

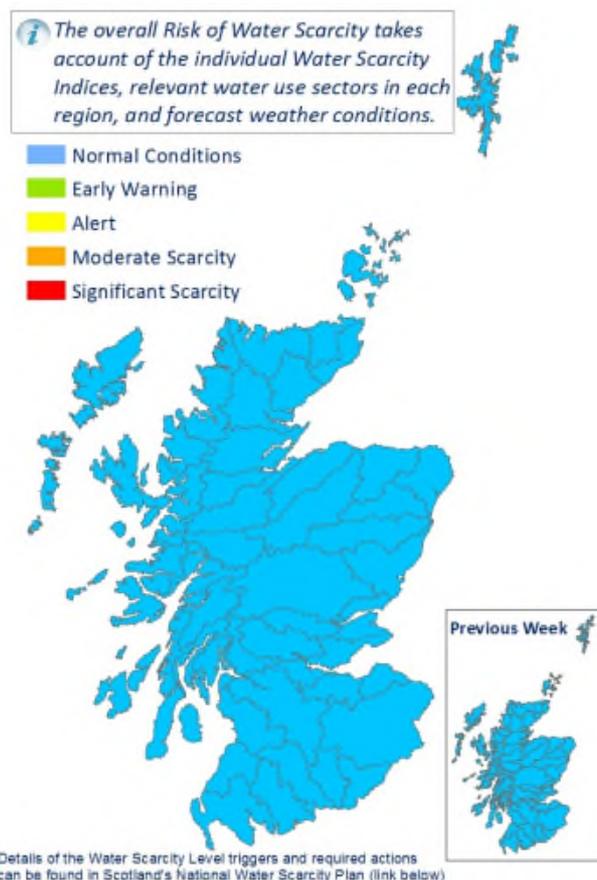
HEADLINE

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Situation summary

Normal conditions remain in place across the entire country. Surface conditions continue to improve with river levels across most of the country having recovered following recent rainfall.

Groundwater levels across the country have recovered following rainfall over the last few weeks. However, groundwater levels remain low for this time of year for some locations in the south-west. Any prolonged periods without rainfall in these areas may see a water scarcity situation develop.



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](#). 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 21/08/2019)

Band of occasionally heavy rain crossing from the west during Wednesday afternoon and evening, bringing heaviest most persistent rain to the southwest. Area of rain spreading from southwest on Thursday, bringing persistent, heavy and possibly impactful outbreaks to the Northwest, which only clear to the north later Friday. Staying mainly dry through the weekend.

The longer-term outlook is uncertain. For August, wetter-than-average conditions are marginally more likely. For August-September-October as a whole, the chances of above- and below-average precipitation are similar. 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:

21/08/19

Precipitation Indices

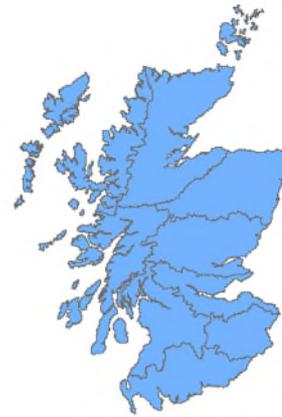
Rainfall over the
past 30 days



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.

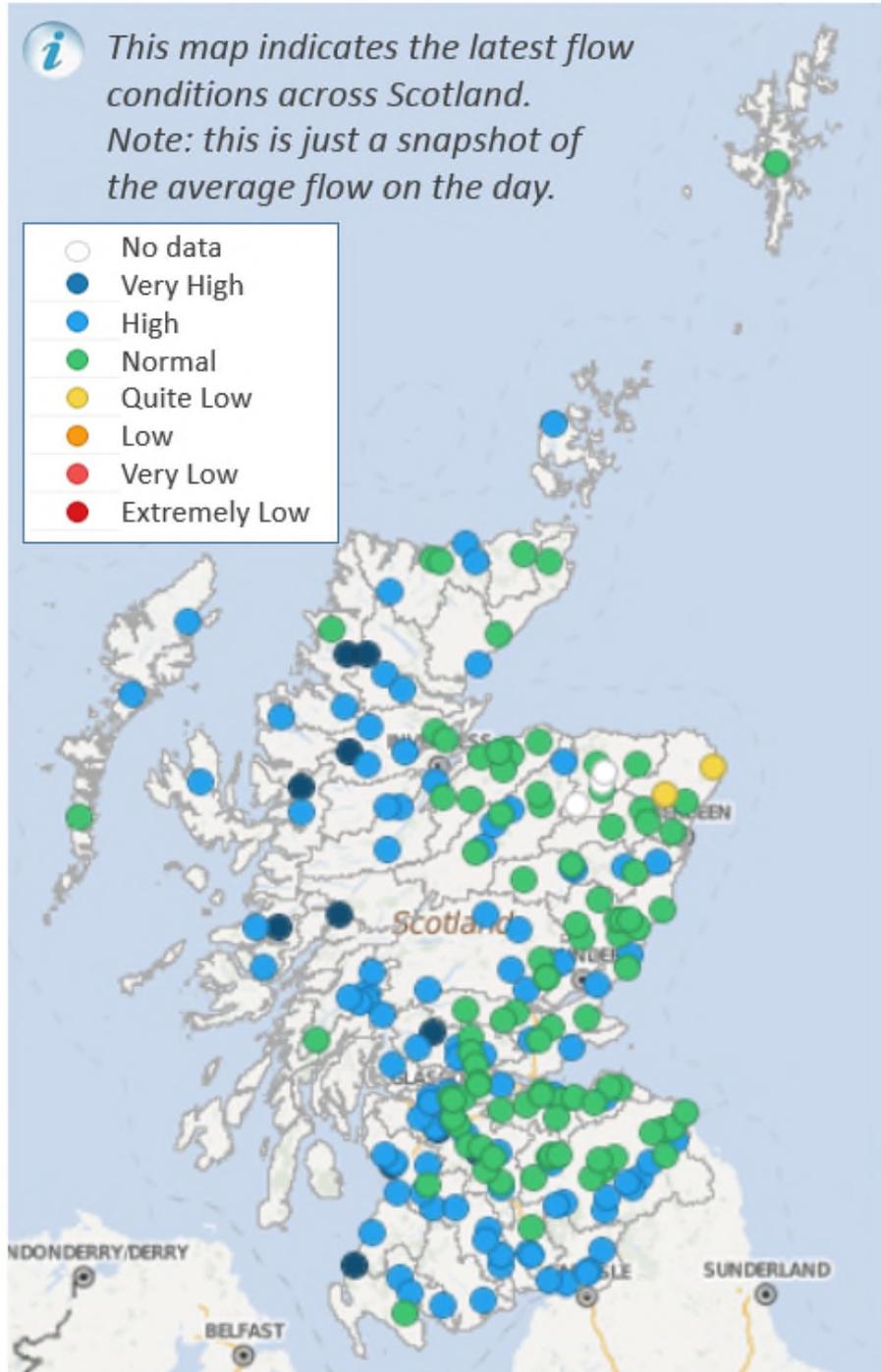
- Normal conditions
- Quite dry
- Dry
- Very dry
- Exceptionally dry

