Overview

October 2025 was mild, dull and wet overall with rainfall above average in most places. Storm Amy brought widespread wet and very windy weather on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th, the remainder of October had numerous active weather fronts crossing the country bringing heavy falls of rain or showers at times interspersed with short dry periods.

Average river flows for October increased at almost all 131 river monitoring stations assessed, compared to September 2025. 40% of the monthly average river flows were above the normal long-term range, with increases mainly observed in the west. Lake levels increased at 90% of lake sites monitored with 82% above the long-term normal range. Groundwater levels increased at 77% of the monitoring sites with 40% above the long-term range. Out of the three spring flows monitored, 2 were in the 'particularly high' range and 1 was 'above normal'.

Rainfall

October 2025 rainfall totals were above their 1991-2020 Long-Term Average (LTA) at the majority of stations. Percentage of monthly rainfall values ranged from 84% (the month's lowest rainfall total of 68.9 mm) at Casement Aerodrome, Co. Dublin to 168% (171.4mm) at Mount Dillon, Co. Roscommon. Monthly rainfall totals were as much as 198.1mm (115% of its LTA) at Valentia Observatory, Co. Kerry. The highest daily rainfall total was also recorded at Valentia Observatory, Co. Kerry with 48.1mm on Thursday 2nd. Twelve other stations also had their wettest day of the month on Thursday 2nd with three stations having their wettest October day on record. These were Mace Head, Co. Galway (37.0mm), Mount Dillon, Co. Roscommon (36.2mm) and Knock Airport, Co. Mayo (41.4mm) (record lengths between 17 and 28 years). Claremorris, Co. Mayo with 46.4mm had its wettest October day since 1989, Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan with 40.2mm had its wettest October day since 2002 and Athenry, Co. Galway with 41.1 mm had its wettest October day since 2006. The number of rain days ranged from 15 days at Roches Point, Co. Cork to 25 days at Finner, Co. Donegal. The number of wet days ranged from 9 days at Roches Point, Co. Cork to 21 days at Newport, Co. Mayo. The number of very wet days ranged from 1 day at Phoenix Park, Co. Dublin to 7 days at six stations.

River Flows

The average river flows for October increased at 92% of the river monitoring stations compared to average flows observed in September 2025. Analysis of the monthly average flows at 131 river monitoring sites, identified, 25 (19%) as 'particularly high', 28 (21%) as 'above normal', 74 (57%) as 'normal', and 4 (3%) as 'below normal'. River flows in the south, east and midlands were typically classified in the normal long-term range (see Figure 6).

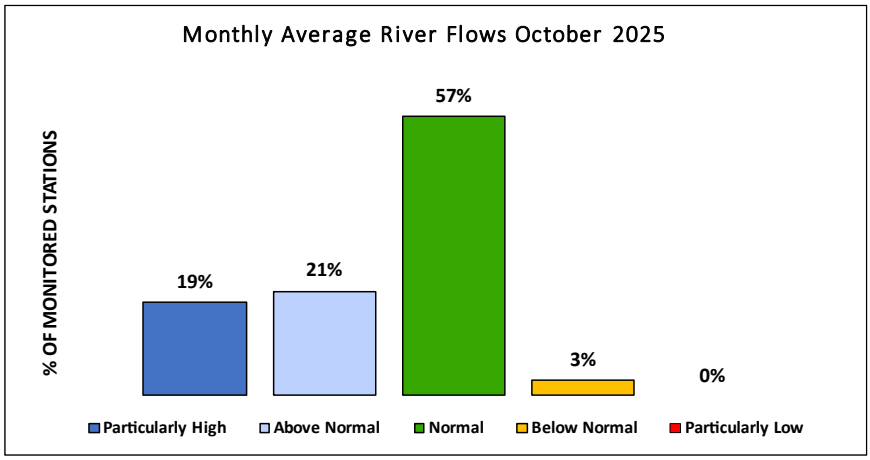


Figure 1: Percentage distribution of river flow monitoring sites within each of the percentile flow categories for October 2025.

Lake and Turlough Levels

Average water levels for October increased at 90% of the lake sites monitored compared to September 2025. Monthly average levels at 30 lakes and 2 turloughs were classified as being 'particularly high' at 17 (54%), 'above normal' at 9 (28%), 'normal' at 3 (9%), and 'particularly low' at 3 (9%).

