

# Water Situation Report

17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## HEADLINE

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

**Orkney and the Clyde and Ayrshire catchments have been raised to an Early Warning level.**

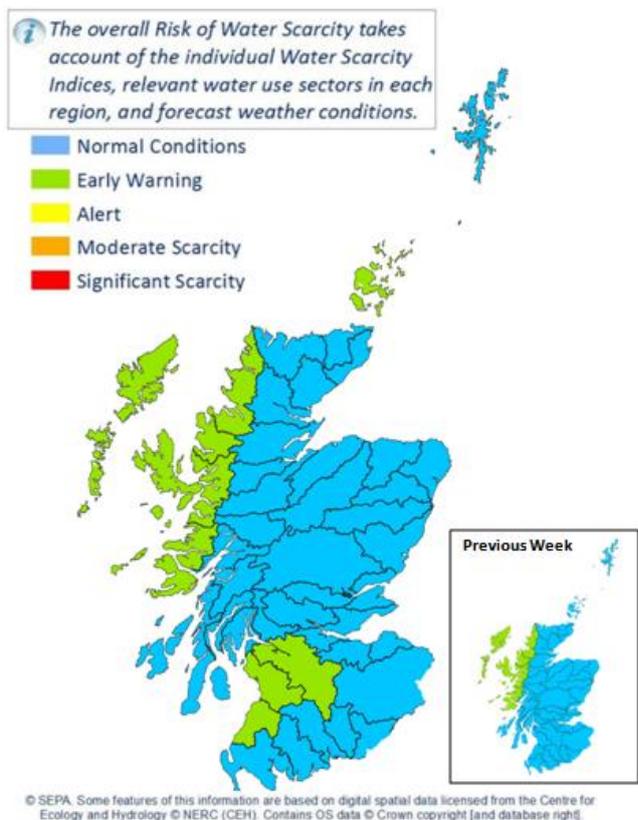
**The risk of impacts from water scarcity elsewhere remains Normal.**

## Situation Summary

Further dry weather through the first half of June has seen a fairly rapid drying of ground conditions across the country. Very recent rainfall across Argyll has eased this in that region and allowed some river levels to recover, but there remains a rainfall deficit and low flows in most catchments in north-west Scotland.

An Early Warning level has been placed in Orkney and south-west Scotland following continued dry weather in these regions as well.

Elsewhere, the Water Scarcity Level currently remains at normal level although SEPA will continue to monitor the situation closely.

