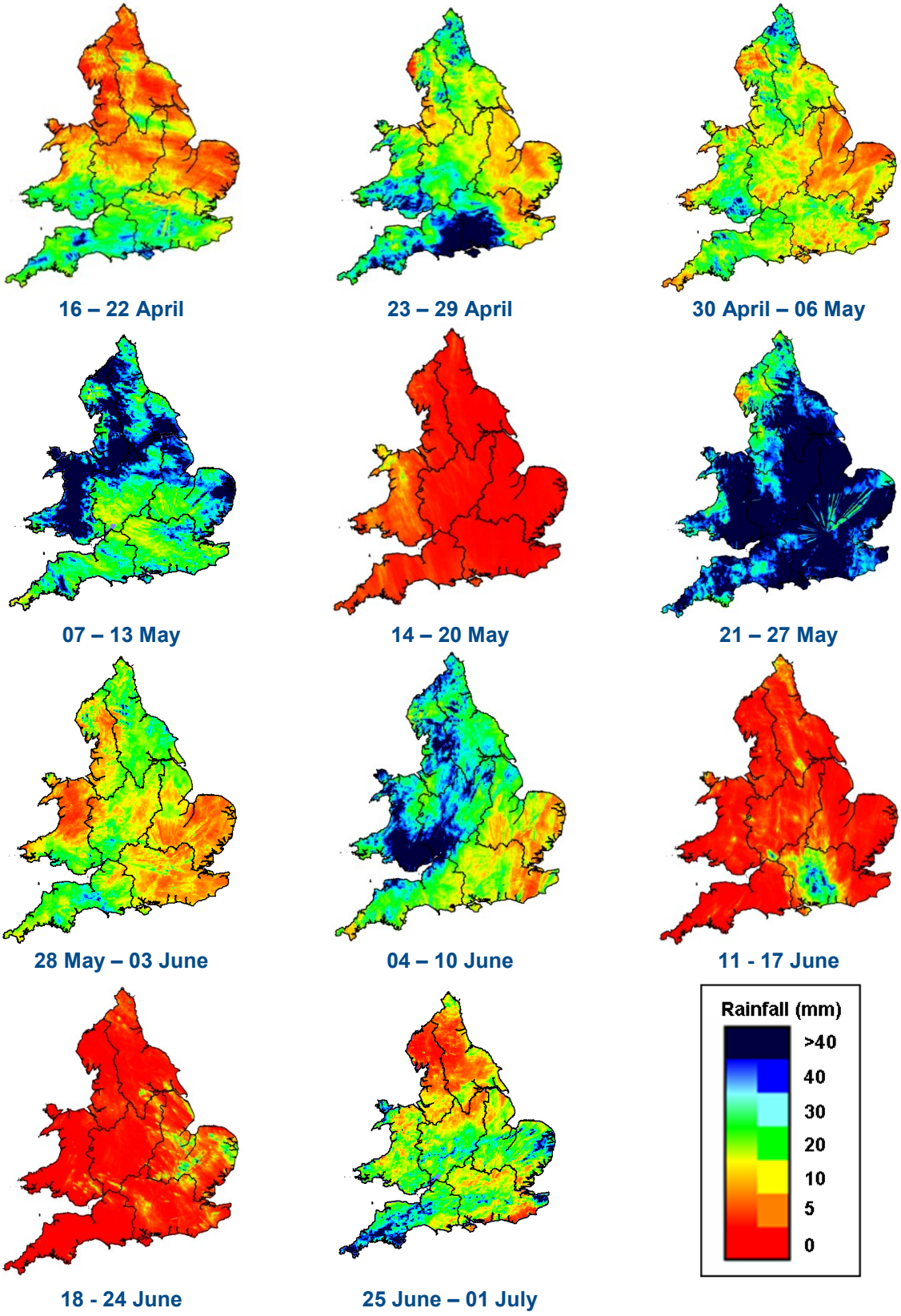

Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past eleven weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2014). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

