

Water Scarcity Report

3rd June 2021

CURRENT SITUATION

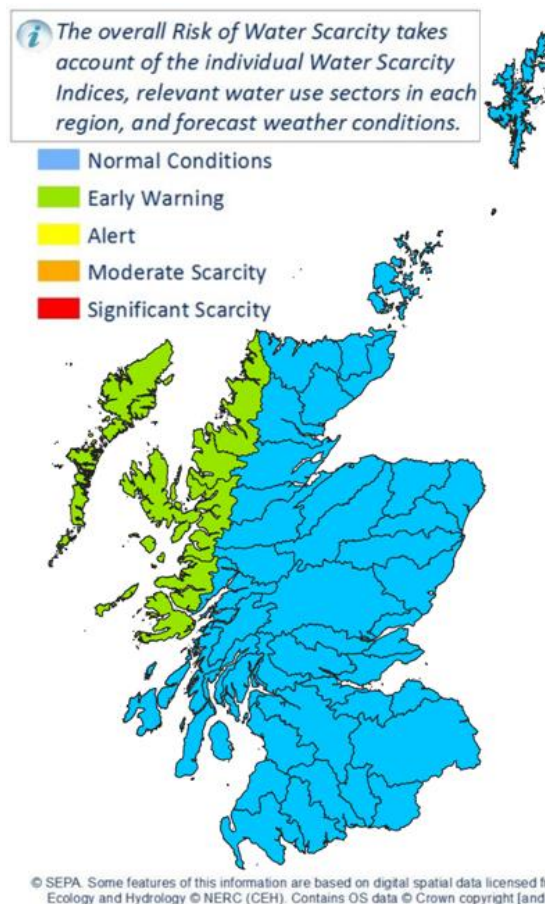
An Early Warning of water scarcity impacts is in place for north-west Scotland and Eilean Siar (Western Isles).

The risk of impacts from water scarcity elsewhere remains Normal.