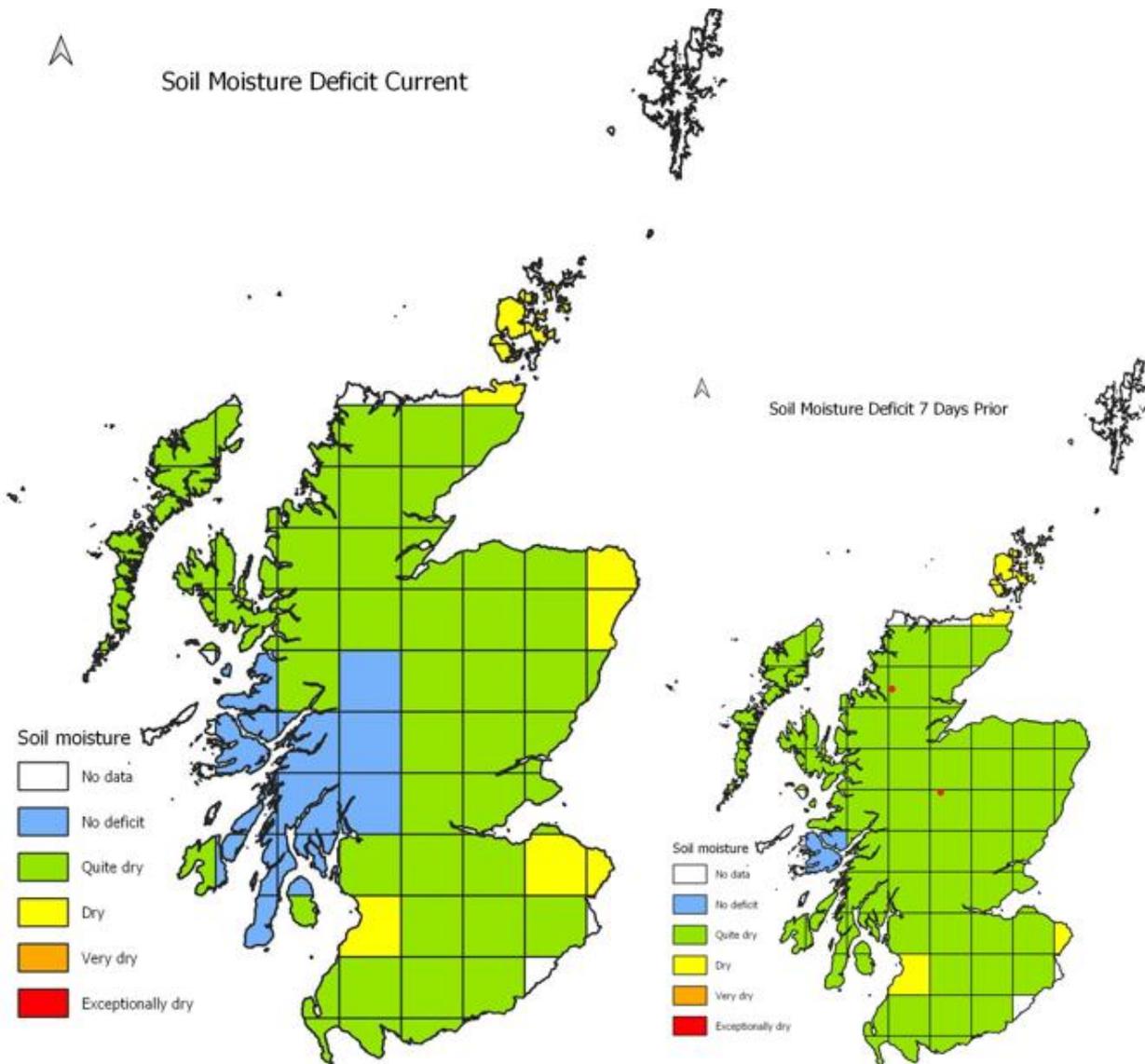


## Weather forecast

Mainly dry weather across the country into the weekend with only a few minor showers. More unsettled conditions are set to spread north and west early next week, although there is some uncertainty over the details of expected rainfall amounts.

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:



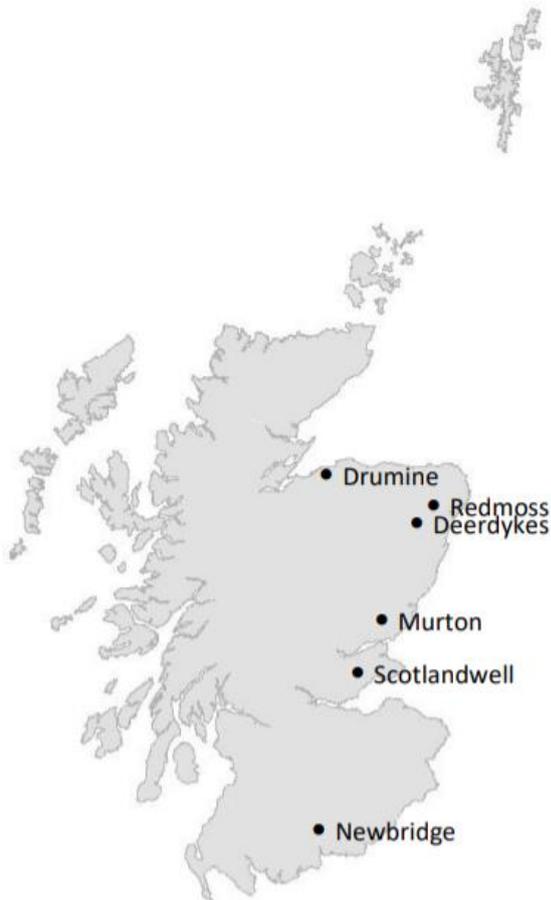
**These maps depict the current latest Soil Moisture Deficit (15<sup>th</sup> June 2021) and 7 days prior for comparison. Based on the MORECS data obtained from the Met Office.**



