

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 14 to Tuesday 20 October 2015

Summary

The past week has been moderately dry across much of England. River flows have decreased at almost all of our indicator sites. Two-thirds of indicator sites are now classed as lower than **normal**.

- Rainfall totals for the past week range from 7mm in south-west England to 16mm in the north-west (Table 1 and Figure 1).
- Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 32% of the October long term average (LTA) in north-west and south-west England to 69% in north-east England (Table 1).
- River flows have decreased at all but five indicator sites over the past week, in response to the low rainfall.
- The latest daily mean flows are **normal** for the time of year at one-third of our indicator sites, with the majority of sites being **below normal** or lower (Figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday and Friday will be generally dry, although light showers may persist in some areas. Rain moving from the west will affect most areas on Saturday. Scattered showers will move eastwards on Sunday. Monday and Tuesday are likely to see unsettled conditions, with rain or showers affecting most areas, particularly in the north and west.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 14 - 20 Oct '15	Latest month to date: Oct '15		Last month: Sep '15		Last 3 months: Jul '15 - Sep '15		Last 6 months: Apr '15 - Sep '15		Last 12 months: Oct '14 - Sep '15	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	16	40	32	50	45	272	91	500	97	1256	108
north-east	13	50	69	43	63	231	112	391	102	826	101
central	12	33	55	40	67	180	102	312	91	706	99
east	10	32	64	50	101	193	126	293	98	618	103
south-east	8	33	47	65	103	230	136	338	103	795	109
south-west	7	31	32	73	88	317	145	464	114	1078	107
England	11	37	48	53	77	233	119	372	101	846	105