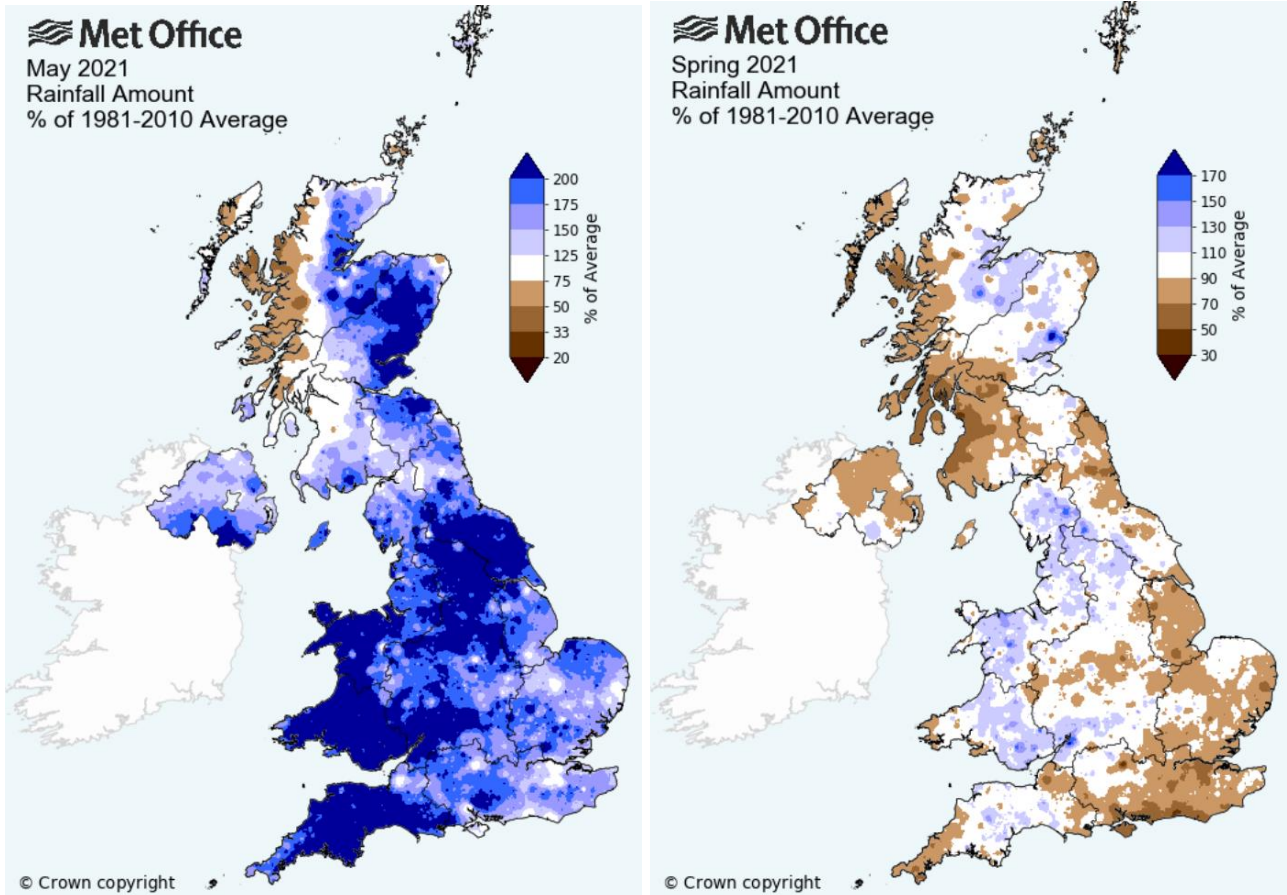
Situation Summary

May saw some very heavy rainfall across much of the country, with some areas in the east receiving over 200% of the long-term average monthly rainfall. North-west Scotland received below average rainfall again this month and the west of the country has seen a relatively dry spring overall (see the Met Office rainfall anomaly maps below). As a result, some river flows and levels are now very low in the north-west. With further settled weather forecast in the short-term an Early Warning of possible impacts from water scarcity has been put in place across the north-west Scotland and Eilean Siar (Western Isles).