## 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.

16th June 2021

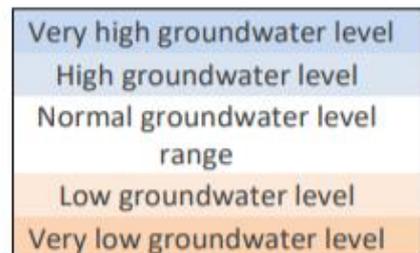


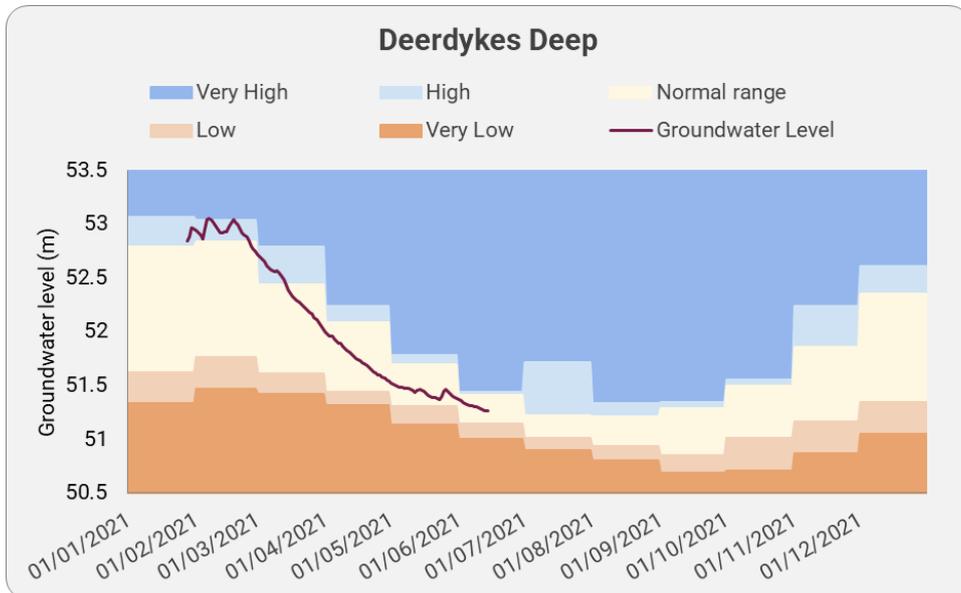
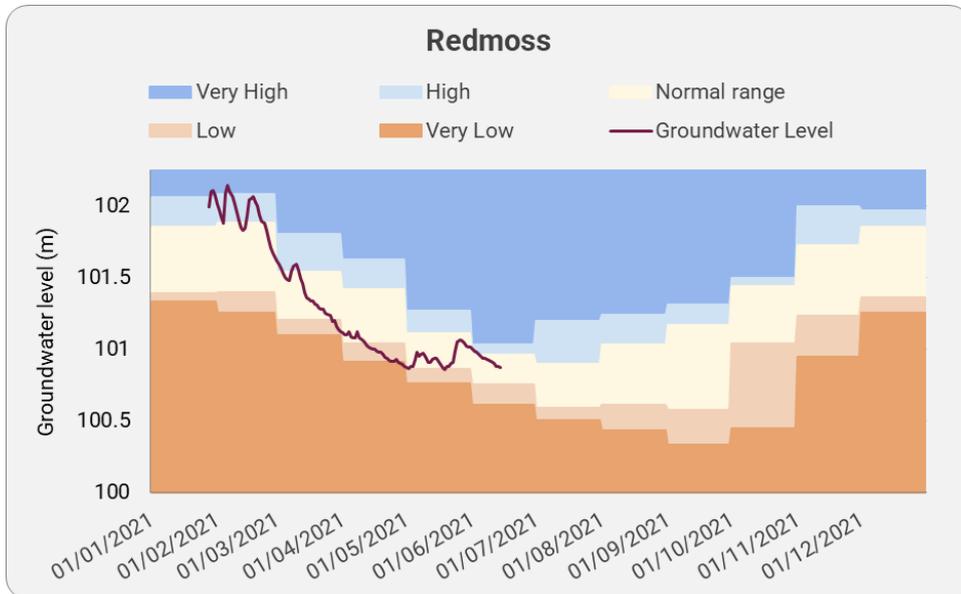
