

HEADLINE

The Northeast region and south part of the North Highland region are now at Moderate Scarcity.

Alerts are issued for Orkney and Shetland, and the north part of the North Highland region. The Tay, Forth and Western Isles remain in Alert.

An Early Warning is issued for Argyll. The Tweed, Solway, Clyde and West Highland remain in Early Warning.

Situation summary

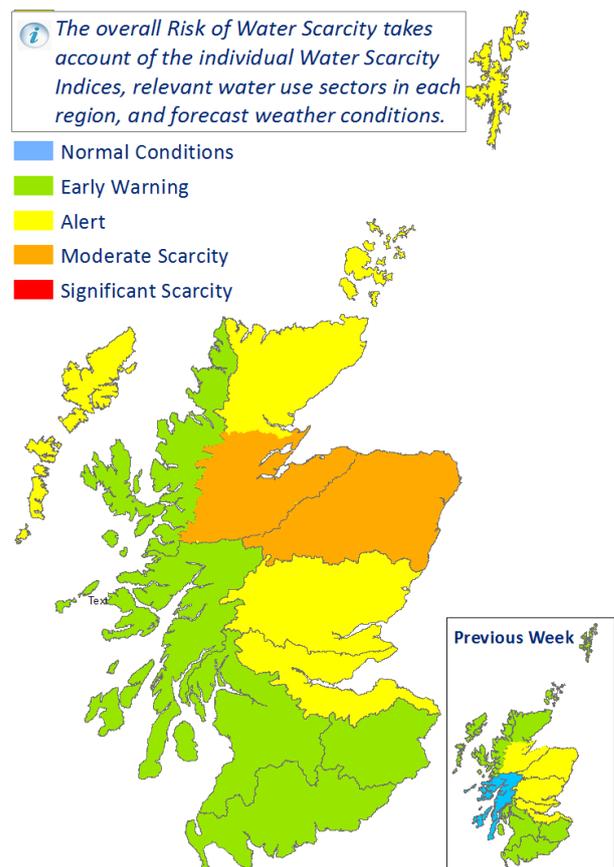
Hot and dry weather conditions have been experienced across the country this week, and dry conditions are forecast at least for the next week. Some rain last week eased the immediate scarcity however, pressures on water resources are expected to continue. River levels across the north and east of Scotland are very low and soils are continuing to dry. It will take a significant amount of rainfall before the water scarcity situation improves.

We are monitoring the situation closely and coordinating steps to manage water resources in line with [Scotland's National Water Scarcity Plan](#).

There are no areas where normal public water supplies have been affected. Scottish Water has issued advice to customers to use water wisely in two localised areas, parts of Moray and the Stornoway area of Lewis. The advice was issued because of prolonged dry weather in these areas, despite some recent rainfall, and (in the case of Moray) increased demand.

Scottish Water is managing water supplies across Scotland through this extended dry period and will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Water sources used for irrigating farm land are at risk of becoming limited particularly in the North Highland, Northeast, Tay and Forth regions. We are urging farmers in these areas, especially if taking water from burns and small rivers, to:



- Only irrigate when, and only as much as, absolutely necessary;
- Make sure irrigation equipment isn't leaking;
- Try to irrigate at night to reduce evaporation losses;
- Explore how you and your neighbours in the same river catchment could avoid irrigating at the same time;
- Consider whether you could switch to using groundwater rather than river water if conditions worsen. If you would need a new borehole to do this your local SEPA office will be able to help and advise.

Managers of golf courses in these parts of the country are asked to do the same.

Water abstractors with concerns about meeting licence conditions or wishing to discuss contingency measures should [contact their local SEPA office](#).

