

Monthly Hydrology Bulletin: Edition 063: August 2025

Overview

Rainfall in August was below average almost everywhere, driest in the south and east. It was wet in parts of the west but dry elsewhere, as high pressure dominated through most of the month. Temperatures were above average.

Average river flows for August decreased at 138 river monitoring stations assessed, compared to July 2025. 65% of the monthly average river flows were below the normal long-term range, mainly observed in the south, south-east and midlands. Lake and groundwater levels decreased at all the monitoring sites when compared to July. 50% of lake levels and 62% of groundwater levels were below the normal long-term range. Out of the four spring flows monitored, 2 were in the 'normal' range and 2 were 'below normal'.

Rainfall

Nearly all rainfall totals were below their 1991-2020 Long-Term Average (LTA) for the month. Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 37% (the lowest monthly rainfall total of 30.5 mm) at Moore Park, Co. Cork to 141% (147.0mm) at Athenry, Co. Galway. The highest monthly rainfall total was 148.2mm (111% of its LTA) observed at Newport, Co. Mayo. The highest daily rainfall total was 30.1mm at Athenry, Co. Galway on Thursday 28th. The number of rain days ranged from 9 days at Phoenix Park, Co Dublin to 21 days at Newport, Co. Mayo. The number of wet days ranged from 6 days at both Phoenix Park, Co. Dublin and Moore Park, Co. Cork to 18 days at Newport, Co. Mayo. The number of very wet days ranged from zero days at Roche's Point, Co. Cork to 6 days at both Newport, Co. Mayo and Athenry, Co. Galway. Six stations, mostly in the East and South, had dry spells between August 5th and 24th lasting between 15 and 20 days. Two of those stations, Phoenix Park (lasting 18 days) and Dublin Airport, Co. Dublin (lasting 15 days) also had absolute droughts between August 5th and 22nd. Dublin Airport also had its driest August since 2005.

River Flows

The average river flows for August decreased at 99% of the river monitoring stations compared to average flows observed in July 2025. Analysis of the monthly average flows at 138 river monitoring sites, identified, 48 (35%) as 'normal', 73 (53%) as 'below normal' and 17 (12%) as 'particularly low'. In the south, southeast and midlands flows generally remained below the normal long-term range (see Figure 6).

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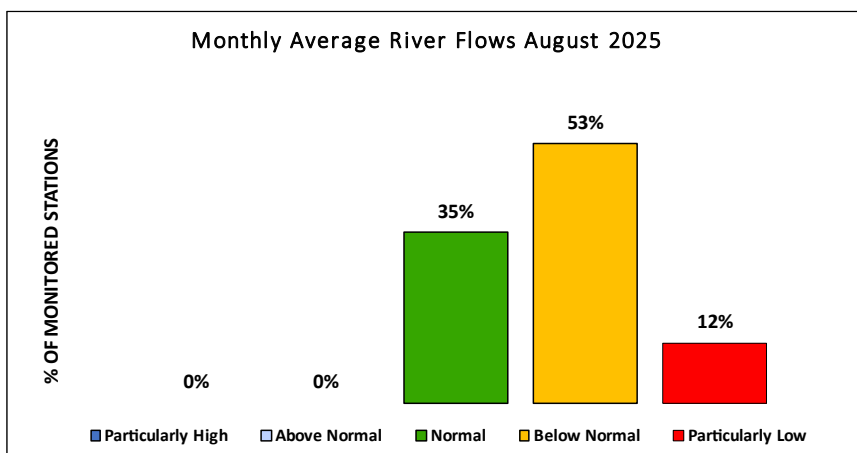


Figure 1: Percentage distribution of river flow monitoring sites within each of the percentile flow categories for August 2025.

Lake and Turlough Levels

Average water levels for August decreased at all of the lake sites monitored compared to July 2025. Monthly average levels at 30 lakes and 2 turloughs were classified as being 'normal' at 16 (50%), 'below normal' at 8 (25%) and 'particularly low' at 8 (25%).

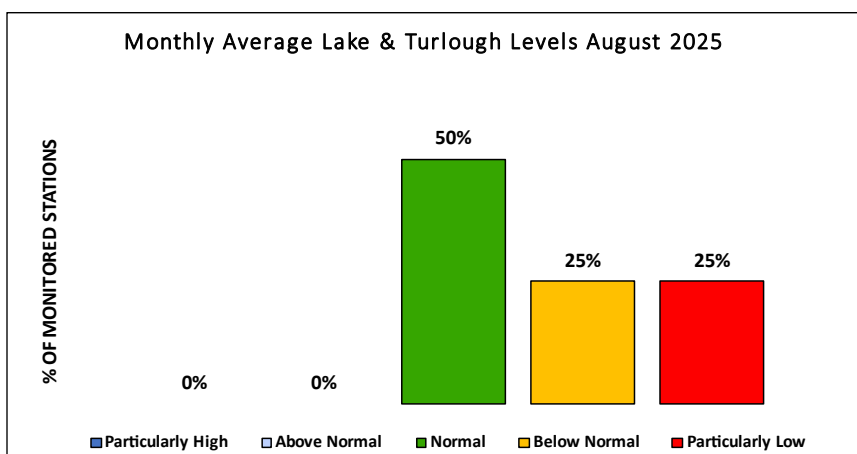


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of lake and turlough level monitoring sites within each of the percentile flow categories for August 2025

Groundwater Levels and Spring Flows

Groundwater levels for August were lower at 100% of the monitoring wells compared to average levels observed in July 2025. Groundwater levels at 34 monitoring wells were classified as being 'normal' at 13 wells (38%), 'below normal' at 15 wells (44%), and 'particularly low' at 6 wells (18%).

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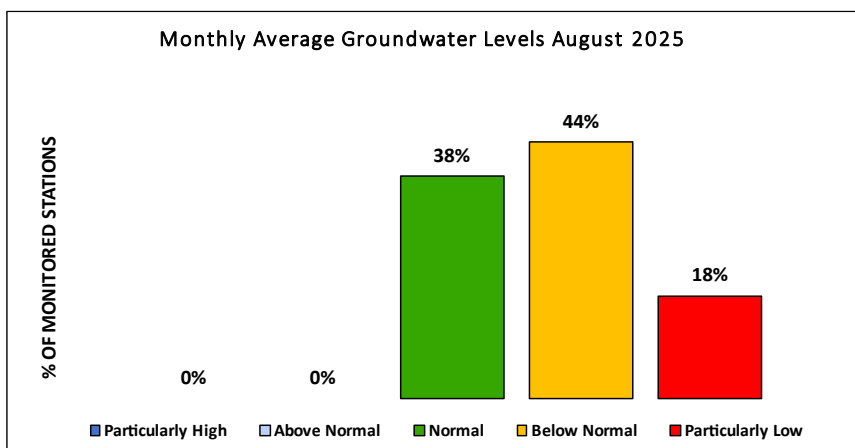


Figure 3: Percentage distribution of groundwater level sites within each of the percentile flow categories for August 2025.

Spring outflows were also monitored at 4 EPA monitoring sites for August. The outflows from these springs were compared to previously recorded August flows and were classified as 'normal' at 2 locations, and 'below normal' at 2 spring sites.