Soil moisture deficit update – 21/08/19

The majority of the country remains at No Deficit, however conditions remain Quite Dry along the east coast, locally on the north coast and in Orkney.

21/08/2019

Current Flow Conditions

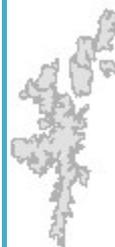




Natural water storage situation

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.

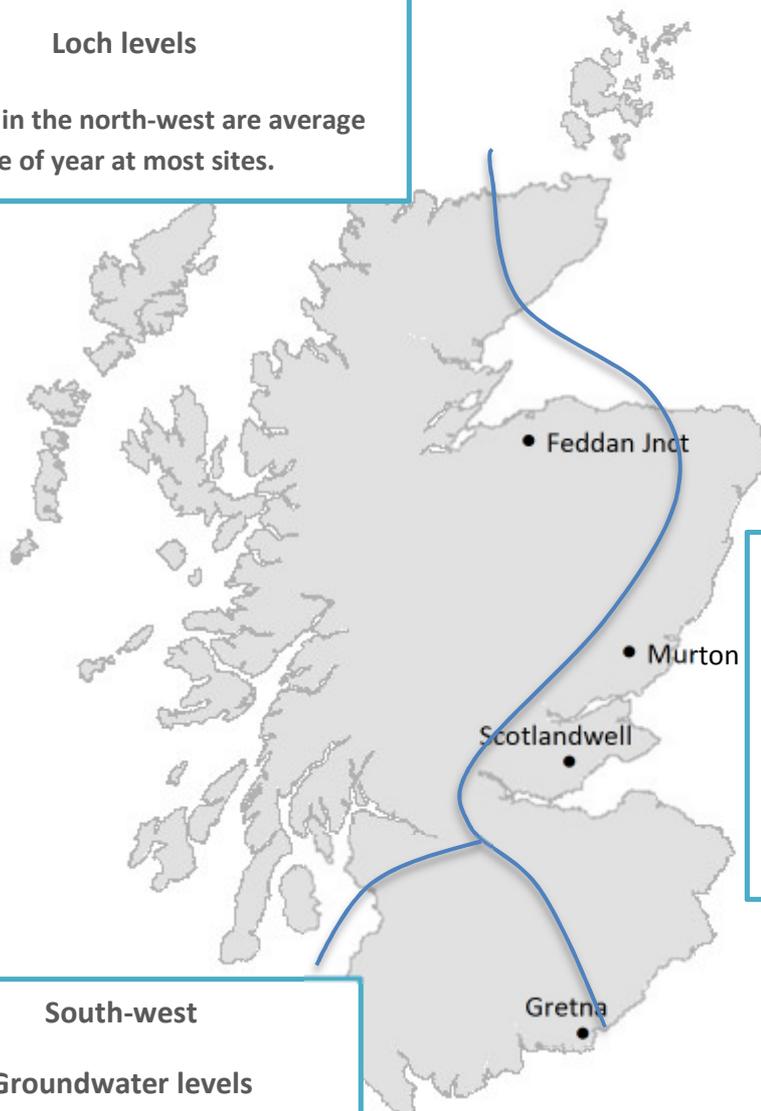
Please note that the map below does not reflect conditions in managed water supply reservoirs.



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 at most sites have improved following recent rainfall. Levels at most sites are above the long-term average.

South-west

Groundwater levels

Groundwater levels in this region are low compared to the long term average. This is typical for this time of year.



These charts show the trend in groundwater level (GWL) since autumn 2018 at selected monitoring sites (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