Forecast

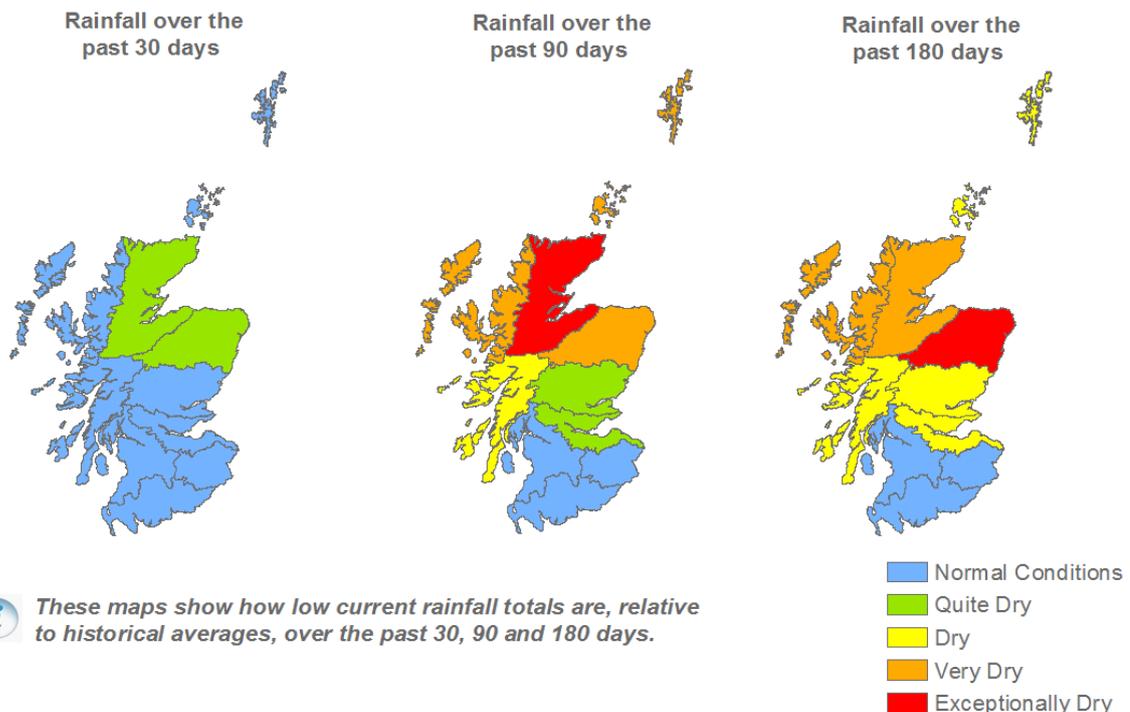
The forecast for the next five days is for more warm and dry weather.

The longer-term outlook shows a slightly higher likelihood of drier and warmer conditions than normal over the next three months, although the confidence in this is not high.

Further details on the current situation are provided in the following figures.

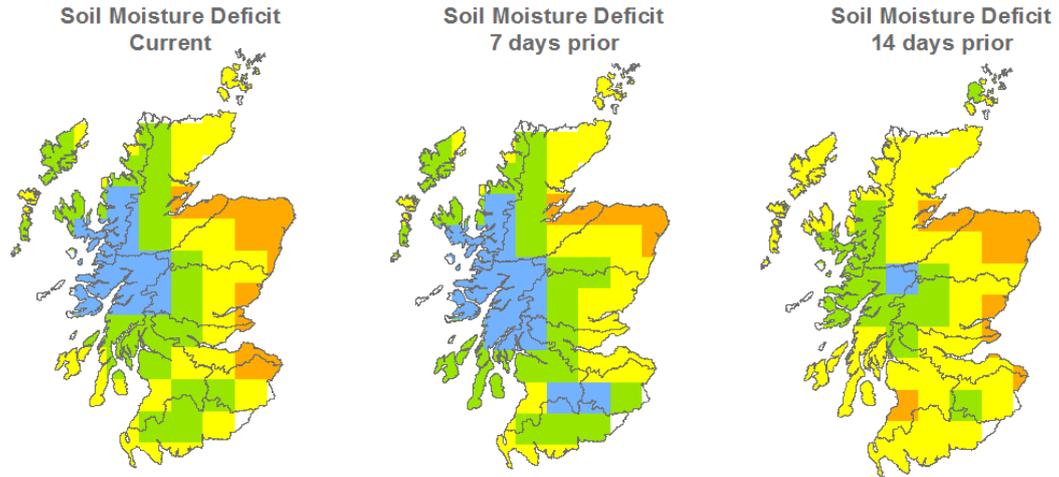
27/06/2018

Precipitation Indices



27/06/2018

Soil Moisture Deficit Maps



These maps depict the latest Soil Moisture Deficit (SMD) data and the SMD 7 and 14 days prior.