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Rainfall

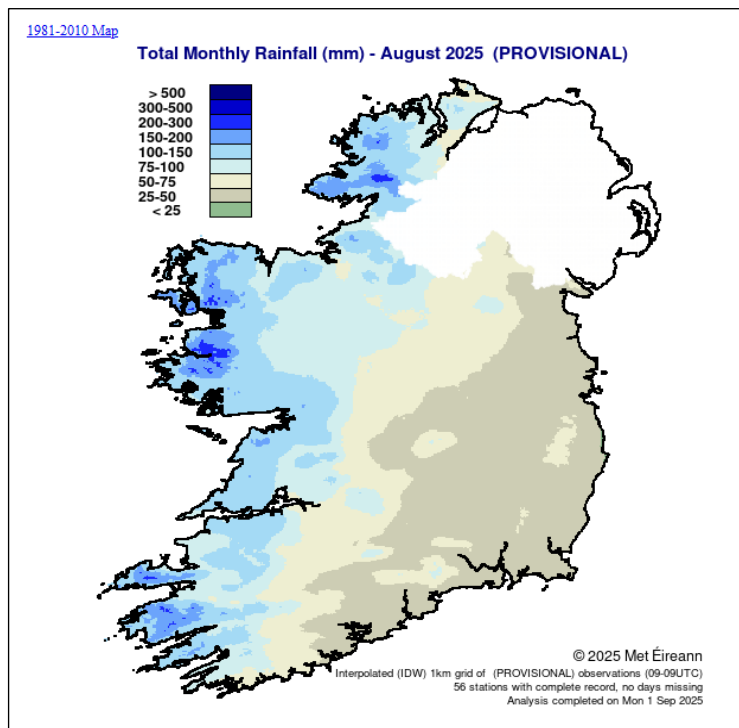


Figure 4: Rainfall map for Ireland August 2025 (Source: Met Éireann.ie).

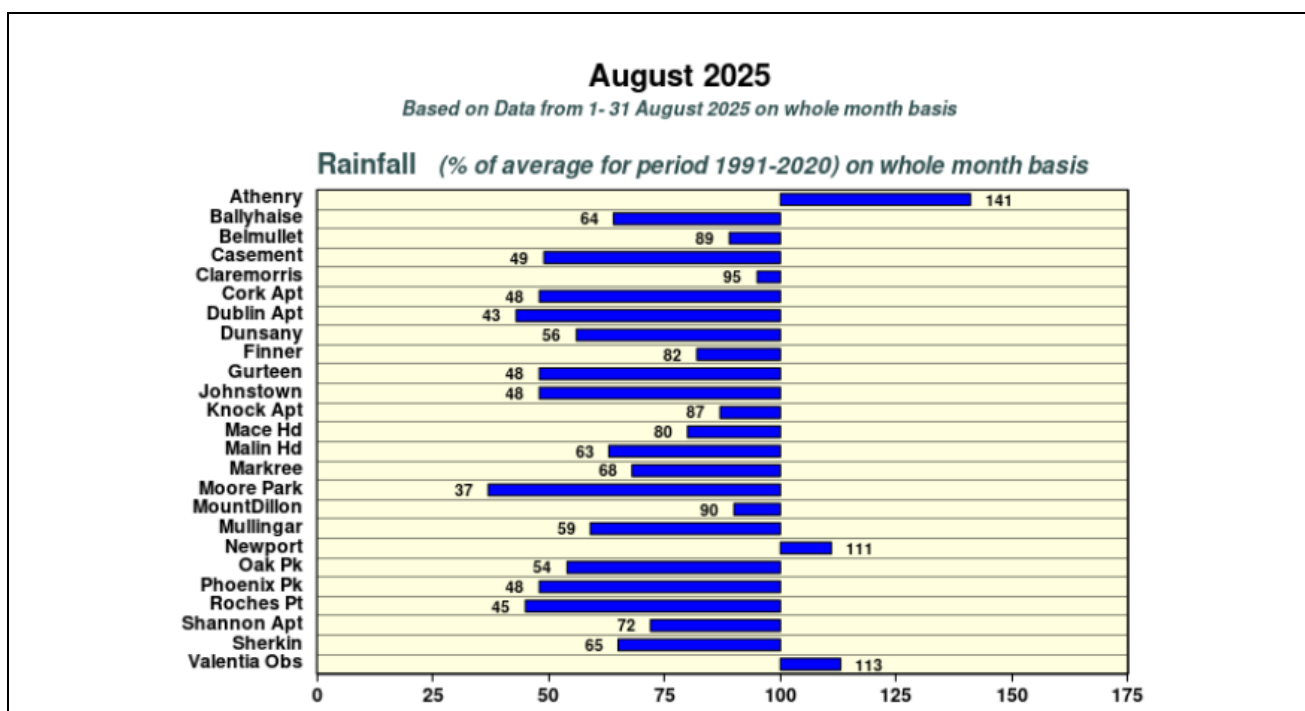


Figure 5: Summary of rainfall at synoptic stations for August 2025, figures indicate the percentage difference from the Long-Term Average rainfall for this month (Source: Met Éireann.ie).

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River Flows

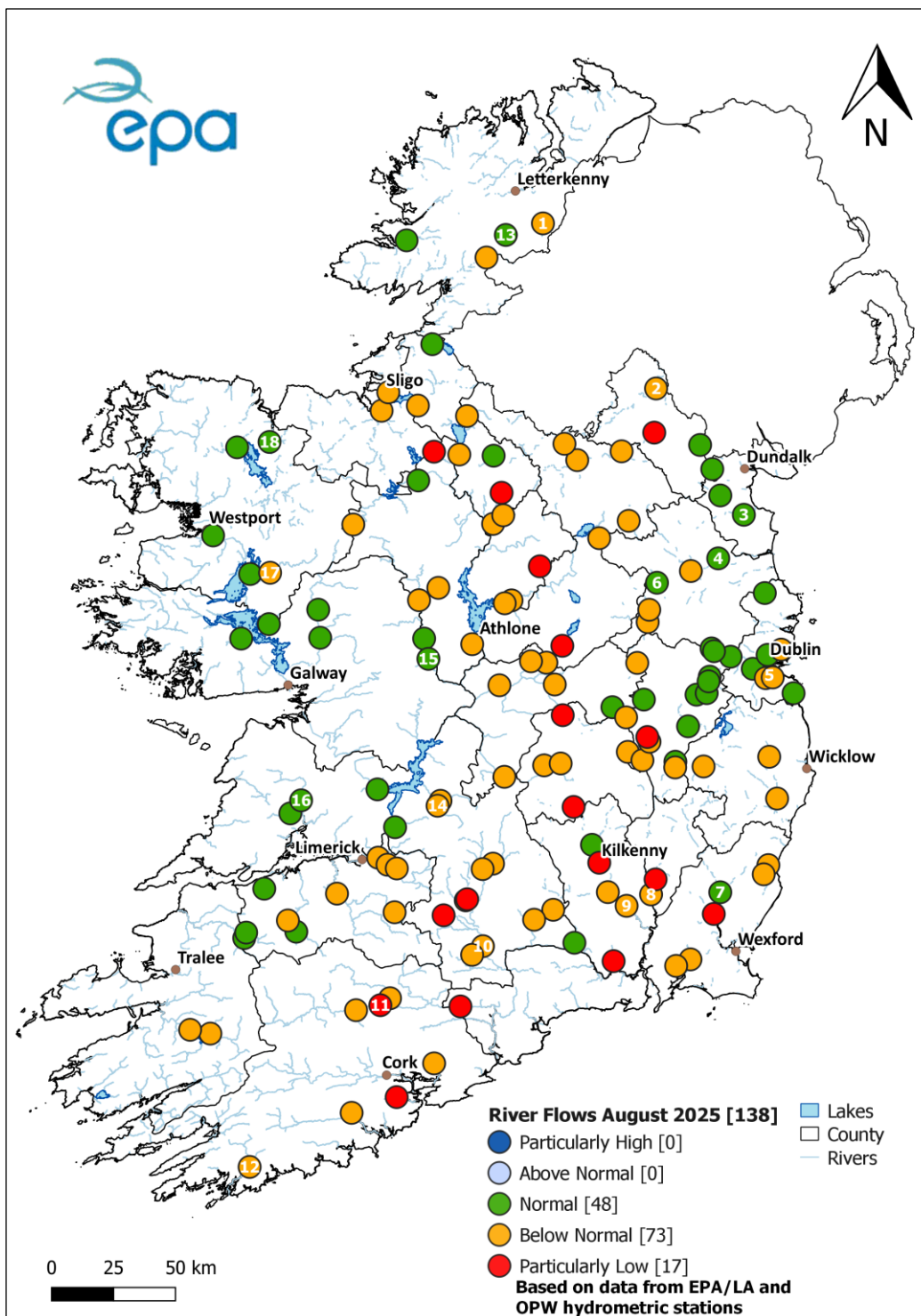


Figure 6: Monthly average river flows for August 2025 relative to historic monthly average flows expressed as percentile of the long-term values of monthly flow. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA, OPW).