Elsewhere, the Water Scarcity Level remains at normal level. The recent warm, dry weather has seen a drying of ground conditions, however. Groundwater levels at all of



SEPA’s monitored locations are currently within the normal to high ranges for the time of year. SEPA will continue to monitor the situation closely.



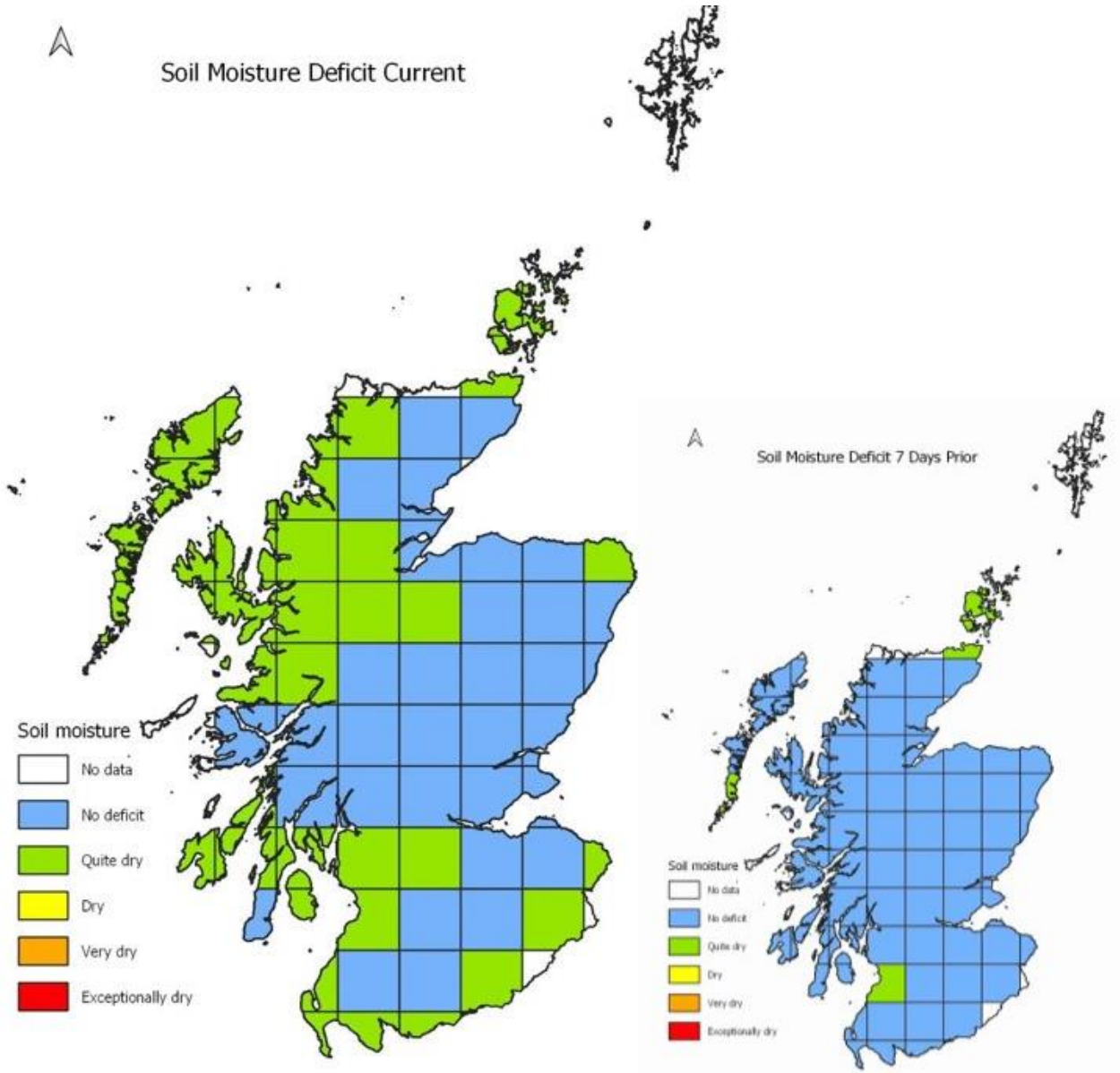
Rainfall anomaly maps against the 1981-2010 long-term average for May 2021 and for the whole Spring 2021 period. Anomaly maps can be viewed at <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/maps-and-data/uk-actual-and-anomaly-maps>.

