Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 23 to Tuesday 29 November 2016

Summary: It has been a dry week across England. River flows have decreased at the majority of sites and are mostly normal for the time of year.

Rainfall

The past week has been dry across England (Figure 1). Rainfall totals ranged from 0.1mm in south-west England to 0.7mm in north-east England. Cumulative rainfall totals for November to date range from 108% of the long term average (LTA) in north-west England to 143% in central England (Table 1).

River flow

River flows decreased at all except one of our reported sites across England. The latest daily mean river flows are normal for the time of year at the majority of sites, with the remaining sites below normal for the time of year (Figure 2).

Outlook

The majority of England will remain mostly dry from Thursday through to Sunday, as high pressure continues to dominate. Light rain or showers are possible at times, mainly in the east of England on Thursday and Friday, with scattered showers developing near the coast in south and east parts of England on Saturday. However, rainfall totals are expected to be small. The dry weather is expected to continue into Monday and Tuesday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 23 to 29 Nov 2016	Latest month to date: Nov 2016		Last month: Oct 2016		Last 3 months: Aug 2016 to Oct 2016		Last 6 months: May 2016 to Oct 2016		Last 12 months: Nov 2015 to Oct 2016	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	0.6	129	108	40	32	284	84	564	99	1,658	143
north-east	0.7	102	125	52	71	203	93	382	96	1,101	134
central	0.6	93	143	27	45	143	77	334	95	819	115
east	0.6	73	127	40	79	129	84	312	103	666	111
south-east	0.3	99	135	29	42	115	60	293	84	761	105
south-west	0.1	132	126	47	48	199	78	384	86	1,087	108
England	0.5	102	127	39	52	170	80	364	94	963	119

Table 1 Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016)[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.