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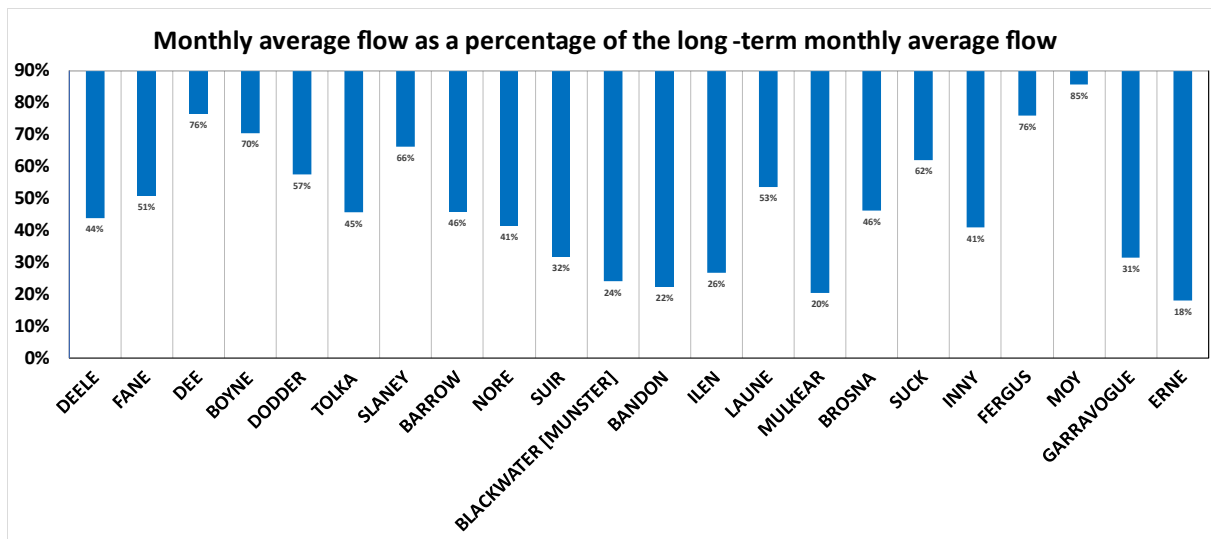
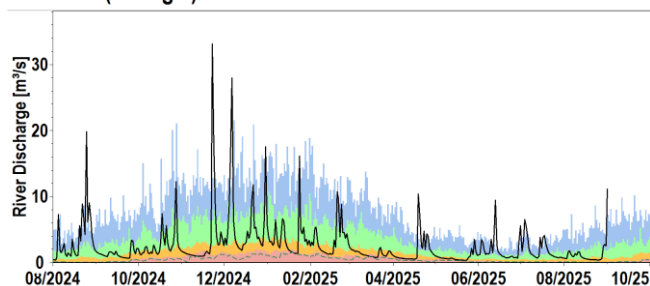


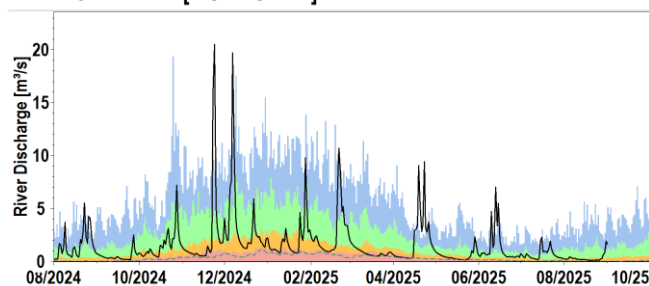
Figure 7: August 2025 average flows as a percentage of the long-term monthly average flow for this month at a selected number of stations. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA, OPW)

Flow hydrographs for selected rivers.

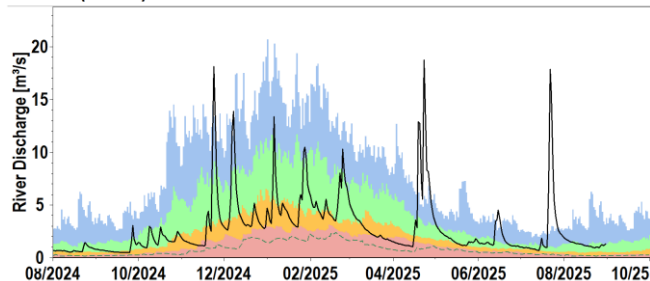
1. DEELE (Donegal)



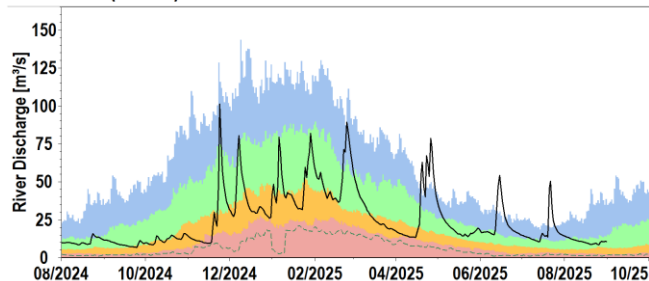
2. BLACKWATER [MONAGHAN]



3. DEE (Louth)

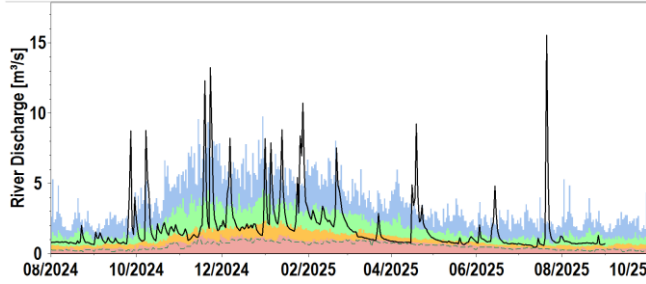


4. BOYNE (Meath)

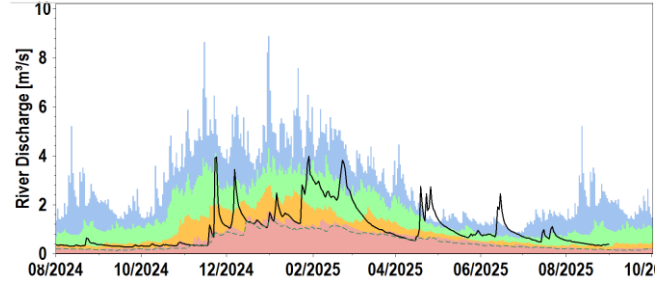


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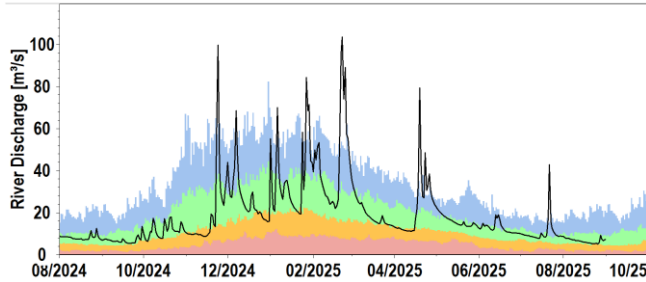
5. DODDER (Dublin)