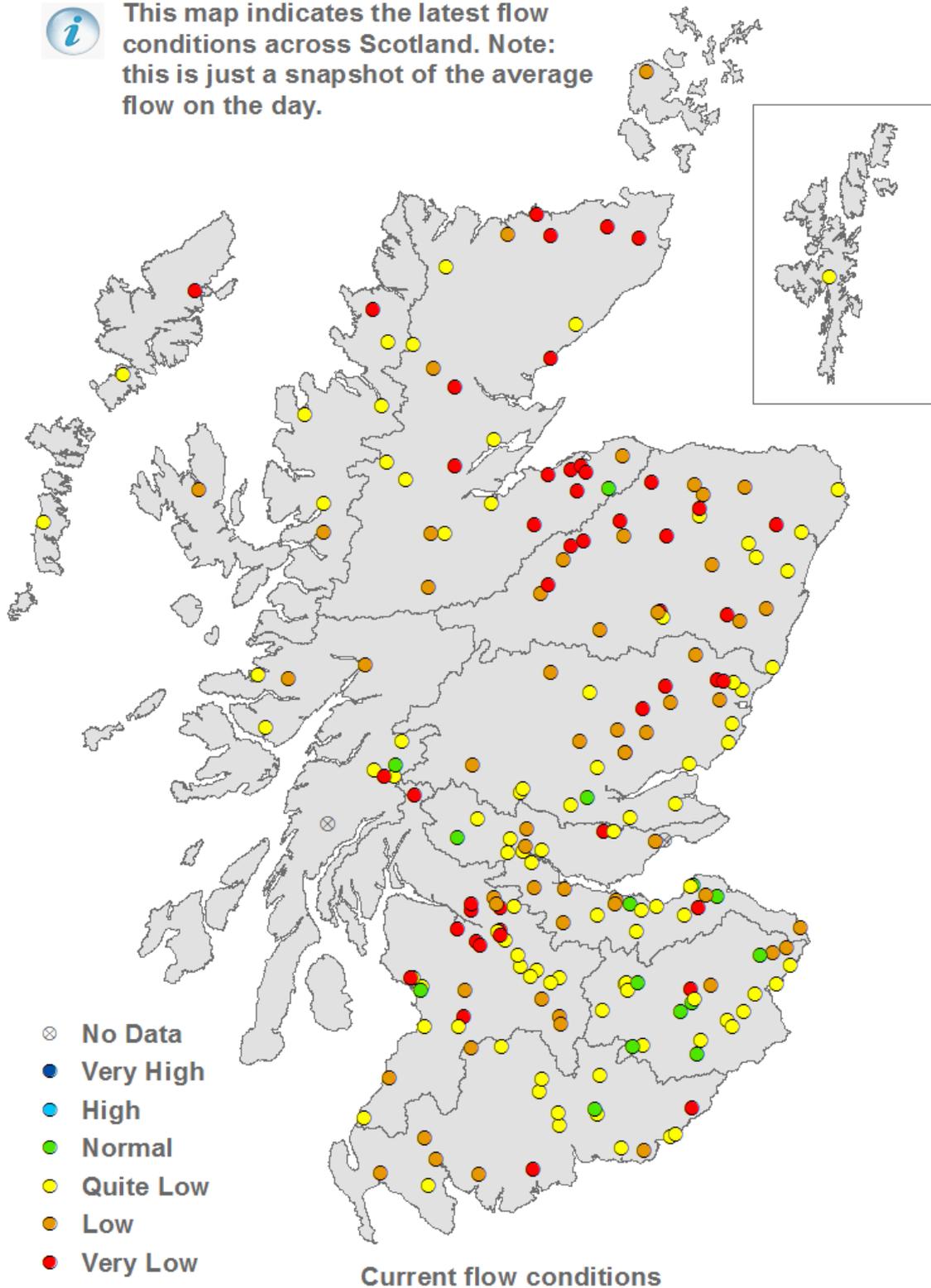
- No Deficit
- Quite Dry
- Dry
- Very Dry
- Exceptionally Dry

Current Flow Conditions

27/06/2018

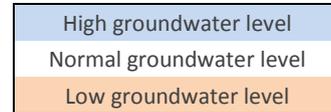
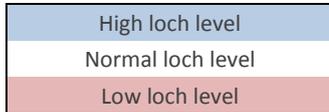


This map indicates the latest flow conditions across Scotland. Note: this is just a snapshot of the average flow on the day.



Loch and Groundwater levels: 27/06/2018

 These historic trend groundwater and loch levels show the current levels (the dark line) compared to the record high and low. The white zone represents the observed range with the central line as the long-term average trend.



The lochs shown are representative uninfluenced lochs. Loch levels respond quicker to rainfall than groundwater levels so it is normal that the level fluctuates more.