Weather forecast

Dry and bright weather will continue across the country into the weekend. Some showers are expected over the weekend, but rainfall totals will be low. The longer-term forecast

suggests that, for the UK, a hot summer is slightly more likely than normal and the chances of either wet or dry conditions are similar to normal.

Further details are available in the following figures:



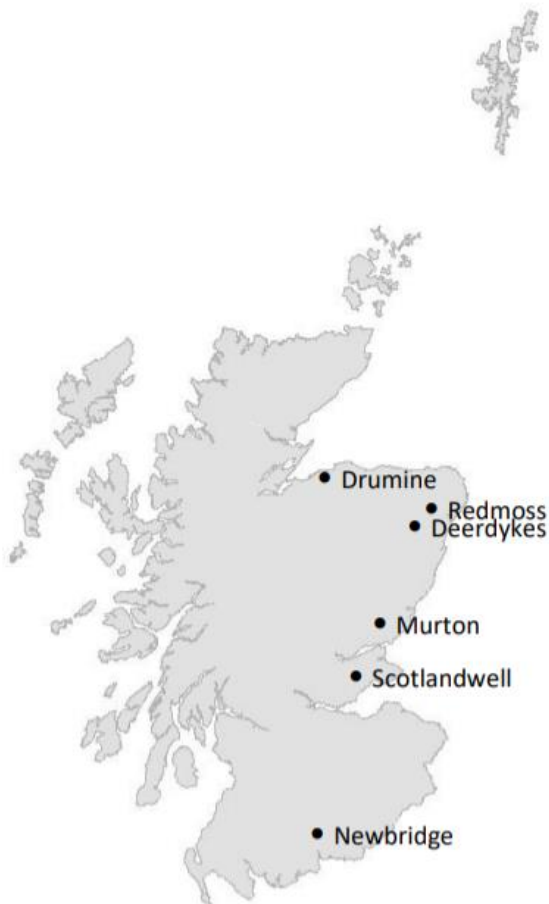
These maps depict the current latest Soil Moisture Deficit (1st June 2021) and 7 days prior for comparison. Based on the MORECS data obtained from the Met Office.