Table 1: Latest rainfall summary information (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015)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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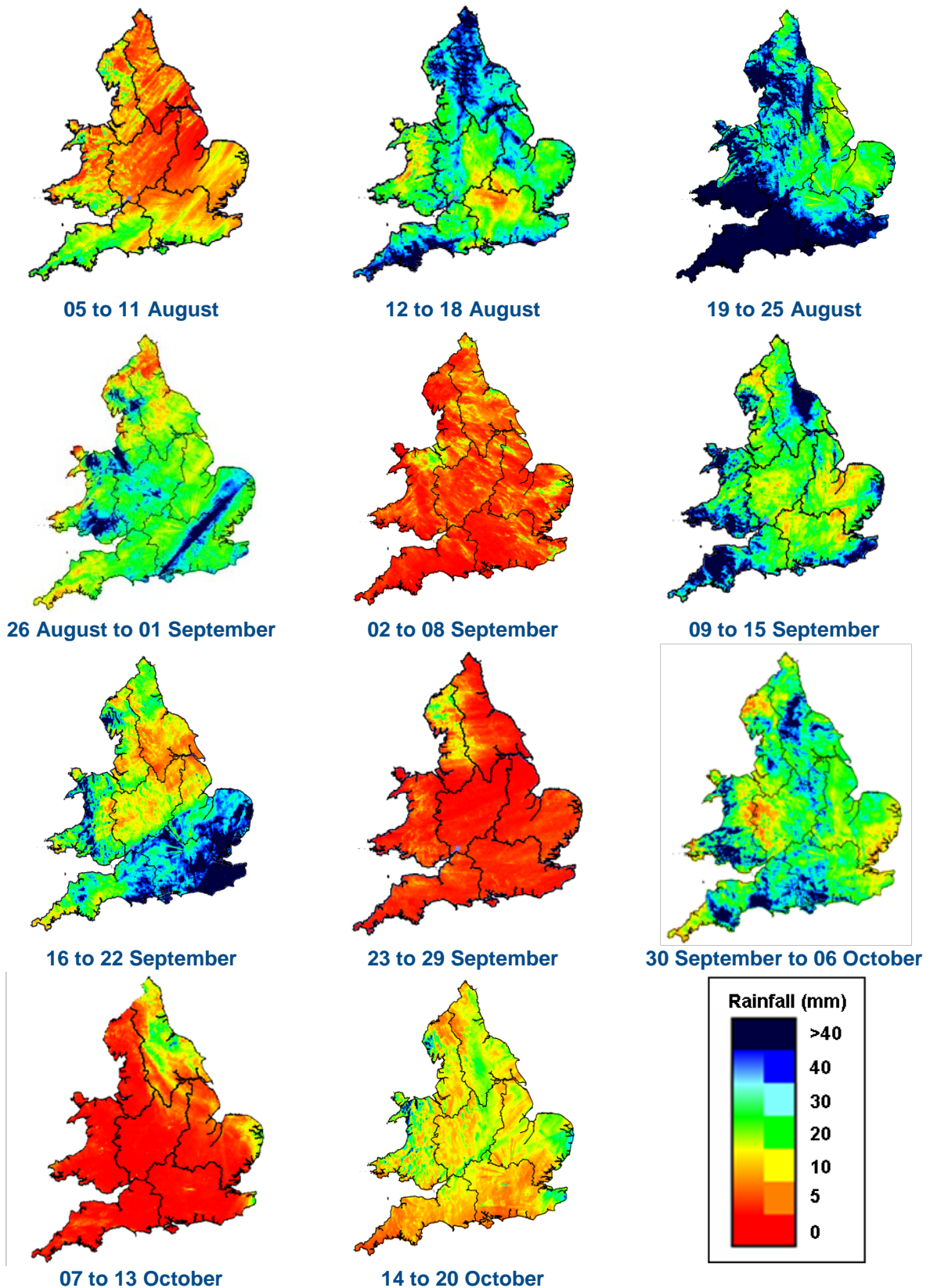
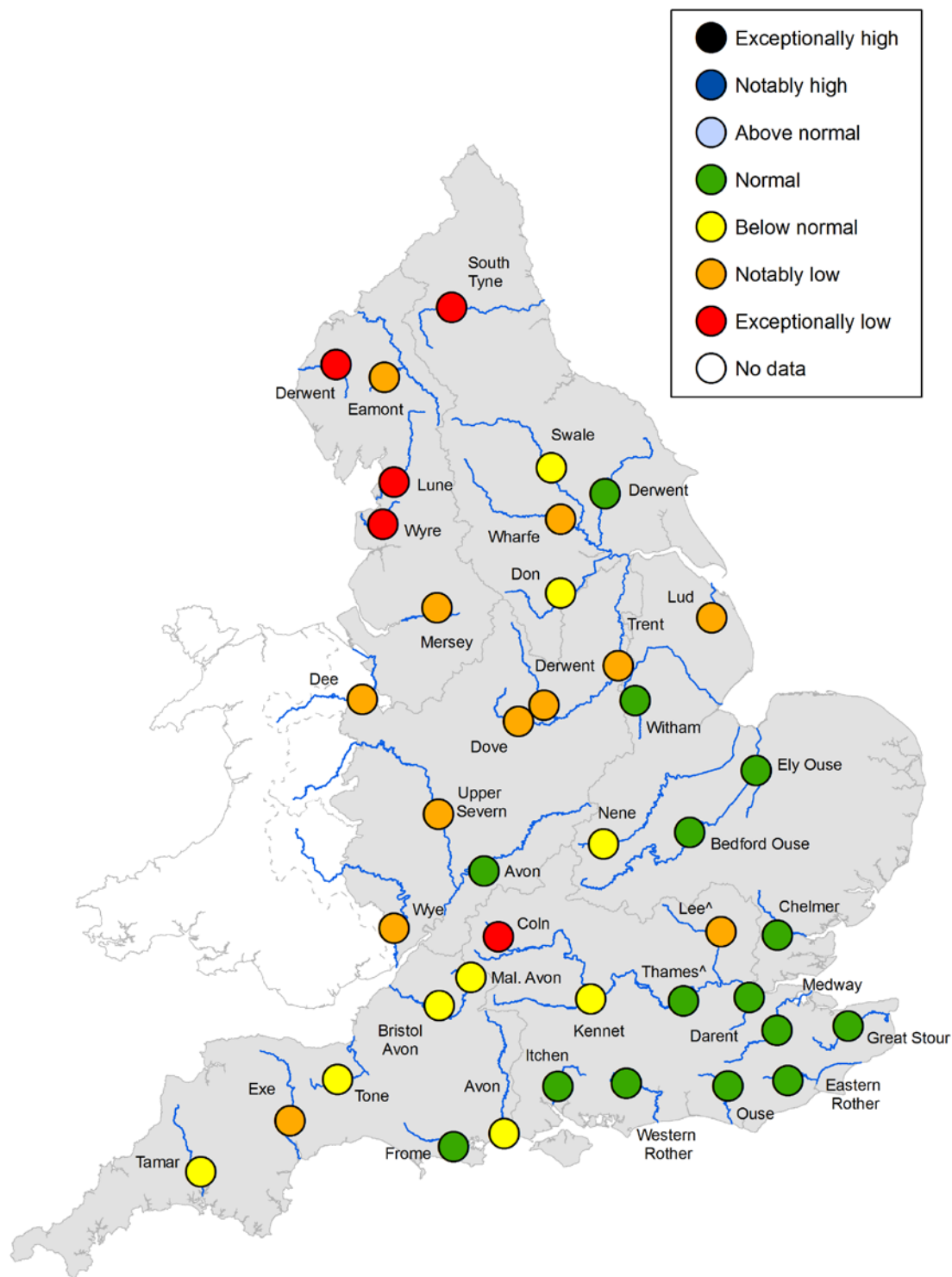


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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.