Rainfall

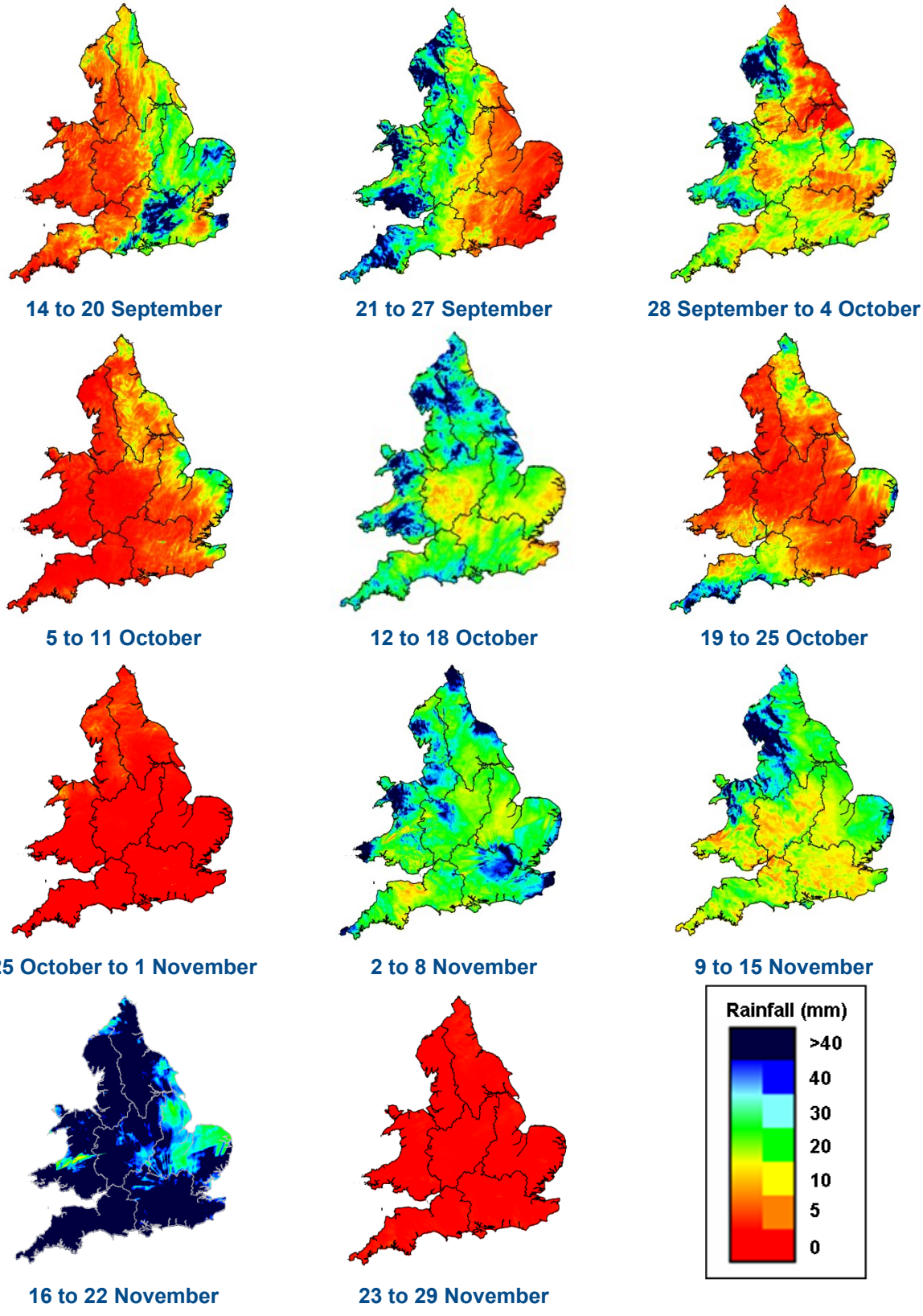
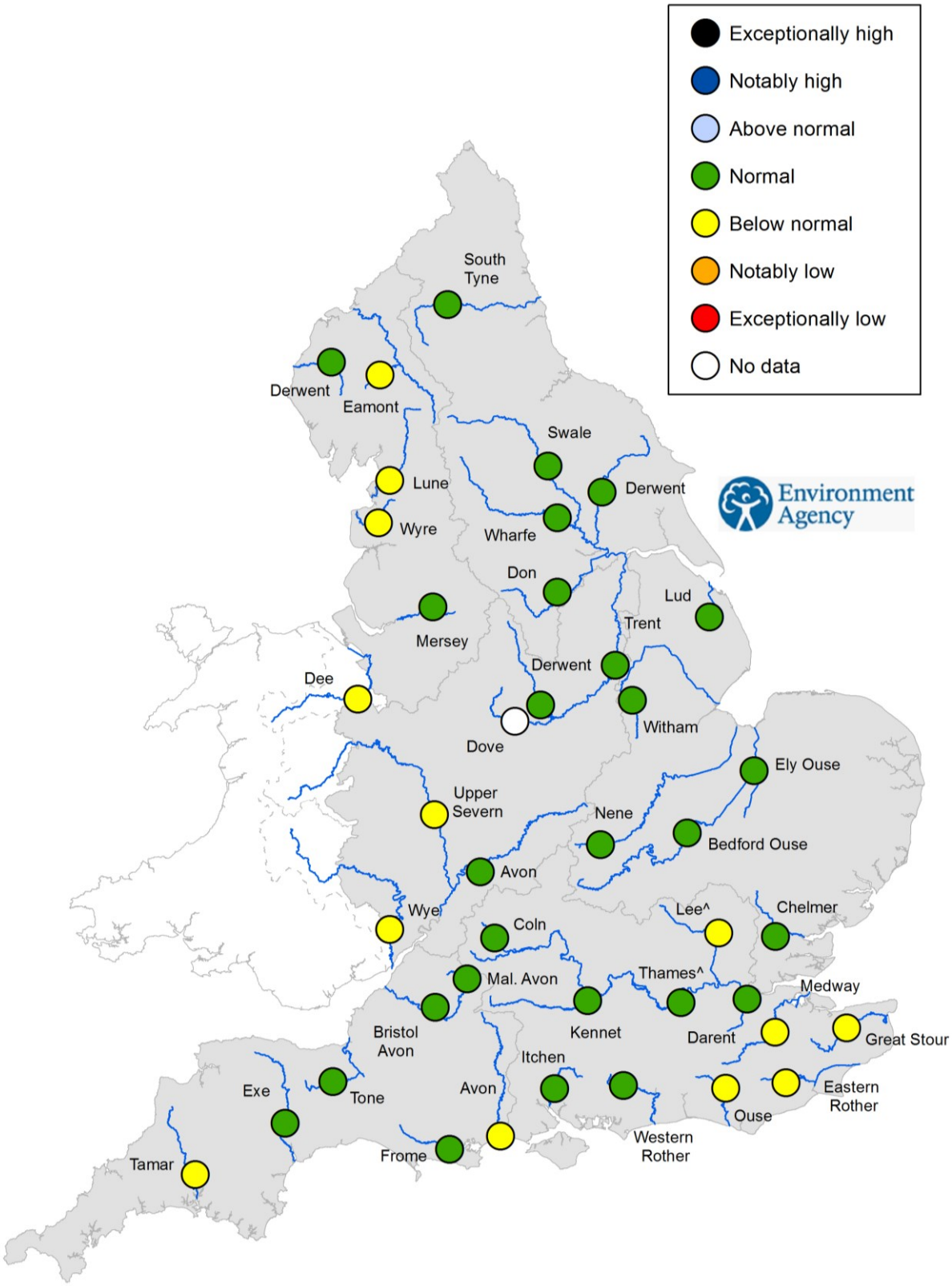


Figure 1 Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2016). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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 year[2] (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2016.

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

River flow categories

Exceptionally high	Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time
Notably high	Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
Above normal	Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
Normal	Value likely to fall within this band 44% of the time
Below normal	Value likely to fall within this band 15% of the time
Notably low	Value likely to fall within this band 8% of the time
Exceptionally low	Value likely to fall within this band 5% of the time

Return to summary page