

Outlook based on modelled groundwater level & climate forecast

SUMMARY

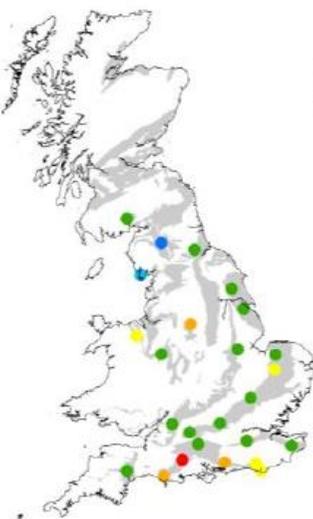
Generally, groundwater levels are expected to rise over the next month *<info omitted>*. Levels in the Chalk are expected to be broadly normal, but along the south coast under the lowest rainfall ensemble forecast the outlook is for below normal levels. In the north of Britain, above normal levels are expected to persist. Uncertainty *in rainfall forecasts* means that the three month outlook is unclear. Under the highest rainfall ensemble forecast, the levels at the majority of sites, regardless of aquifer or region, are expected to be above normal, whereas under the lowest rainfall ensemble forecast levels are normal or below normal.

Based on the distribution of observed historical groundwater levels in a given month, seven categories have been derived for each site: very low, low, below normal, normal, above normal, high, and very high. The forecast groundwater level is assigned to one of these seven categories depending on where it falls within the distribution of the historically observed values.

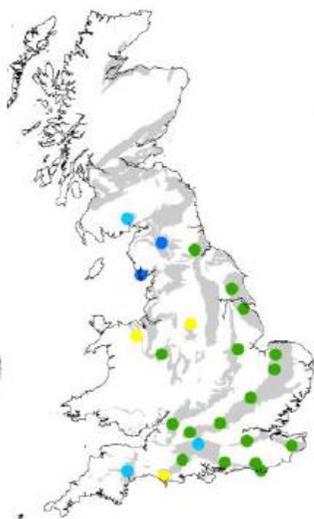
These forecasts are produced by running five members of the Met Office ensemble climate forecast through groundwater models of observation borehole hydrographs at 25 sites across the country. The sites are distributed across the principal aquifers.

Key	Percentile range of historic observed values for relevant month
Black	Exceptionally high levels > 95
Dark Blue	Notably high levels 87-95
Light Blue	Above normal 72-87
Green	Normal 28-72
Yellow	Below normal 13-28
Orange	Notably low levels 5-13
Red	Exceptionally low levels < 5

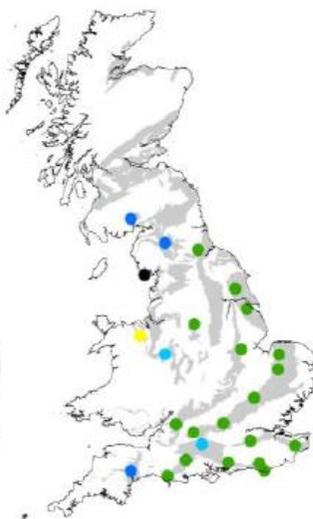
Lowest rainfall forecast 1st quartile



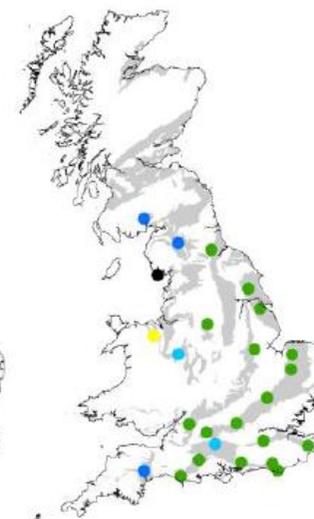
1st quartile



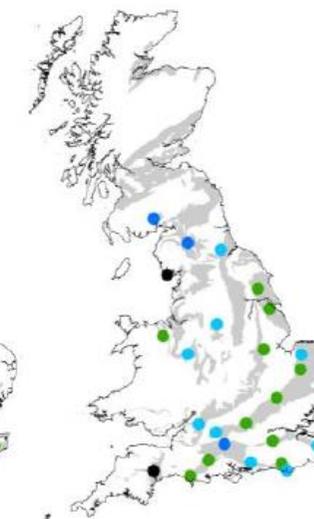
Median



3rd quartile



Highest rainfall forecast



1-month outlook

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