Natural water storage situation

In each river catchment there is some degree of water storage, which can maintain river flows even when it is not raining. This natural water storage is mainly held in lochs and groundwater. When natural storage has been depleted it will take a lot of rainfall for levels to recover.

2nd June 2021

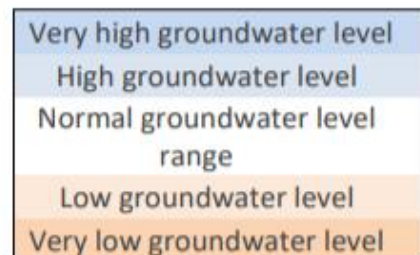


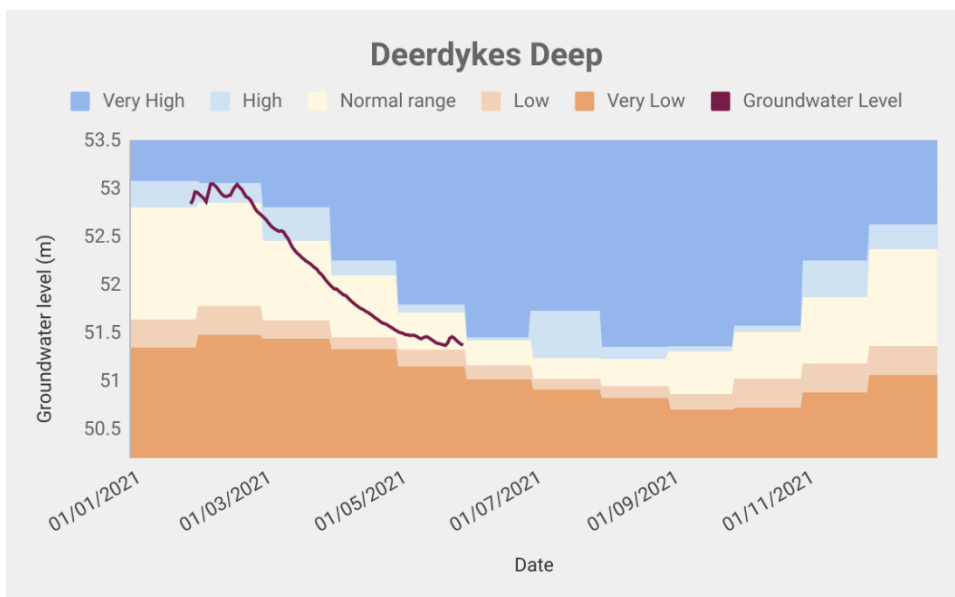
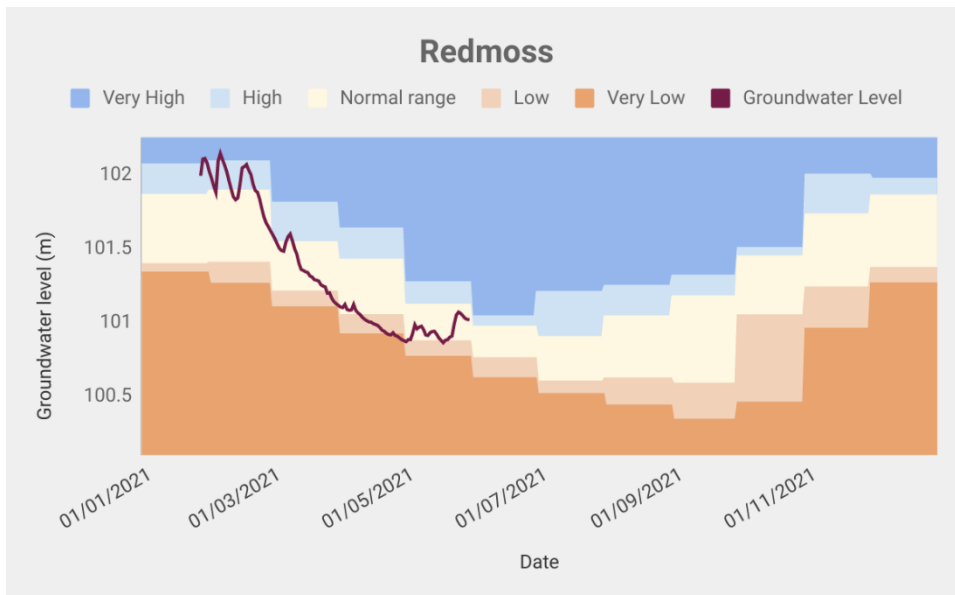
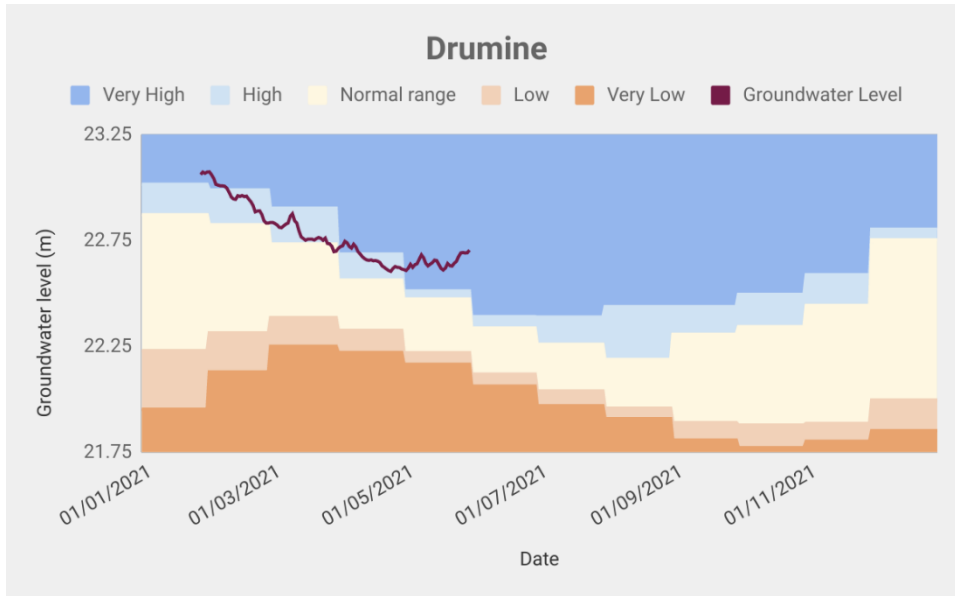
Groundwater levels are all within the normal or high range for the time of year. Levels at some stations, particularly in Angus and Fife, have had a marked response to rainfall in May.