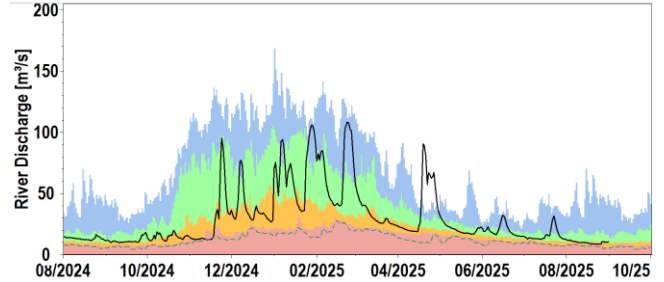
6. ATHBOY (Meath)



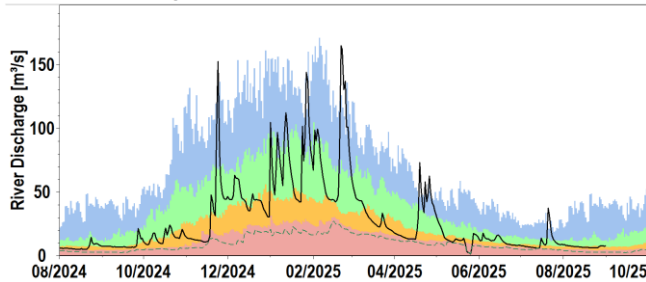
7. SLANEY (Wexford)



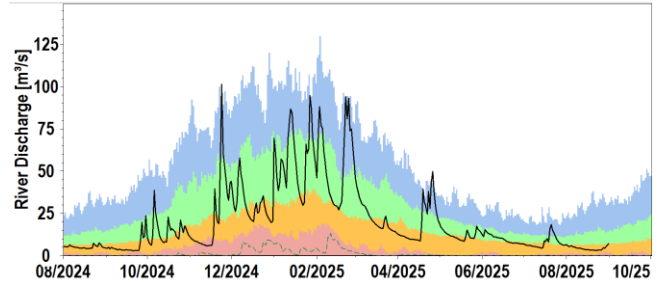
8. BARROW (Carlow)



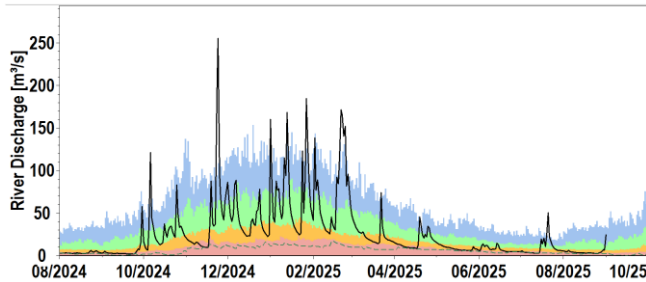
9. NORE (Kilkenny)



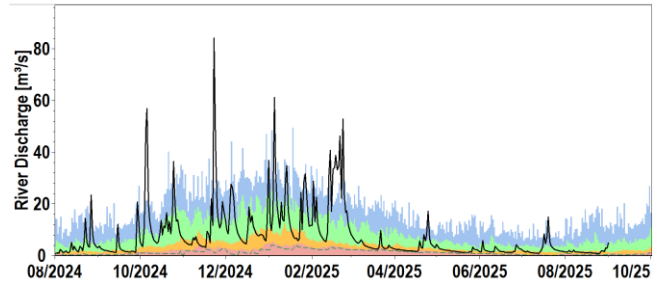
10. SUIR (Tipperary)



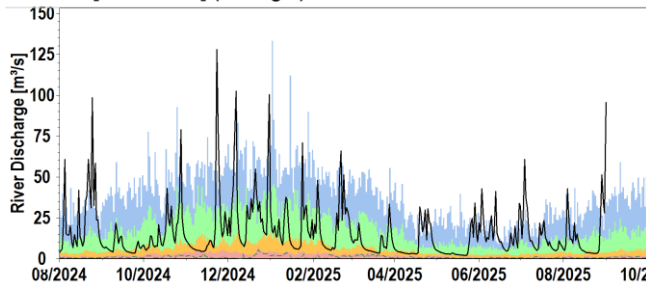
11. BLACKWATER [MUNSTER] (Cork)



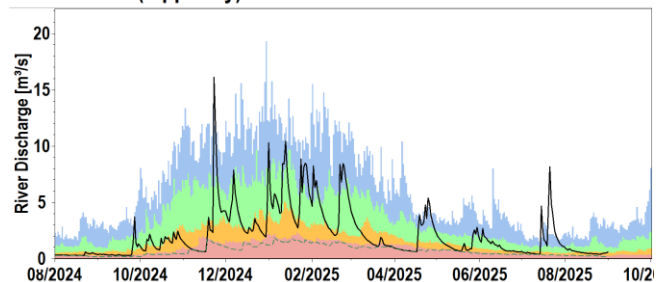
12. ILEN (Cork)



13. FINN [DONEGAL] (Donegal)

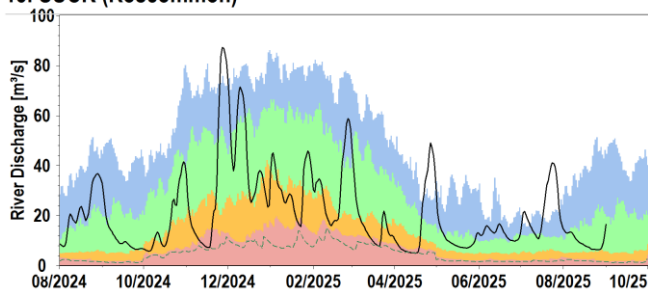


14. NENAGH (Tipperary)

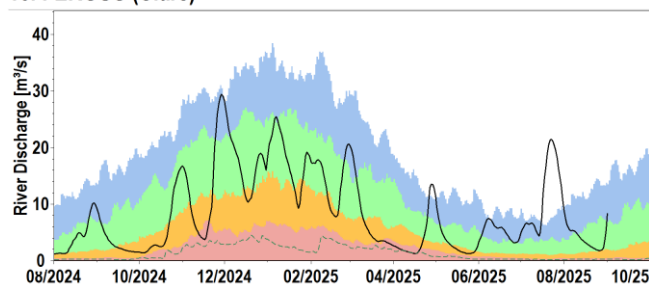


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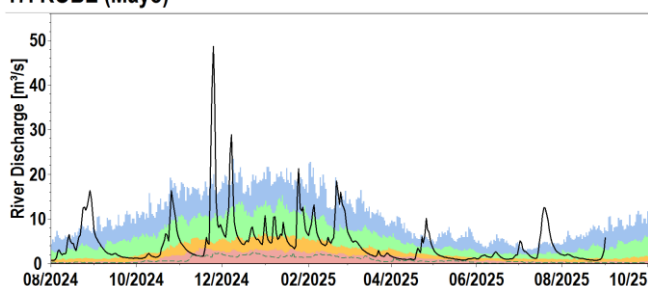
15. SUCK (Roscommon)



16. FERGUS (Clare)



17. ROBE (Mayo)



18. MOY (Mayo)

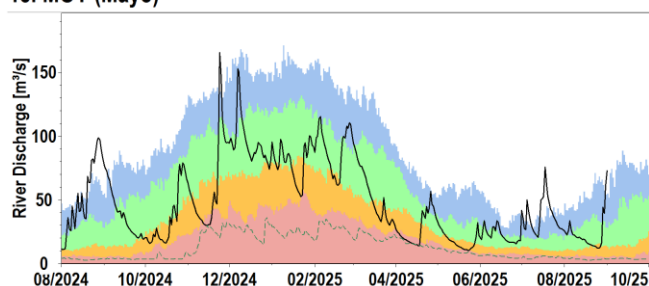
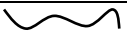



Figure 8: Daily average river flows measured in cubic metres per second relative to historic daily average flows expressed as percentile of the long-term values of each day and long-term minimum flows. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA, OPW).