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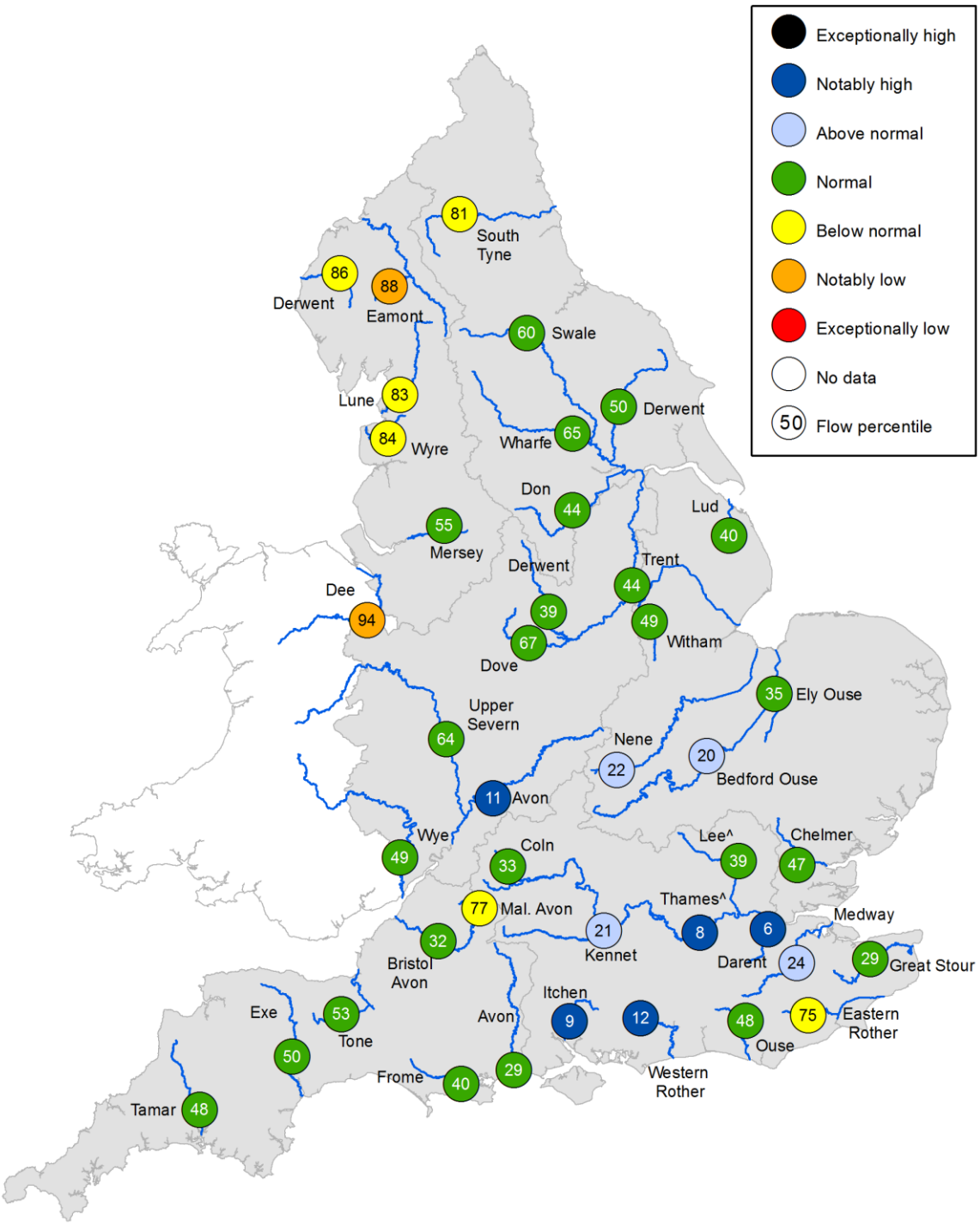
River Flow



^ – '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[2] and classed relative to an analysis of historic daily mean flows for the same time of year (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2014.

[2] 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.

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