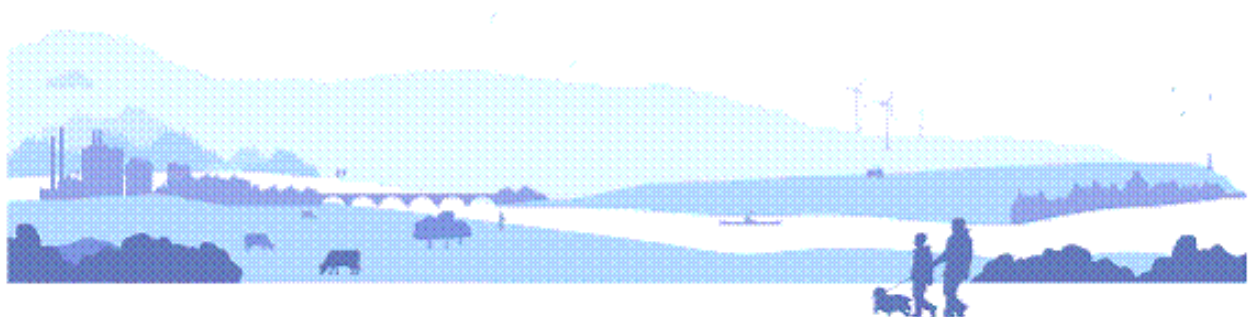


State of Scotland's Water Environment 2016

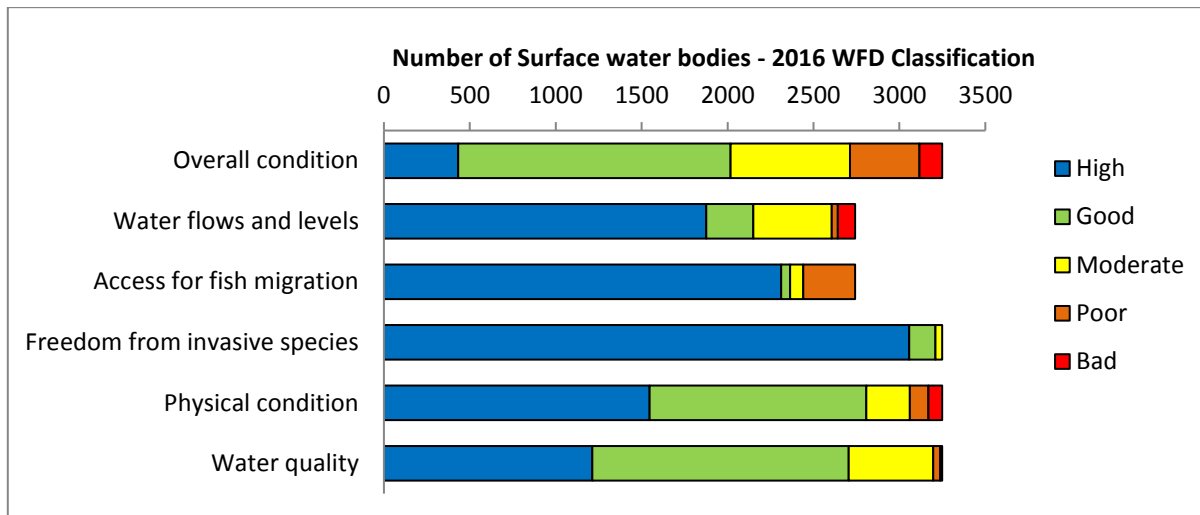
Summary Report

Scottish Environment Protection
Agency



What was the state of the water environment in 2016?

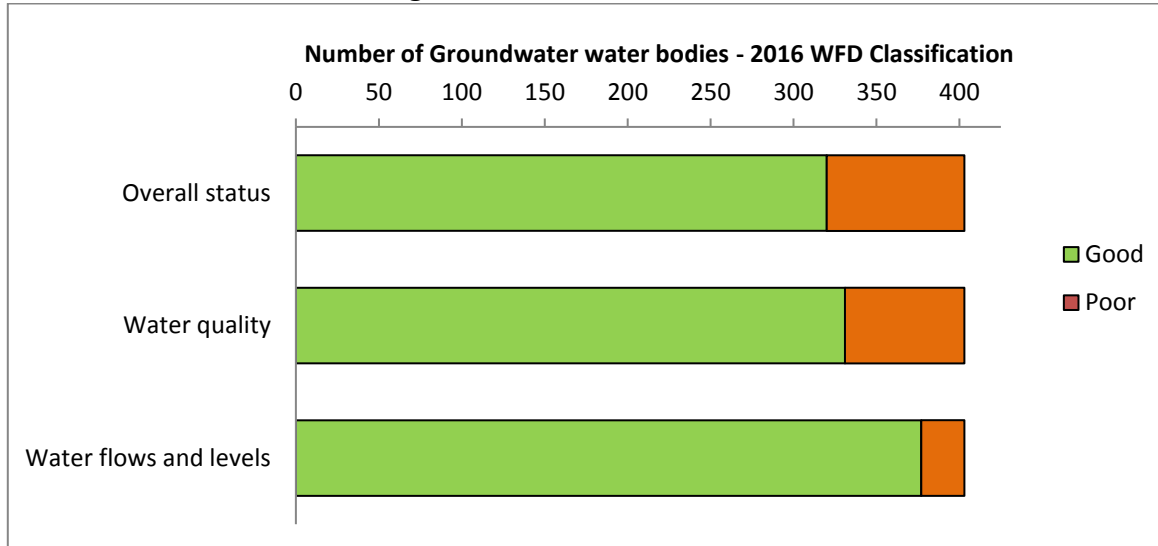
Overview of the state of bodies of surface water in 2016