Explanation – Classes						
Particularly Low	Below Normal	Normal	Above Normal	Particularly High		
<95%tile daily average flow	>95%tile <70%tile daily average flow	>70 %tile <30%tile daily average flow	>30%tile 10%tile daily average flow	>10%tile daily average flow	Daily Mean Flow	Lowest Daily Mean Flow

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Lake and Turlough Levels

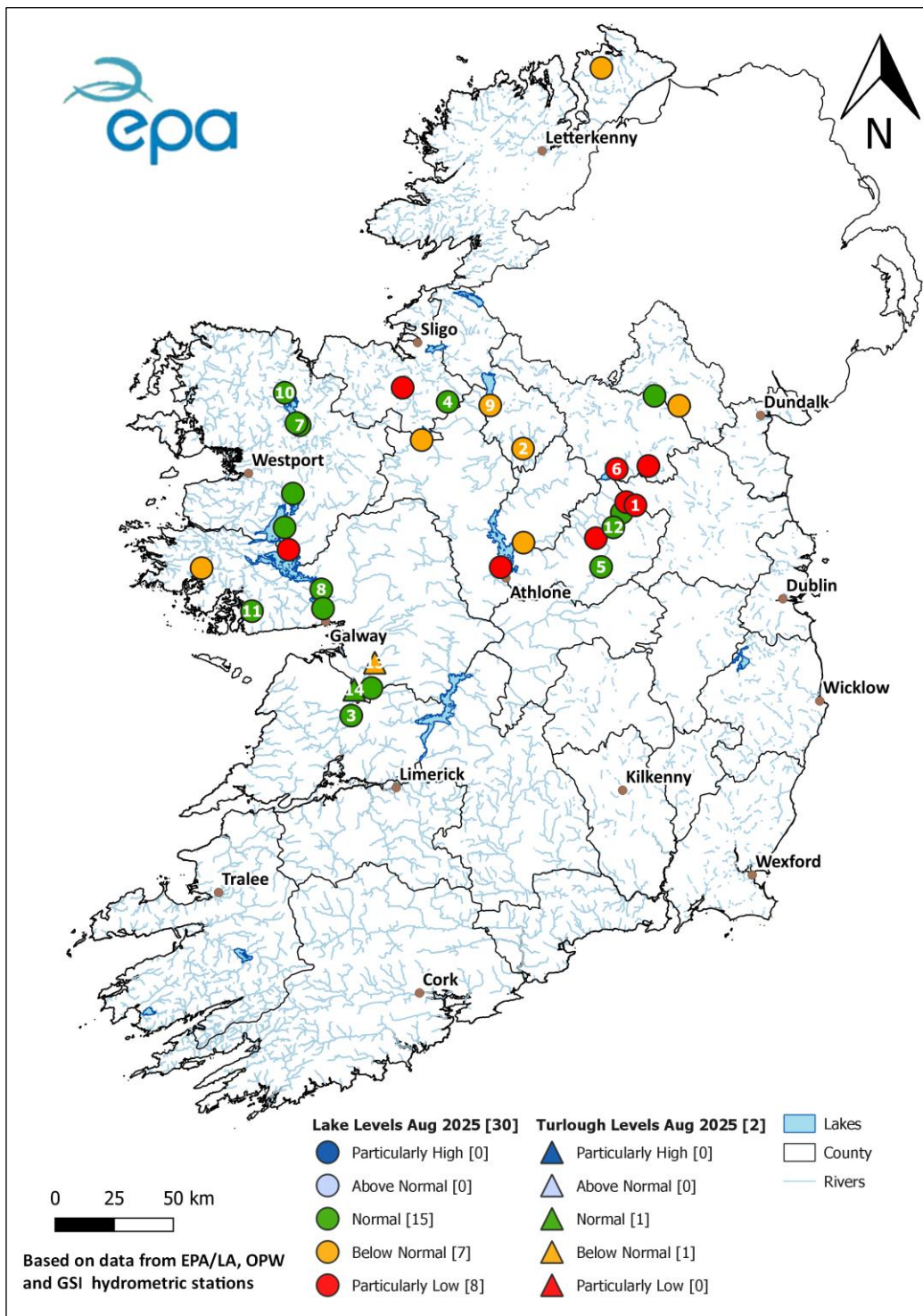
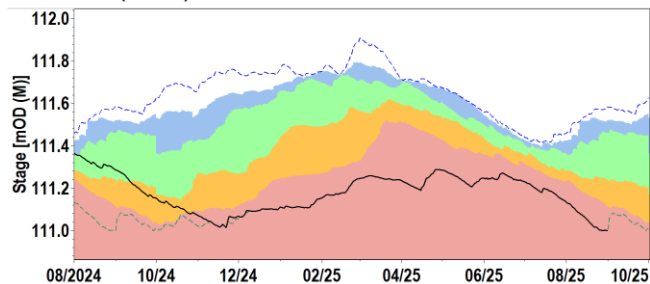


Figure 9: Monthly average lake & turlough levels for August 2025 relative to historic monthly average levels expressed as percentile of the long-term values for this month. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA, OPW and GSI).

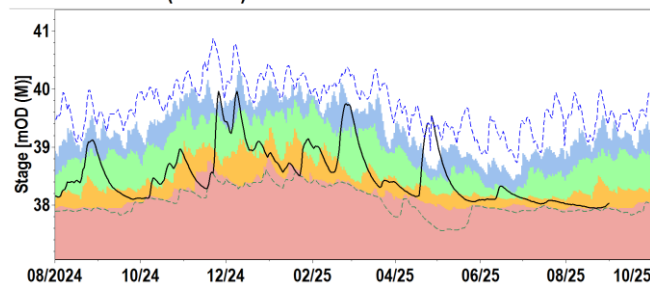
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Water level hydrographs for selected lakes and turloughs

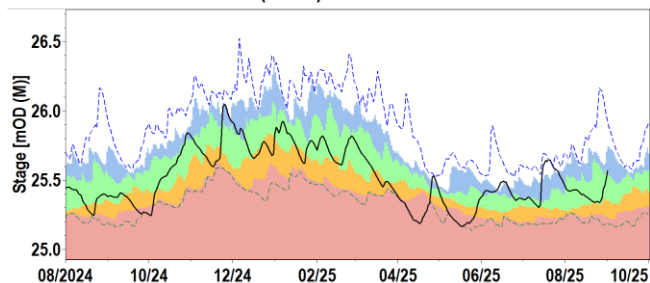
1. L. BANE (Meath)



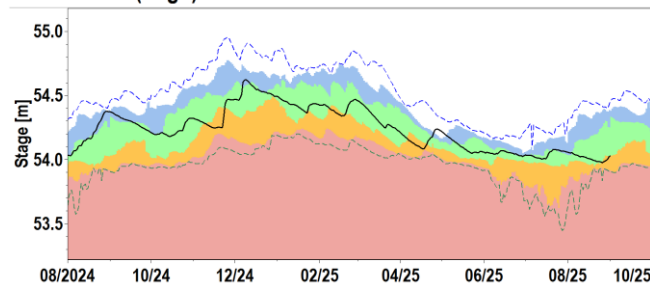
2. LOUGH RINN (Leitrim)



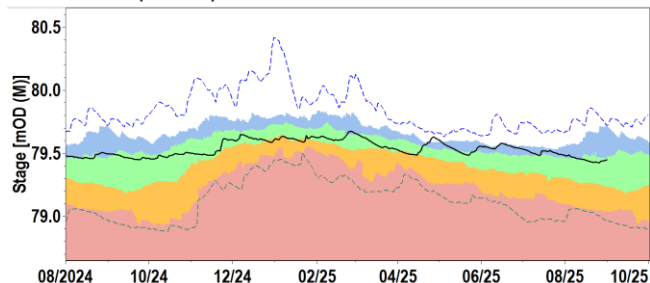
3. INCHICRONAN LOUGH (Clare)



