Weekly rainfall and river flow summary

Weekly bulletin: Wednesday 11 to Tuesday 17 November 2015

Summary: particularly wet in north-west England and river flows have increased.

Rainfall

The past week has been particularly wet in north-west England but drier in the east and south-east. Rainfall totals ranged from 13mm in east England to 79mm in north-west England (table 1 and figure 1).

Cumulative rainfall totals for the month to date range from 62% of the November long term average (LTA) in south-east England to 132% in north-west England (table 1).

River flow

River flows have increased at the majority of indicator sites over the past week. The latest daily mean flows are above normal or higher for the time of year at nearly two-thirds of the sites (figure 2).

Outlook

Rain will affect the south of England on Thursday and Friday, with showers in the north. Scattered showers will continue over the weekend, particularly along coastal areas in the east and west. These showers may fall as snow over higher ground, particularly in the north. Monday will generally be dry everywhere, before unsettled, milder conditions return on Tuesday with a band of rain moving in from the north-west.

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Geographic regions	Latest Week: 11 to 17 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	79	158	132	75	61	237	70	522	91	1169	101
north-east	53	96	118	79	109	215	99	440	111	820	100
central	20	48	73	52	86	172	93	345	98	674	94
east	13	37	65	47	92	162	105	320	105	586	98
south-east	19	46	62	56	80	222	116	373	107	745	102
south-west	30	68	65	71	73	287	113	511	115	1022	101
England	32	69	86	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.