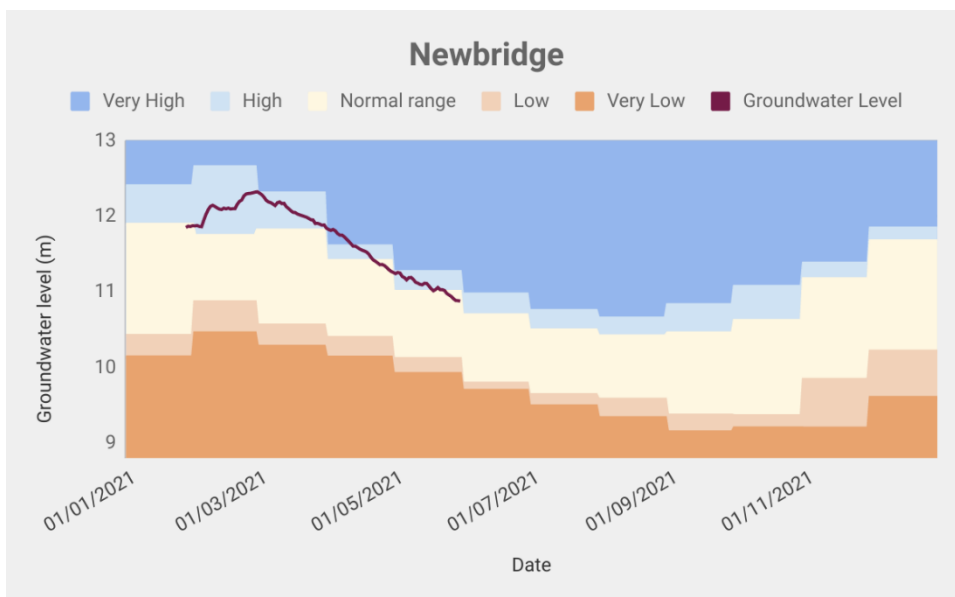
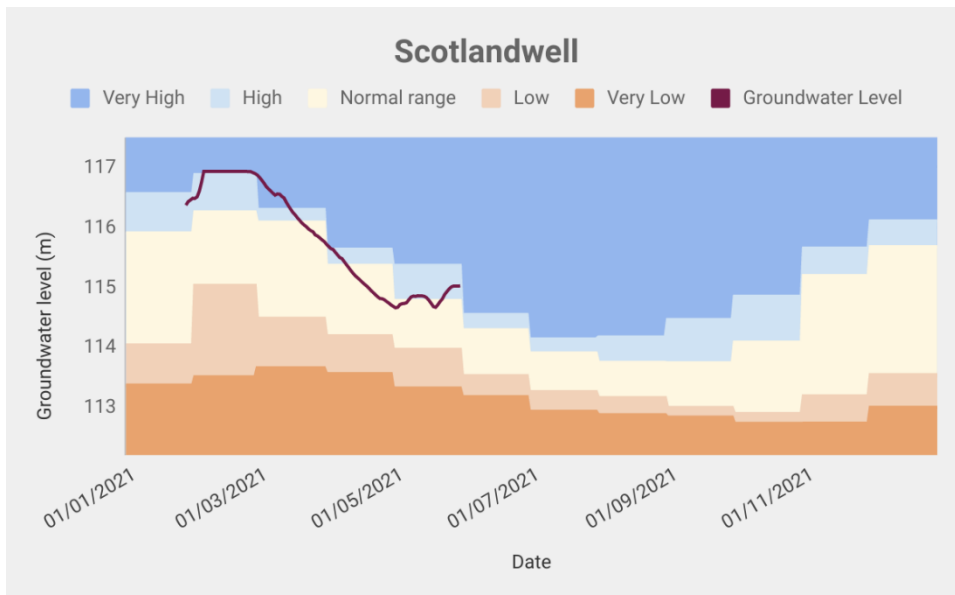
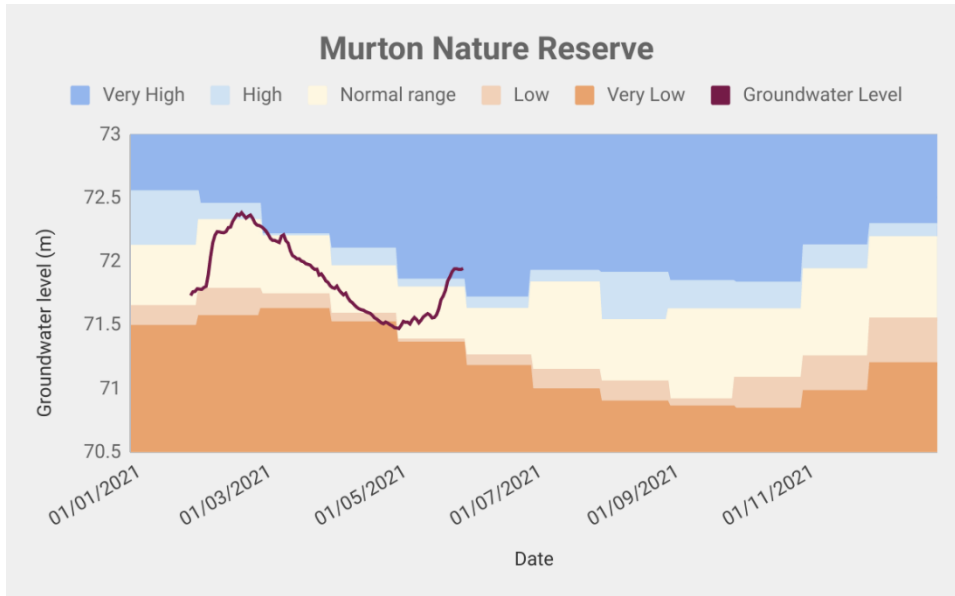
We have up to date data for 11 groundwater level monitoring sites, spread across the east and south-west of the country, giving a good picture of the current situation.

Loch level data is not currently available.

The following charts show the trend in groundwater level (GWL) since start of the year at selected monitoring sites (see map above). The black line shows the recorded groundwater level. This is plotted over level trend bands, which are based on the long-term record of mean monthly level values.







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