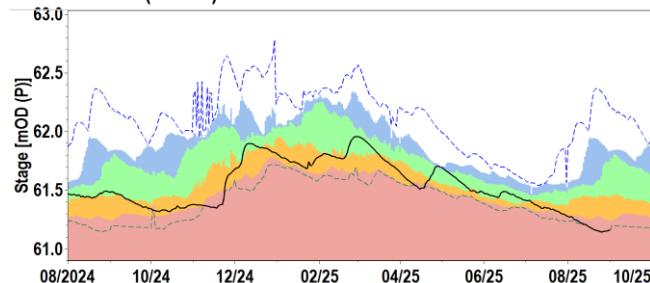
4. L. ARROW (Sligo)



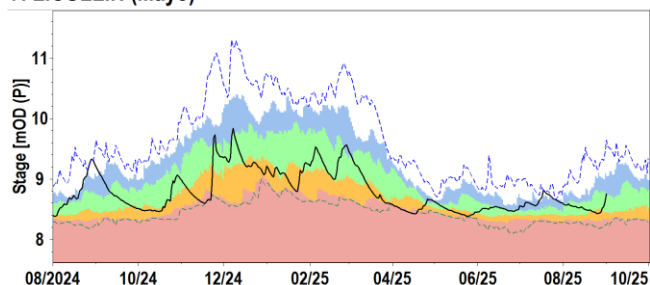
5. L. ENNELL (Leitrim)



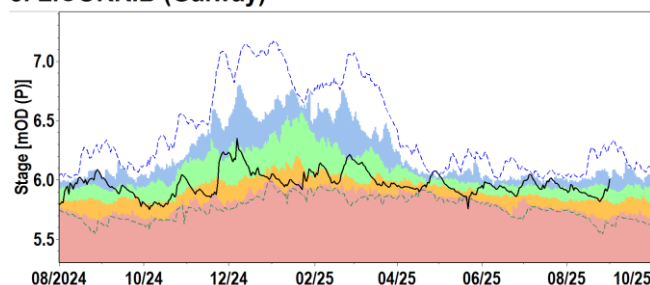
6. L. SHEELIN (Cavan)



7. L. CULLIN (Mayo)

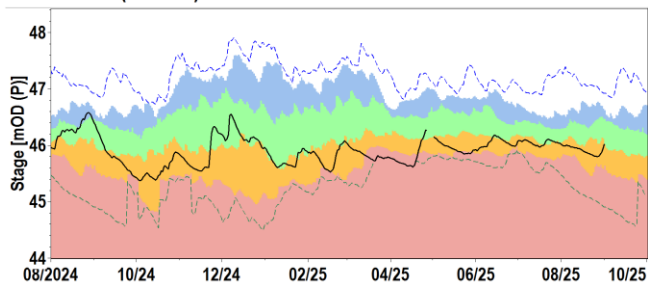


8. L. CORRIB (Galway)

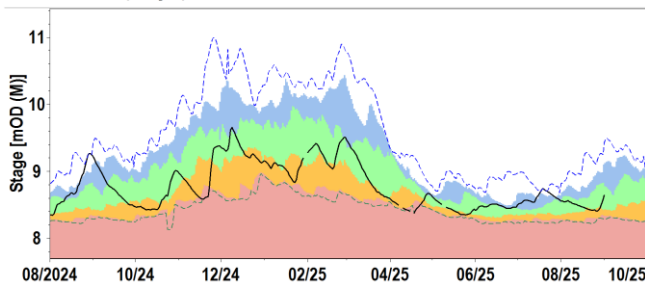


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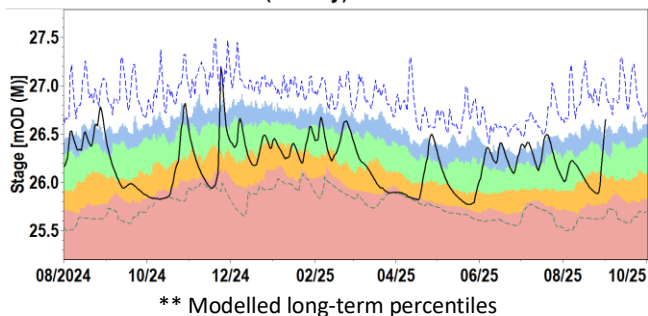
9. L.ALLEN (Leitrim)



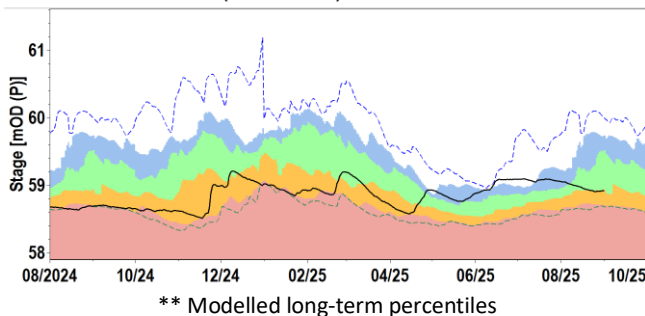
10. L.CONN (Mayo)



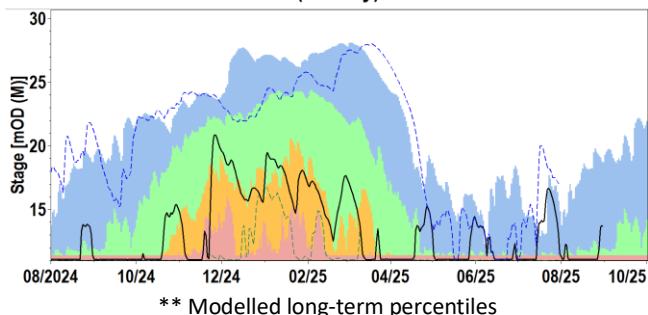
11. GLENICMURRIN LAKE (Galway)



12. L.DERRAVARAGH (Westmeath)



13. BLACKROCK TURLOUGH (Galway)



14. TERMON SOUTH TURLOUGH (Galway)

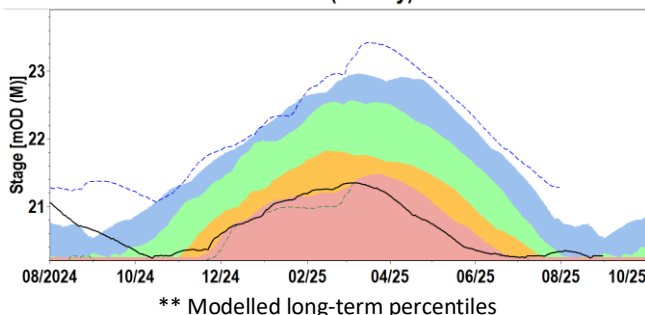





Figure 10: Observed daily mean lake and turlough levels (black trace) measured in meters above ordnance datum compared to the 10%tile, 30%tile, 70%tile and 95%tile for each month for the period of record and observed long-term maximum and minimum levels. Note historic percentiles for turloughs are based on modelled data. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA, OPW, GSI, TCD, IT Carlow).

