

## SUMMARY

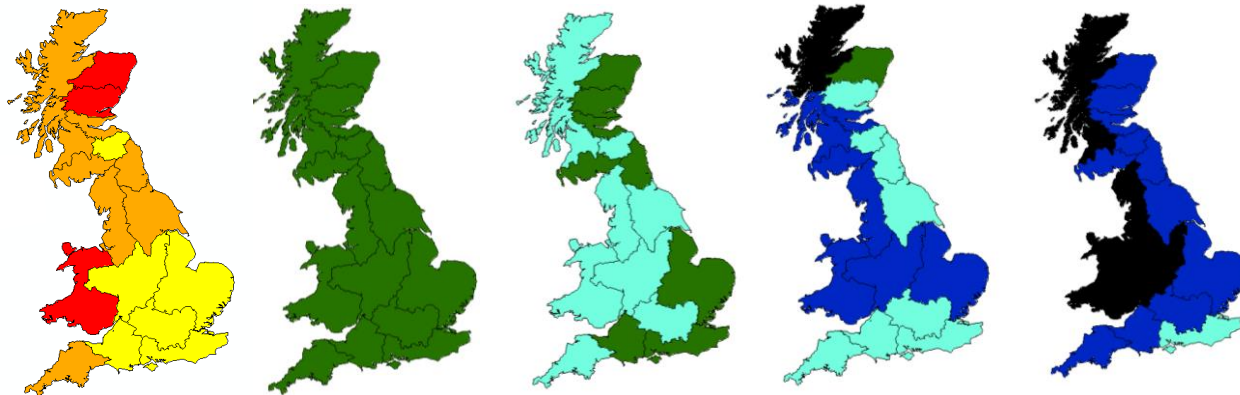
River flow forecasts based on rainfall forecasts above the lowest quartile are in the normal range or above for most regions over the next 1- to 3-months. Above average flows are most likely to occur in western regions and central England where higher than average rainfall totals in October led to wetter catchments. However, in NE Scotland, lower than normal October rainfall left catchments drier, and flow forecasts for this regions are more likely to be in the normal or below normal range for this time of year.

These forecasts are produced by using five members of the Met Office rainfall forecast ensemble as input to a water balance hydrological model to provide the five estimates of river flows shown on the left for one month and three months ahead.

Regional forecast monthly-mean river flows are derived from the average of 1km river flow estimates within each region and ranked in terms of 49 years of historical flow estimates (1962 – 2010).

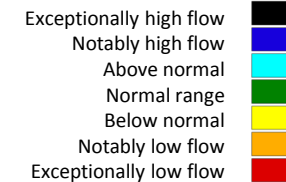
The five maps illustrate the wide range of possible flows and while there is a 50% chance of flows between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quartiles, actual flows may be more extreme than the flows derived using the highest or lowest rainfall forecasts.

**Lowest rainfall forecast**   **1<sup>st</sup> quartile**   **Median**   **3<sup>rd</sup> quartile**   **Highest rainfall forecast**

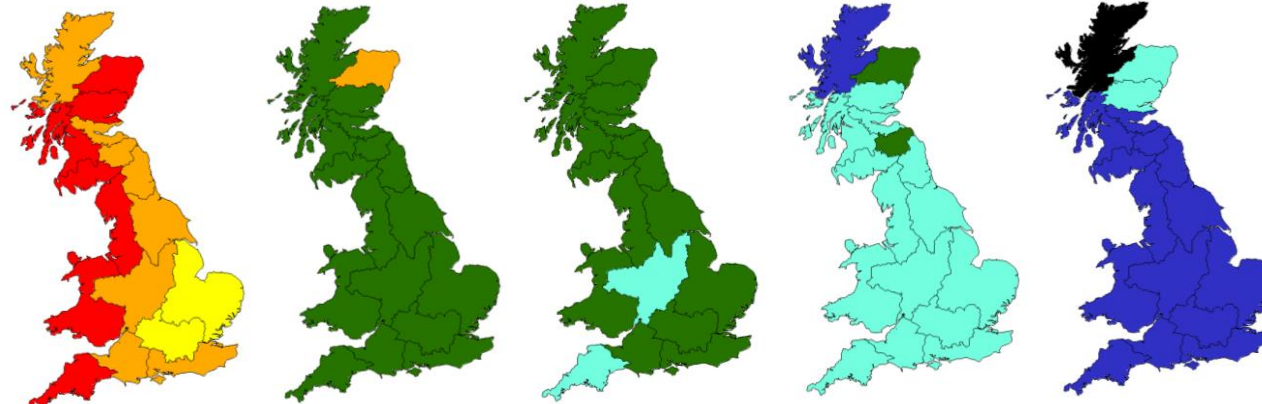


**1-month flow outlook**

### Key



**Lowest rainfall forecast**   **1<sup>st</sup> quartile**   **Median**   **3<sup>rd</sup> quartile**   **Highest rainfall forecast**



**3-month flow outlook**

### SCOTLAND

- HR Highlands Region
- NER North East Region
- TR Tay Region
- FR Forth Region
- CR Clyde Region
- TWR Tweed Region
- SR Solway Region

### ENGLAND

- N Northumbria
- NW North West
- Y Yorkshire
- ST Severn Trent
- A Anglian
- T Thames
- S Southern
- W Wessex
- SW South West

### WALES

- WEL Welsh



### NORTHERN IRELAND

This method cannot currently be used in Northern Ireland