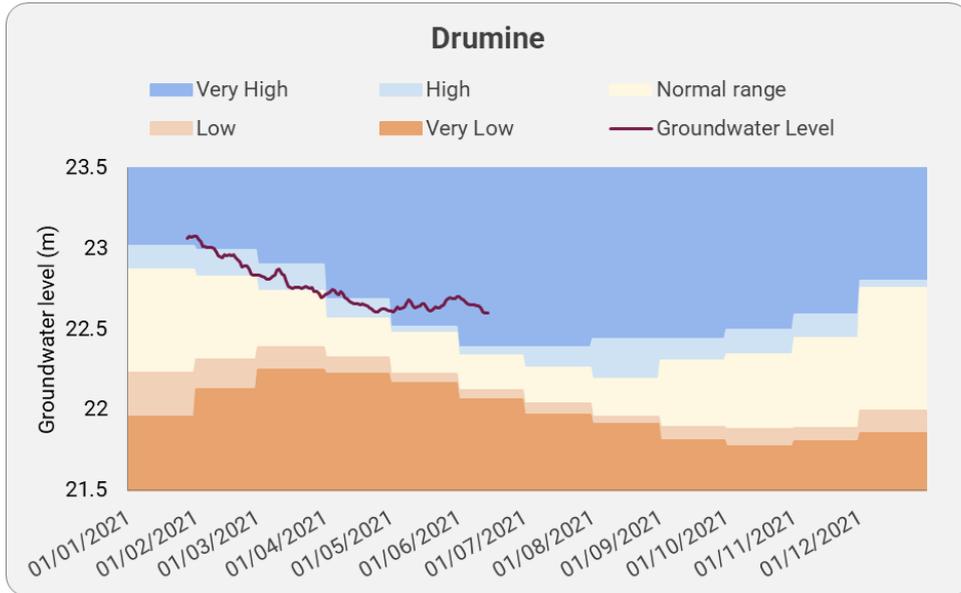
Groundwater levels are all within the normal or high range for the time of year. Levels at some stations, particularly in Angus and Fife, showed a marked response to rainfall in May.