Explanation - Classes							
Particularly Low	Below Normal	Normal	Above Normal	Particularly High			
<95%tile daily average level	>95%tile <70%tile daily average level	>70 %tile <30%tile daily average level	>30%tile <10%tile daily average level	>10%tile daily average level	Daily Mean Level mOD	Highest Daily Mean Level mOD	Lowest Daily Mean Level mOD

Groundwater Levels and Spring Flows

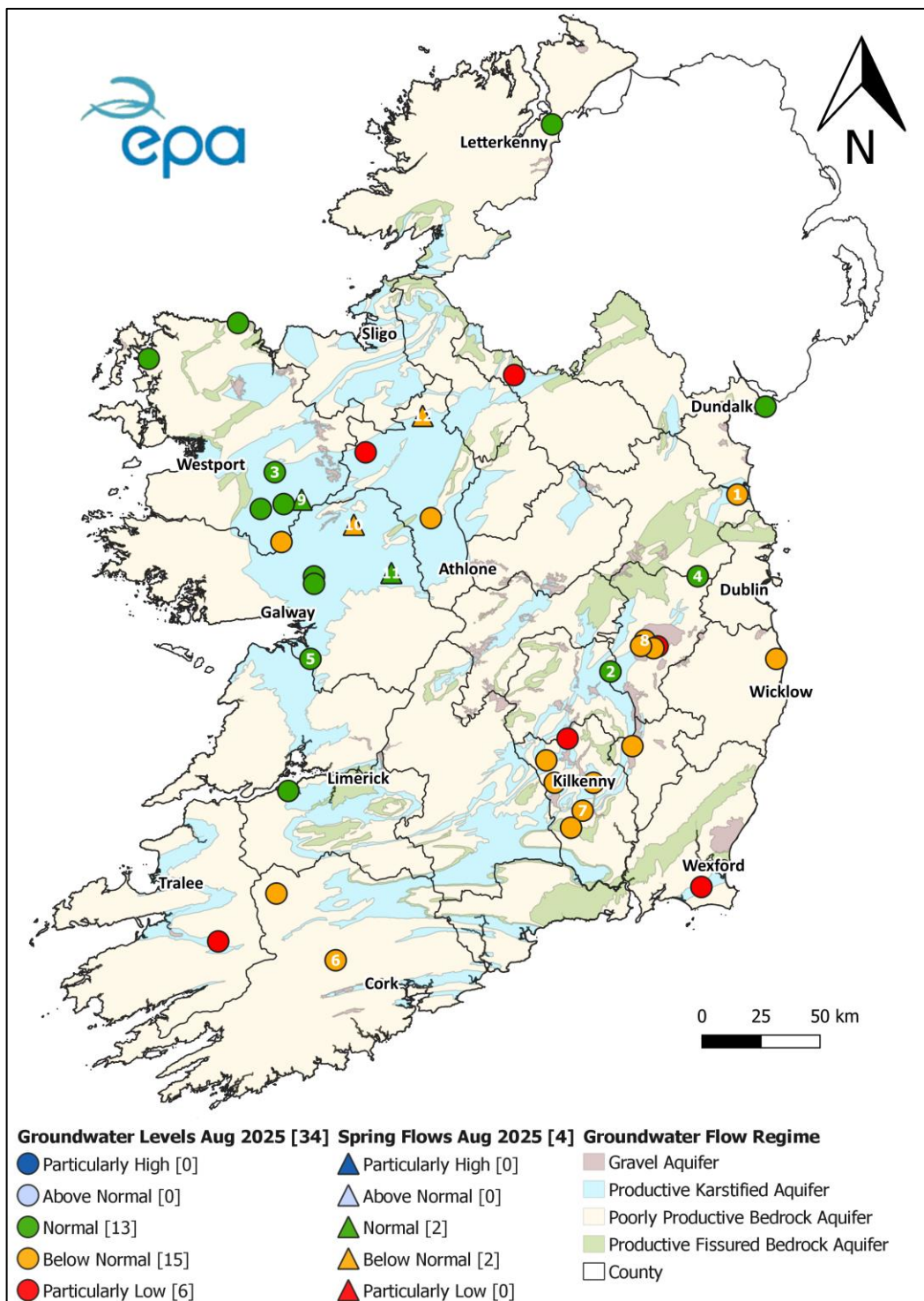
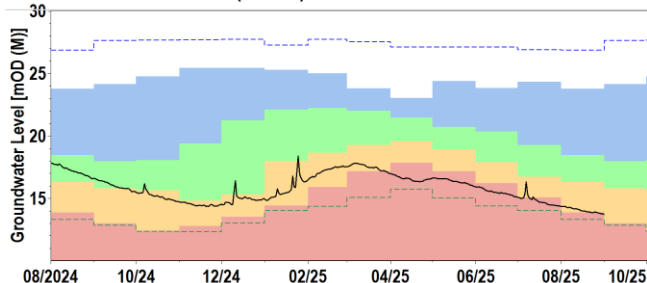


Figure 11: Groundwater level and Spring Flow status for August 2025, relative to historic monthly groundwater levels. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA).

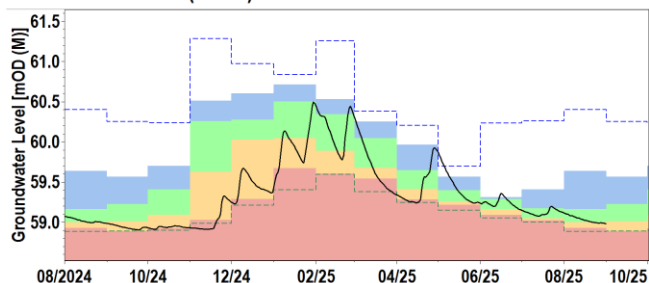
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Groundwater and spring hydrographs

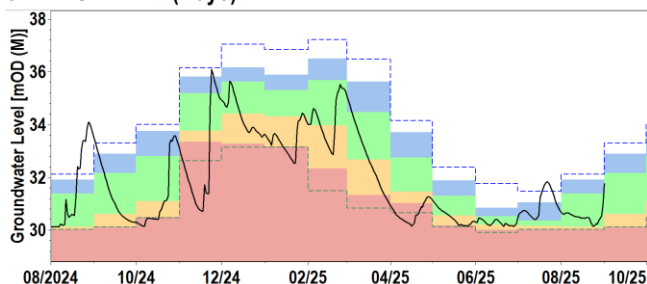
1. KILTROUGH TOWER (Meath)



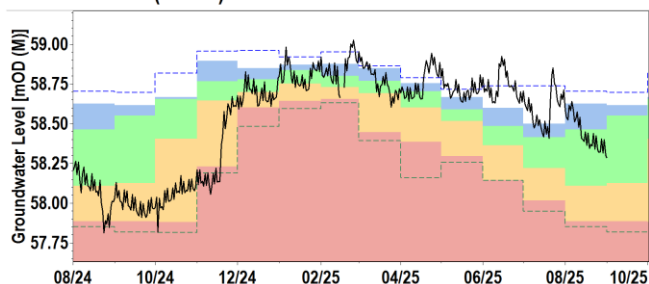
2. VICKERSTOWN (Laois)



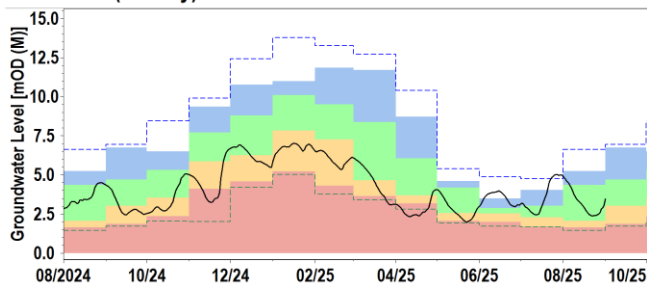
3. MAYO ABBEY (Mayo)



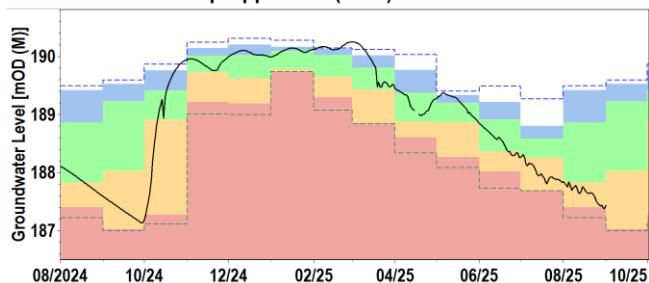
4. RW1 - DEEP (Meath)



