

## HEADLINE

**Early Warning of water scarcity remains in place for Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire, Clyde, Angus & Dundee, Fife and the Galloway regions.**

**Normal Conditions remain in place across the rest of the country.**

### Situation summary

Following recent rainfall, river levels in the Glasgow area have recovered. Elsewhere in the Clyde and in Ayrshire the river levels are still quite low. Therefore, the Early Warning level remains for the Clyde region.

Despite the current and expected rainfall in the East of the country groundwater levels still remain low for this time of year so any further dry weather in this area will see levels decline.

The south of the country is expected to receive limited rainfall over the coming five days. Conditions are expected to dry from the weekend and into the beginning of next week.

### Advice for water users

We would still advise that farmers using water for irrigation:

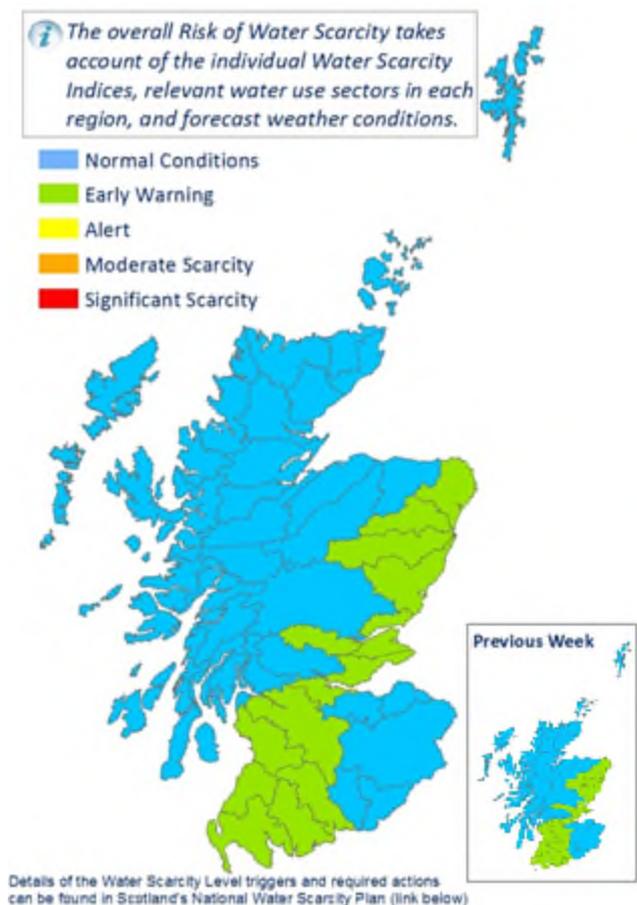
- Only irrigate when, and only as much as, absolutely necessary;
- Make sure irrigation equipment isn't leaking;
- Position irrigators carefully so that they do not over-spray beyond the edge of the crop.

Managers of golf courses are asked to do the same.

SEPA are monitoring the situation closely and coordinating steps to manage water resources in line with [Scotland's National Water Scarcity Plan](#). If you have noticed any impact as a result of the dry weather, we would be interested in hearing about them. For further details on reporting impacts of dry weather see <https://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/water/water-scarcity/>.

General and sector specific advice for abstractors is available: [Advice for abstractors](#).

**Figure 1: Current Water Scarcity Level**



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

### Rainfall forecast (Source: Met Office 11/07/2019)

Some showery rain on Thursday morning. Scattered thundery downpours will develop once again on Thursday afternoon into the evening, focussed across a wider portion of northern, central and eastern Scotland. These becoming confined to northeastern coastal areas on Thursday night, but further heavy showers will break out on Friday afternoon, this time the focus looks to be from Tayside and Angus southwards to the Borders, though not quite as heavy as Thursday's. These showers dying out through the evening. Then high pressure builds to bring a mainly dry weekend and start to the new week.

The longer-term outlook is uncertain. For July-August-September as a whole, the chances of above- and below-average precipitation are similar. On balance, wetter-than-average conditions are marginally more likely. For further details on the seasonal forecast see the latest 3-month outlook summaries at <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/contingency-planners/index>

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

10/07/2019

## Precipitation Indices

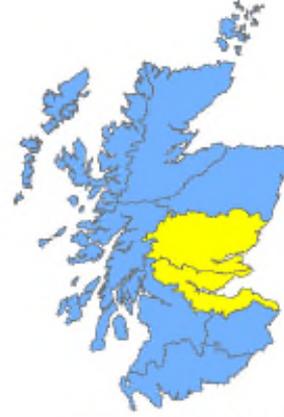
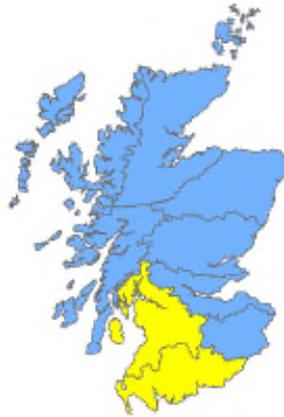
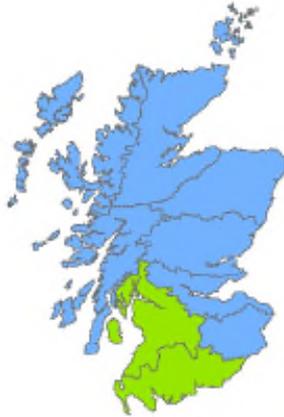
Rainfall over the  
past 30 days