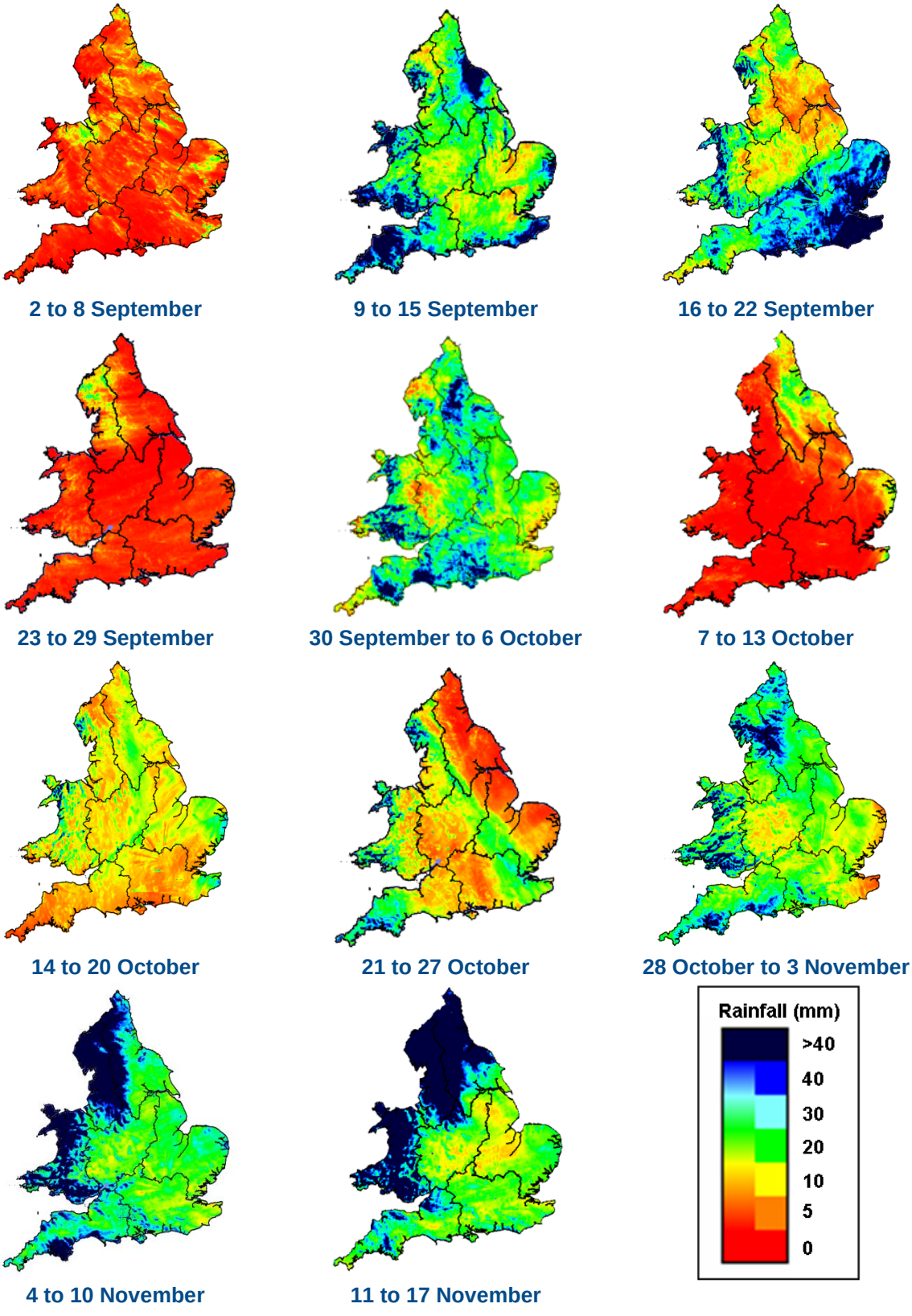
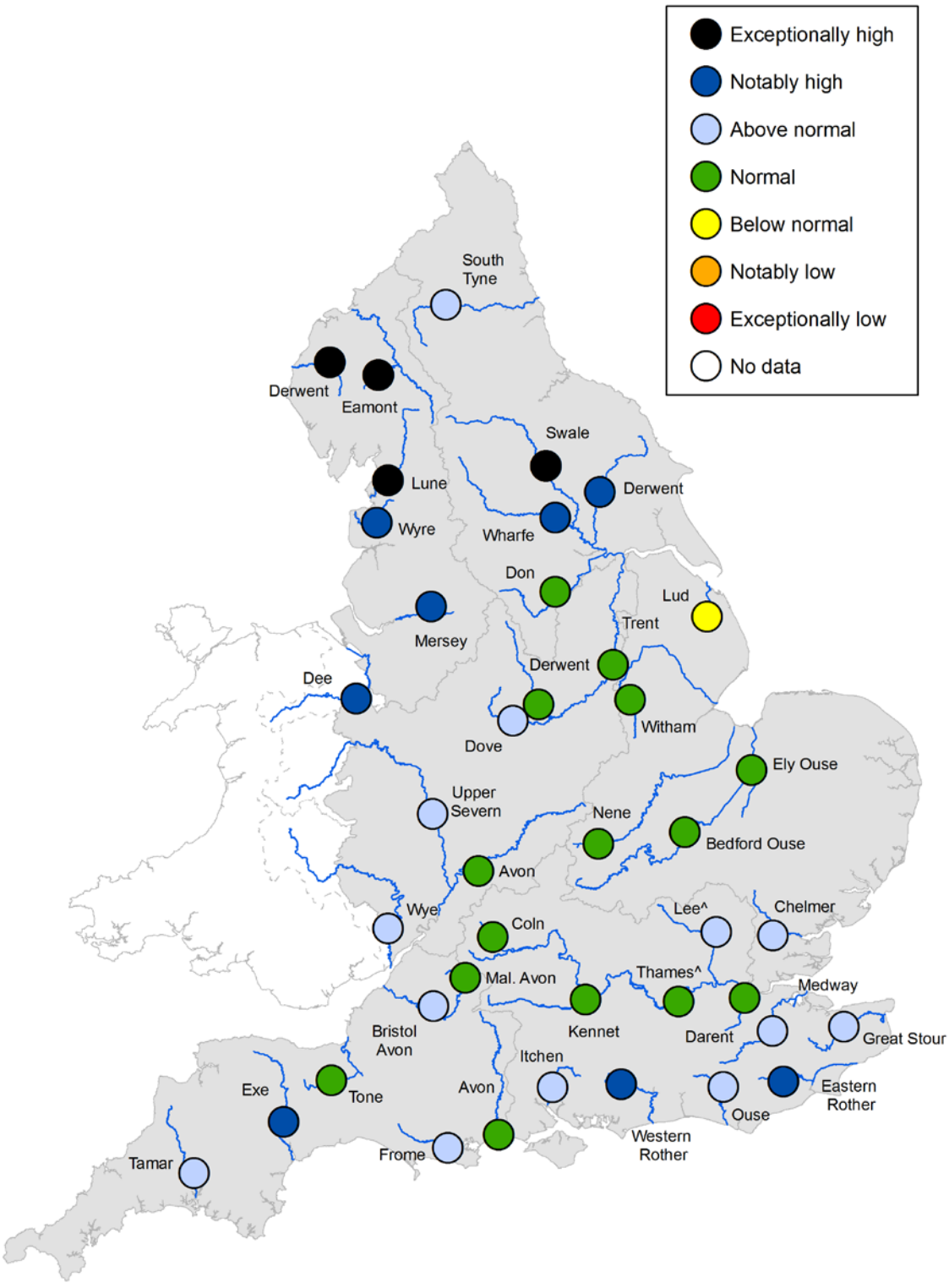


Figure 1: Weekly precipitation across England and Wales for the past 11 weeks. UKPP radar data (Source: Met Office © Crown Copyright, 2015). Note: Radar beam blockages may give anomalous totals in some areas. Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

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 year[2]. (Source: Environment Agency). Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Environment Agency, 100026380, 2015.

[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

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