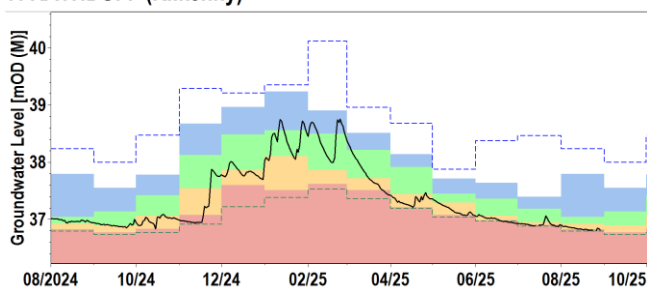
5. KILLINY (Galway)



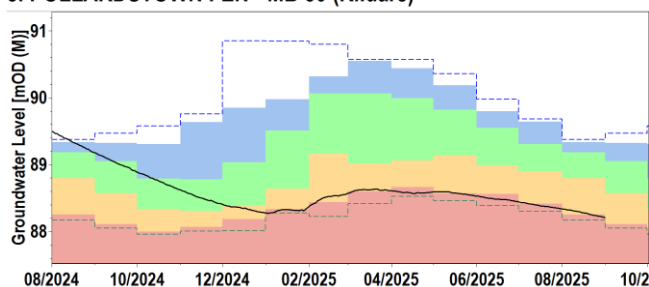
6. DRIPSEY DR1 Deep Upper Site (Cork)



7. RATHDUFF (Kilkenny)

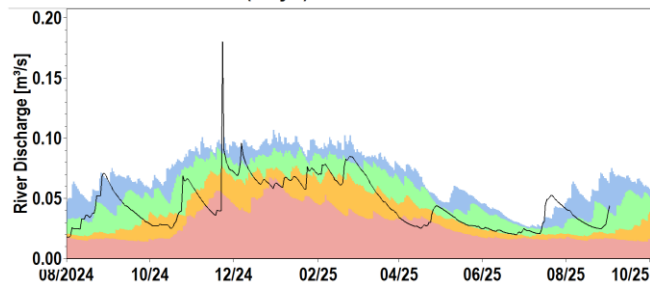


8. POLLARDSTOWN FEN - MB 30 (Kildare)

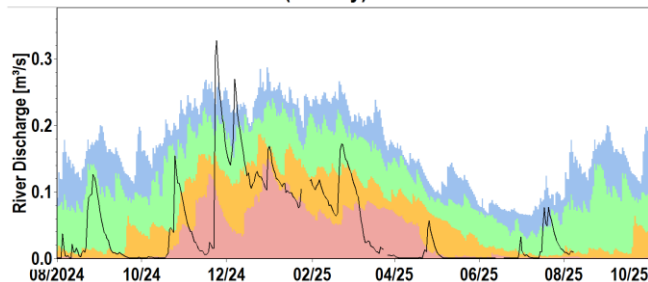


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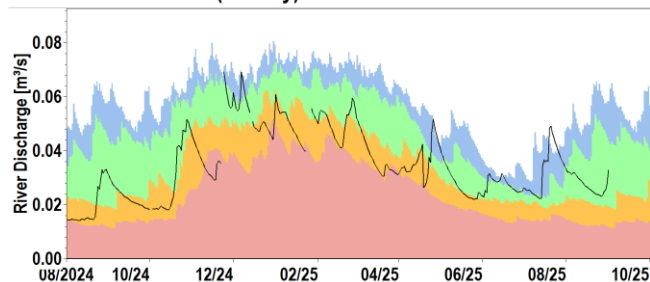
9. BALLINDINE SPRING (Mayo)



10. GORTGARROW SPRING (Galway)



11. CALTRA SPRING (Galway)



12. ROCKINGHAM (Roscommon)

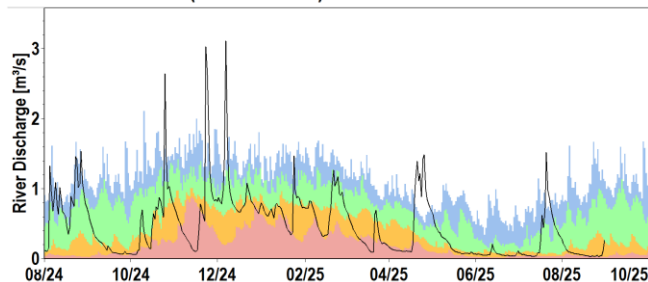





Figure 12: Daily mean groundwater levels (black trace) measured in meters above ordnance datum compared to the 10%tile, 30%tile, 70%tile and 95%tile for each month for the period of record and long-term maximum and minimum levels. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision (Source: EPA).

Explanation - Classes							
Particularly Low	Below Normal	Normal	Above Normal	Particularly High			
<95%tile monthly average level	>95%tile <70%tile monthly average level	>70 %tile <30%tile monthly average level	>30%tile <10%tile monthly average level	>10%tile monthly average level	Daily Mean Level mOD	Highest Month Mean Level mOD	Lowest Month Mean Level mOD

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Glossary of terms

Aquifer Type	An aquifer is an underground body of water bearing rock or unconsolidated materials (gravel or sand) from which groundwater can be extracted in useful amounts. For the purposes of this report, they have been grouped into four aquifer categories as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Karstic (Rk and Lk) aquifers; ➤ Gravel (Rg and Lg) aquifers; ➤ Productive fractured bedrock (Rf and Lm) aquifers; ➤ Poorly productive bedrock (LI, PI and Pu) aquifers.
Long term average (LTA)	The arithmetic mean calculated from historic record. For rainfall, the period 1981 to 2010 is used. For other parameters, such as groundwater levels, lake levels and river flow the period may vary according to data availability.
mOD (M or P)	Groundwater levels or lake levels above ordnance datum. In most cases this is relative to mean sea level at Malin (M) but in some cases is relative to Poolbeg (P).
Long-term monthly average	The arithmetic mean calculated from historic record of all monthly averages.
Percentile Level/Flow	Level or flow that is equalled or exceeded the stated percent of the time, e.g. 30%tile is the level or flow that is equalled or exceeded 30 percent of the time.
Very Wet Days	A very wet day is a day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall.
Wet Days	A wet day is a day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall.
Absolute Drought	An absolute drought is a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 0.2 mm or more of precipitation.
Partial Drought	A partial drought is a period of at least 29 consecutive days, the mean daily rainfall of which does not exceed 0.2 mm
Dry spell	A dry spell is a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 1.0mm or more of precipitation (i.e. daily tot < 1.0mm).

Description of flow and level percentile classifications

Particularly High	>10%tile exceedance	Monthly level or flow that can occur 10% of the time
Above Normal	>30%tile <10%tile exceedance	Monthly level or flow that can occur 20% of the time
Normal	>70%tile <30%tile exceedance	Monthly level or flow that can occur 40% of the time
Below Normal	>95%tile <70%tile exceedance	Monthly level or flow that can occur 25% of the time
Particularly Low	<95%tile exceedance	Monthly level or flow that can occur 5% of the time

Useful links

Access to EPA/LA Hydrometric data on [HydroNet](#)

Access to provisional water level only data from OPW hydrometric stations on [waterlevel.ie/](#)

Access to archived water level and flow data from OPW hydrometric stations on [waterlevel.ie/hydro-data](#)

Access to turlough and borehole level data from GSI hydrometric stations on [gwlevel.ie](#)

Access to this month's Met Éireann and historic [weather statements](#).