

Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 18 to Tuesday 24 November 2015

Summary: another wet week, especially in north and west England. River flows have decreased.

Rainfall

The past week has continued to be wet, especially in the north and west of England, although not as wet as the first couple of weeks of November. Rainfall totals ranged from 15mm in south-east England to 39mm in north-west England (table 1 and figure 1).

Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 82% of the November long term average (LTA) in south-east England to 165% in north-west England (table 1).

River flow

River flows have decreased at nearly two-thirds of indicator sites over the past week. Flows decreased by at least one flow category at just over two-fifths of indicator sites. The latest daily mean flows are [normal](#) for the time of year at two-thirds of indicator sites (figure 2).

Outlook

Thursday will be dry for all of England before a weather front moves in on Friday to bring short-lived but localised heavy downpours. Further weather fronts will move in on Saturday bringing more wet weather, with the greatest rainfall totals expected in the west of England. Later on Sunday and during Monday there is the potential for some very large rainfall totals over north-west England. Conditions are expected to remain unsettled for Tuesday.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 18 to 24 Nov 2015	Latest month to date: Nov 2015		Last month: Oct 2015		Last 3 months: Aug 2015 to Oct 2015		Last 6 months: May 2015 to Oct 2015		Last 12 months: Nov 2014 to Oct 2015	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA	Total (mm)	% LTA
north-west	39	197	165	75	61	237	70	522	91	1169	101
north-east	27	122	151	79	109	215	99	440	111	820	100
central	21	69	105	52	86	172	93	345	98	674	94
east	19	57	98	47	92	162	105	320	105	586	98
south-east	15	60	82	56	80	222	116	373	107	745	102
south-west	27	95	91	71	73	287	113	511	115	1022	101
England	23	93	115	62	82	212	99	408	105	805	100