Rainfall over the  
past 90 days



Rainfall over the  
past 180 days



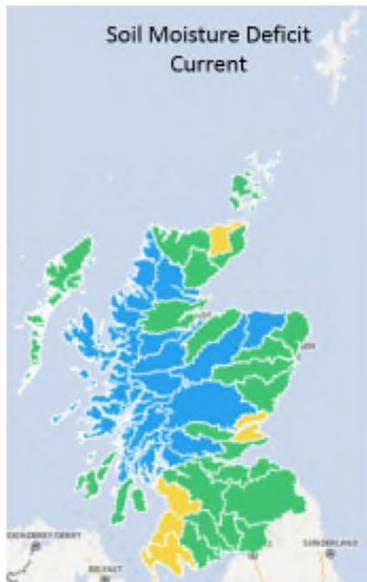
*These maps show how low current rainfall totals are for this time of year, relative to historical averages, over the past 30, 90 and 180 days.*

- Normal conditions
- Quite dry
- Dry
- Very dry
- Exceptionally dry

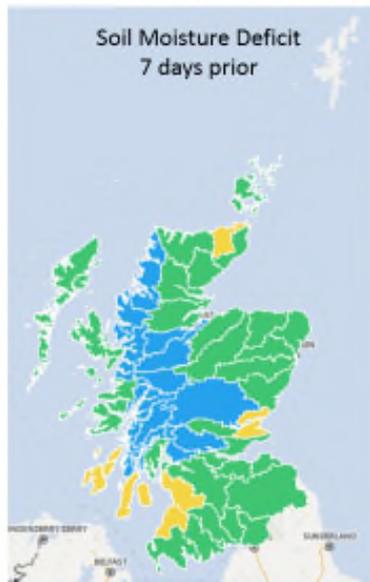
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## Soil Moisture Deficit

Soil Moisture Deficit  
Current



Soil Moisture Deficit  
7 days prior



Soil Moisture Deficit  
14 days prior



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

*\*MORECS data obtained from MetOffice*

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

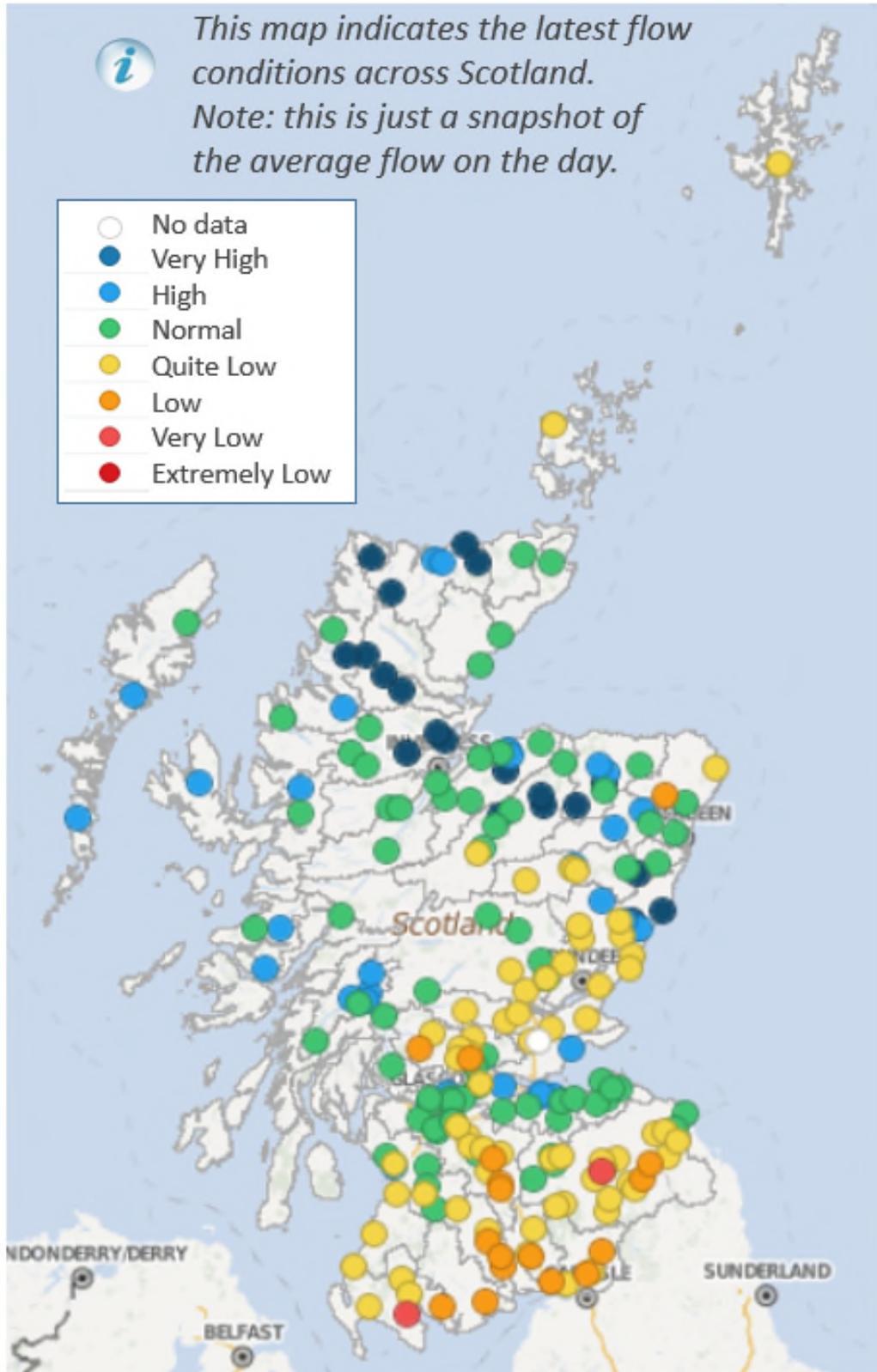
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## Current Flow Conditions



