British Geological Survey
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Outlook based on modelled groundwater level & climate forecast

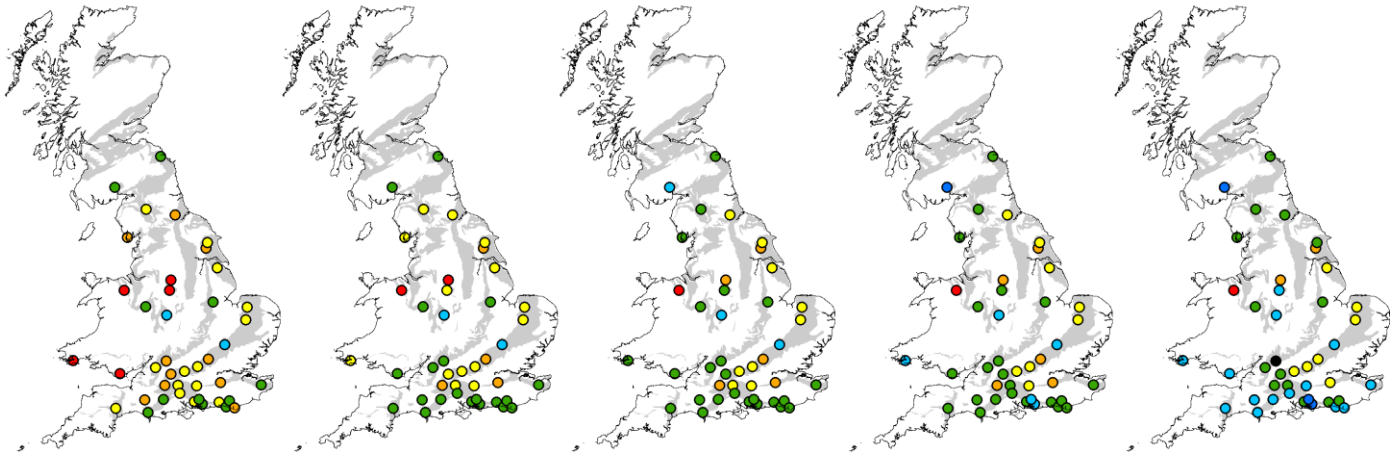
Overview

Period: November 2015 – January 2016

Issued on 06.11.2015 using data to the end of October

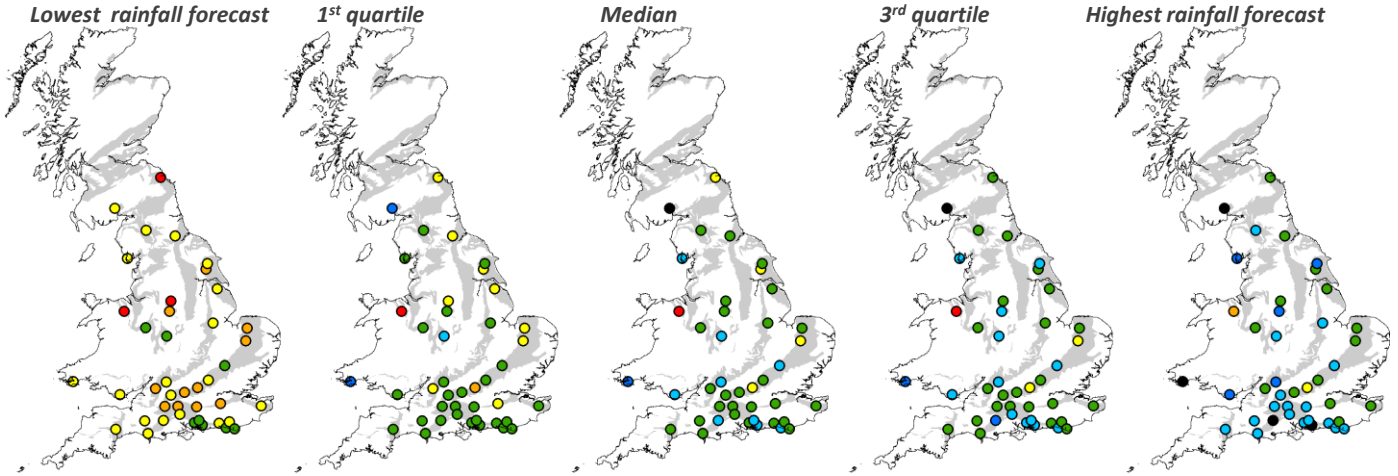
SUMMARY Over one month lower than normal levels in Central and Eastern Chalk aquifers will probably persist, with normal levels in the Southern Chalk. Isolated portions of the Permo Traissic aquifers, for instance in North Wales are likely to be notably or exceptionally low. Over 3 months the Chalk aquifers have a greater than 50% probability of being at or above normal,.

Lowest rainfall forecast | *1st quartile* | *Median* | *3rd quartile* | *Highest rainfall forecast*



1-month outlook

Lowest rainfall forecast | *1st quartile* | *Median* | *3rd quartile* | *Highest rainfall forecast*

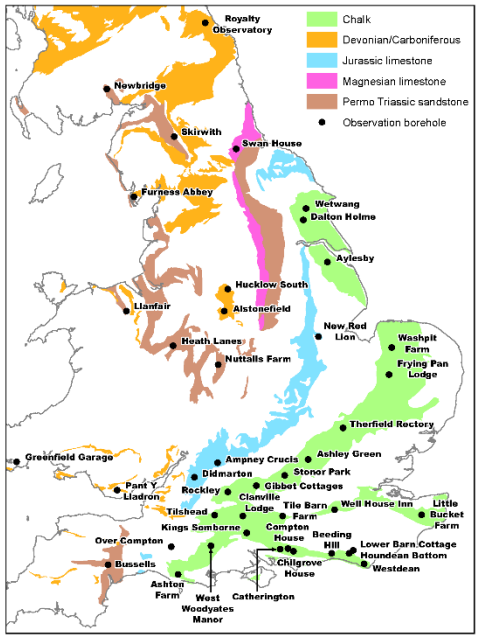


3-month outlook

These forecasts are produced by running five members of the Met Office ensemble climate forecast through groundwater models of observation borehole hydrographs at 42 sites across the country. The sites are distributed across the principal aquifers.

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.

Key	Percentile range of historic observed values for relevant month
Exceptionally high levels	> 95
Notably high levels	87-95
Above normal	72-87
Normal	28-72
Below normal	13-28
Notably low levels	5-13
Exceptionally low levels	< 5



The Hydrological Outlook UK provides an outlook for the water situation for the UK over the next three months and beyond. For guidance on how to interpret the outlook, a wider range of information, and a full description of underpinning methods, please visit the website: www.hydoutuk.net

GROUNDWATER FROM CLIMATE FORECASTS

November 2015