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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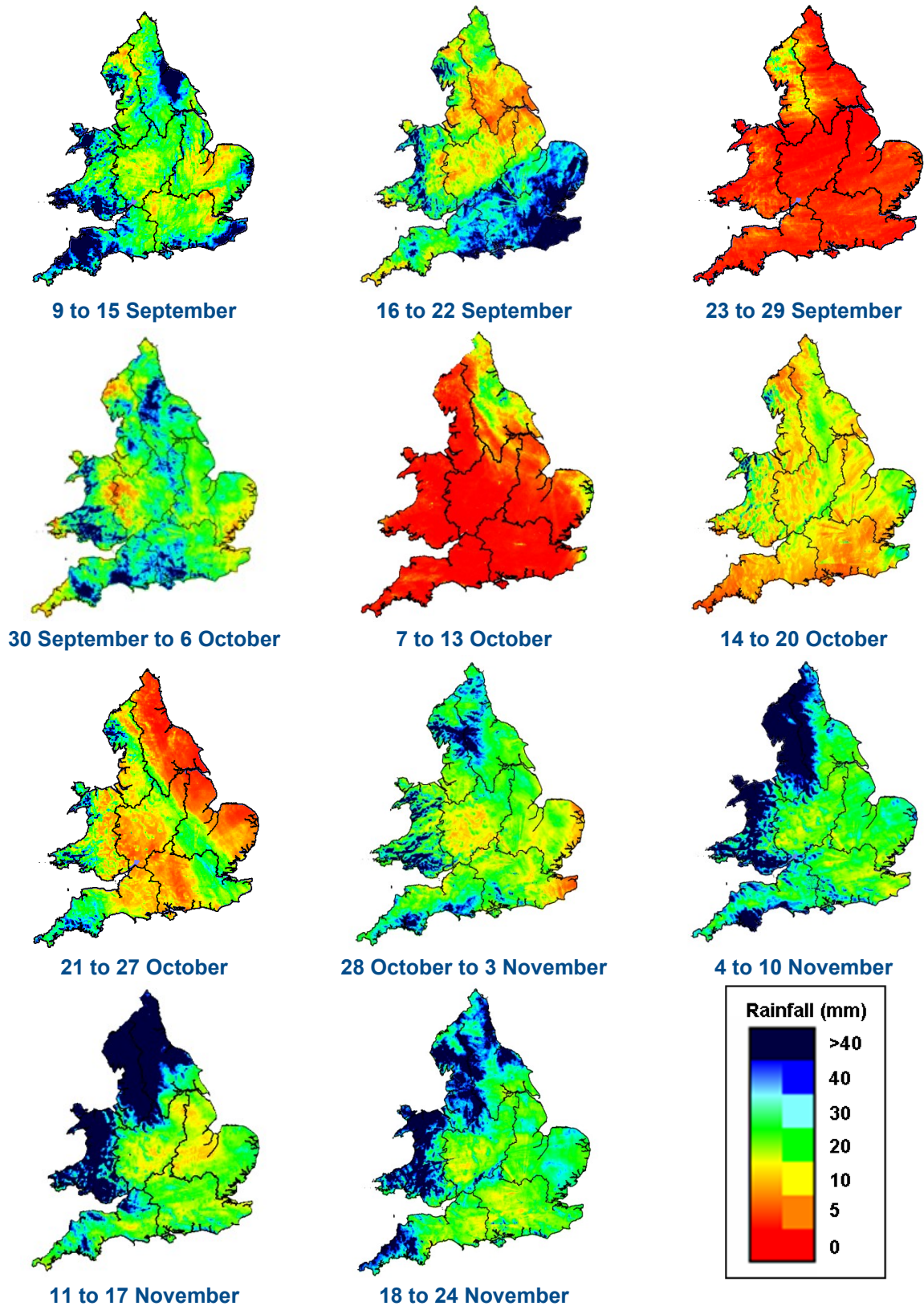
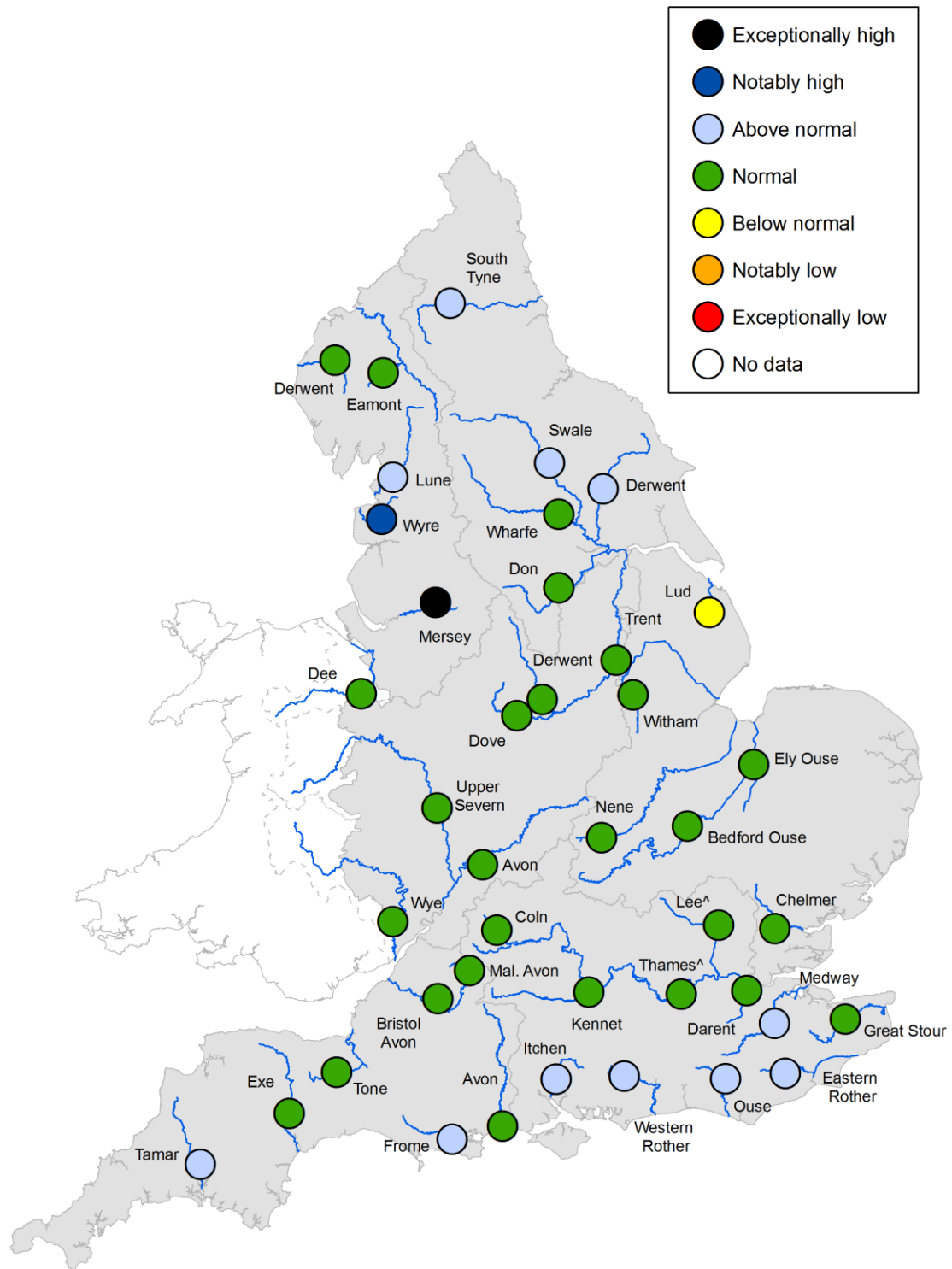


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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.

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

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