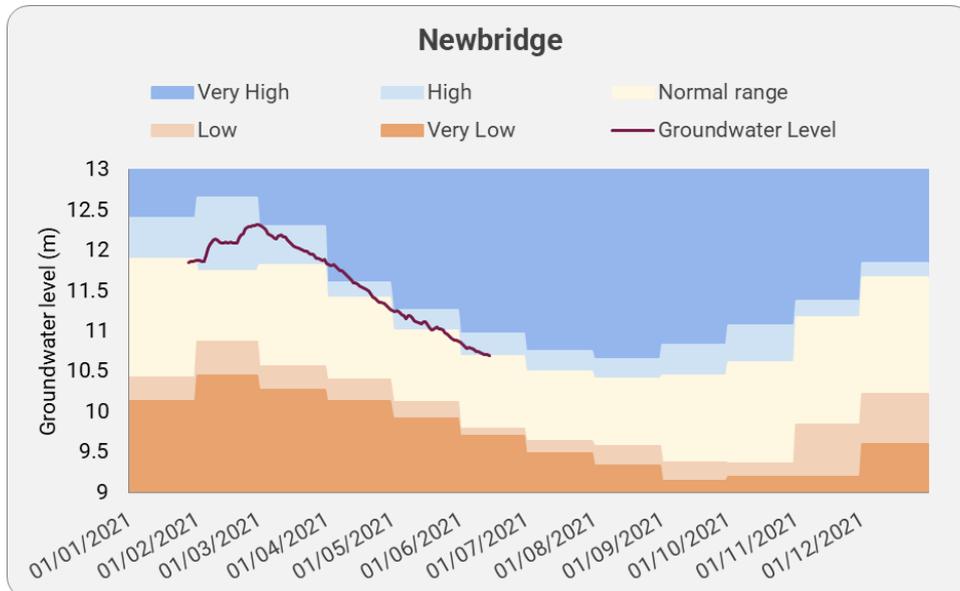
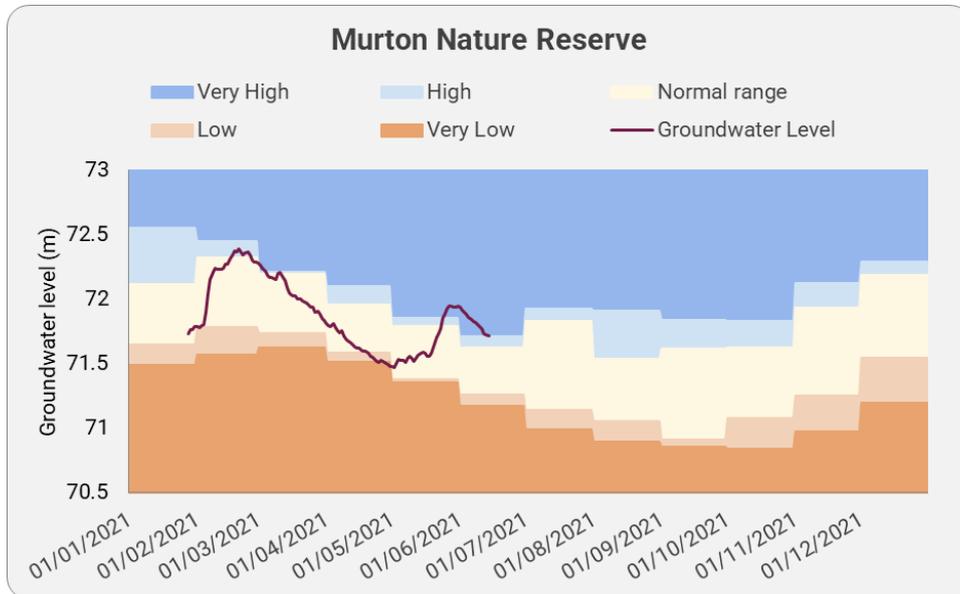
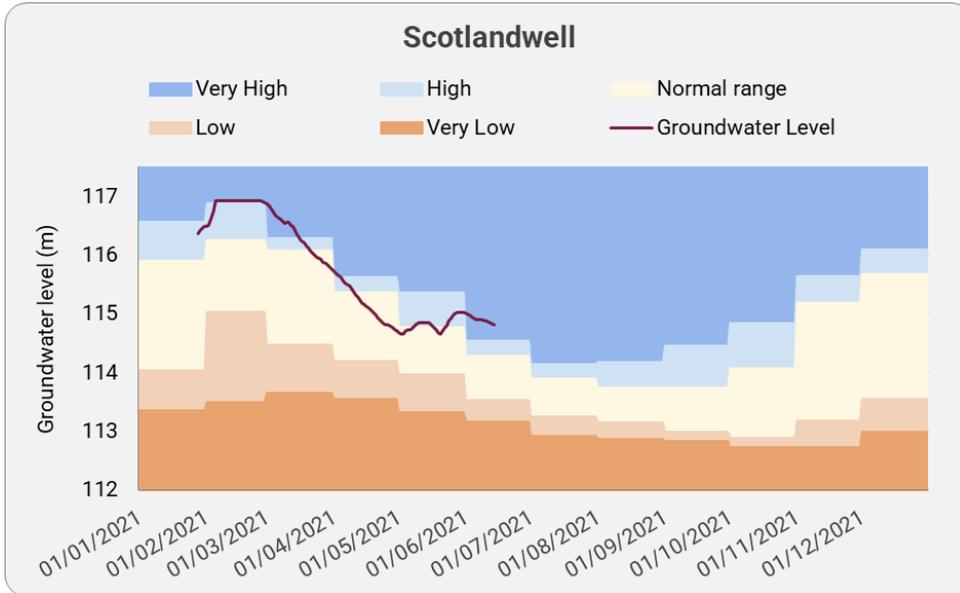
We have up to date data for 11 groundwater level monitoring sites, spread across the east and south-west of the country, giving a good picture of the current situation.

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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Strathallan House, Castle Business Park, Stirling, FK9 4TZ