Note: "Good" means conditions consistent with good status or, in the case of heavily modified and artificial water bodies, good ecological potential. Bodies of surface water include rivers, lochs, estuaries and coastal waters. Fish migration and water flows are not relevant to the marine environment, and so are excluded from the graph above.

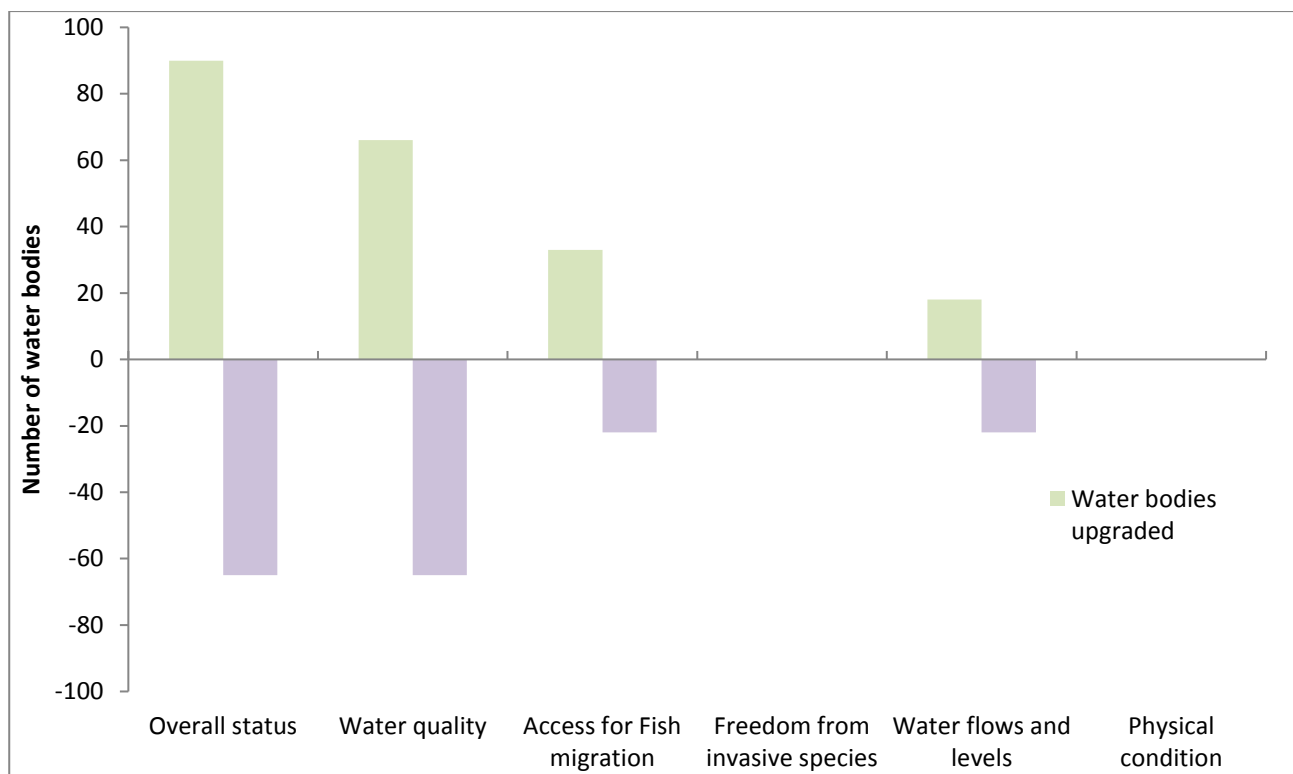
Our monitoring and modelling networks are designed to assess the greatest risks to the environment. Where we do not have evidence to the contrary we report status as high.

Overview of the state of bodies of groundwater in 2016



Overall, 64% of our groundwater and surface water bodies are at high or good status, broadly unchanged since 2014.

What's changed since 2015?



Notes: The figure shows the number of water bodies which have moved across the good/moderate boundary between 2015 and 2016, for both groundwater and surface water bodies.

The majority of changes since 2015 are due to improvements in our understanding of the environment, resulting from additional data. There have also been “real” changes, where we are confident that the underlying quality of the environment has altered.

- Improvement actions have resulted in 28 water bodies being restored to good or better status.

The improvements have been delivered by requiring licensed operators to reduce impacts arising from discharges of pollutants (five water bodies) or water abstractions (six water bodies), and by working with partners to remove barriers to fish migration (17 water bodies).

- There was also an isolated pollution incident on one river which led to a change in status.

The pollution incident is currently under investigation by SEPA.