*This map indicates the latest flow conditions across Scotland.*

*Note: this is just a snapshot of the average flow on the day.*

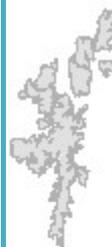




## Natural water storage situation

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.

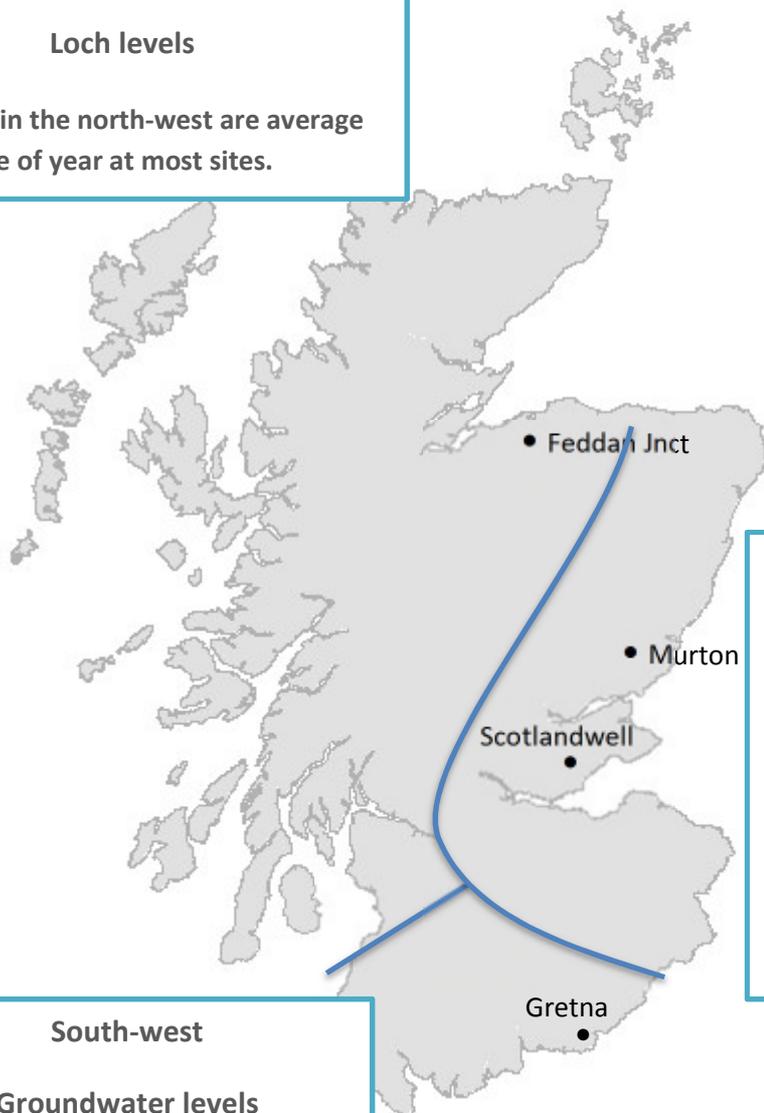
Please note that the map below does not reflect conditions in managed water supply reservoirs.



### North-west

#### Loch levels

Loch levels in the north-west are average for this time of year at most sites.



### East

#### Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels along the east coast continue to decrease. At some sites, levels are low compared to the long-term record (see the graphs below as an example).

### South-west

#### Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels in this region have begun to decrease. At some sites levels are low compared to the long term-average.



These charts show the trend in groundwater and loch levels since autumn 2018 at selected monitoring sites in the northeast (see map above). The white zone represents the observed range in the long-term record. The black line shows the actual groundwater level and the dashed line is the long-term average trend.

Record high groundwater level
Normal groundwater level range
Record low groundwater level