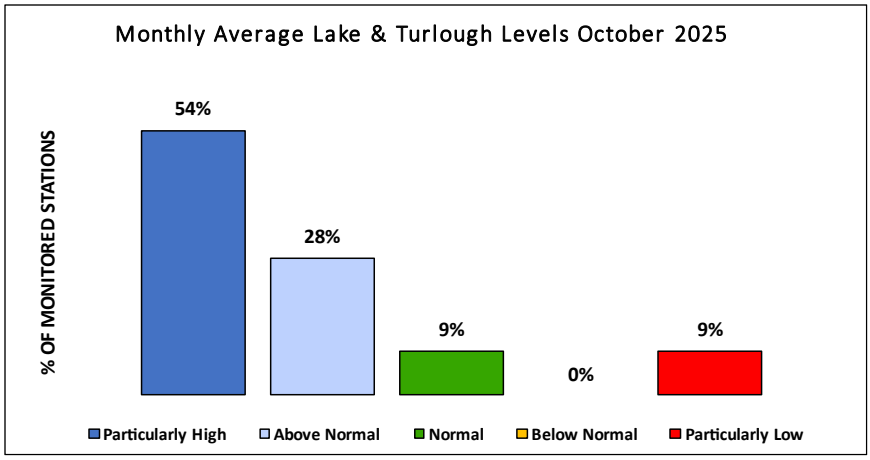


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of lake and turlough level monitoring sites within each of the percentile flow categories for October 2025

Groundwater Levels and Spring Flows

Groundwater levels for October were higher at 77% of the monitoring wells compared to average levels observed in September 2025. Groundwater levels at 38 monitoring wells were classified as being 'particularly high' at 7 (19%), 'above normal' at 8 (21%), 'normal' at 18 wells (47%), and 'below normal' at 5 wells (13%).

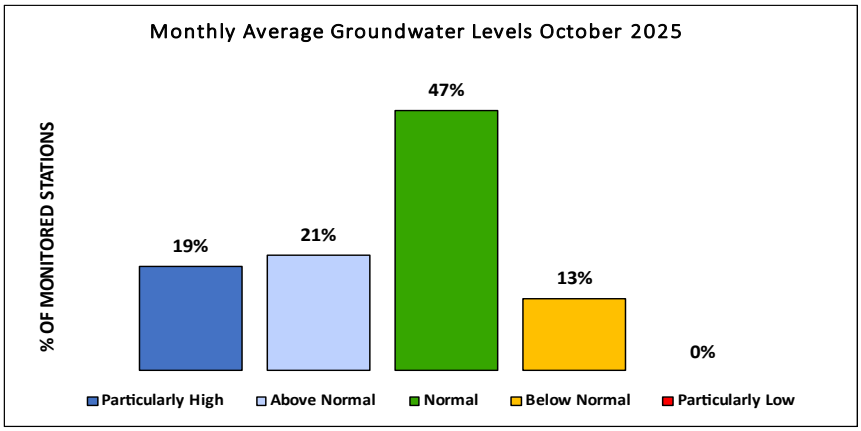


Figure 3: Percentage distribution of groundwater level sites within each of the percentile flow categories for October 2025.

Spring outflows were also monitored at 3 EPA monitoring sites for October. The outflows from these springs were compared to previously recorded October flows and were classified as 'particularly high' at 2 springs, and 'above normal' at 1 spring.

Rainfall

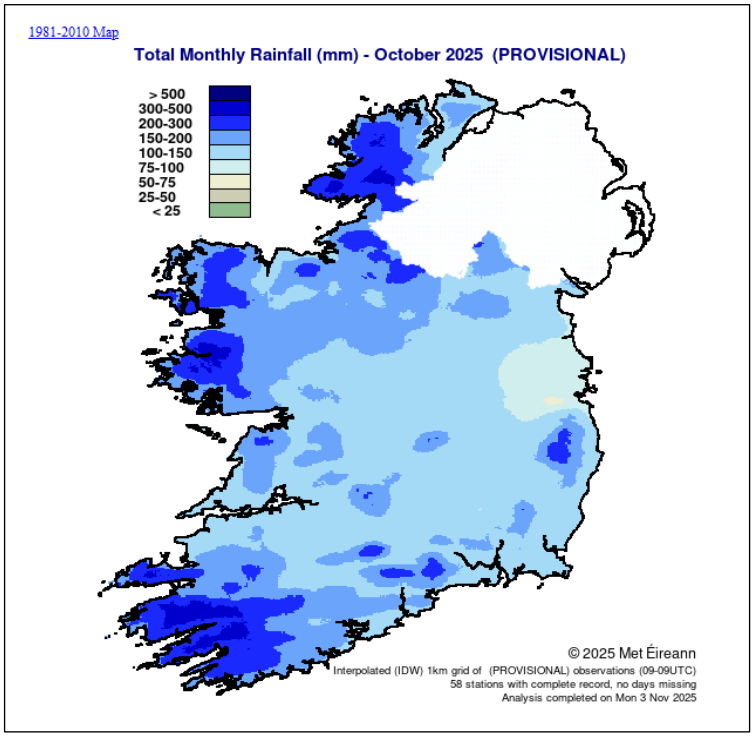


Figure 4: Rainfall map for Ireland October 2025 ***(Source: Met Eireann.ie).***

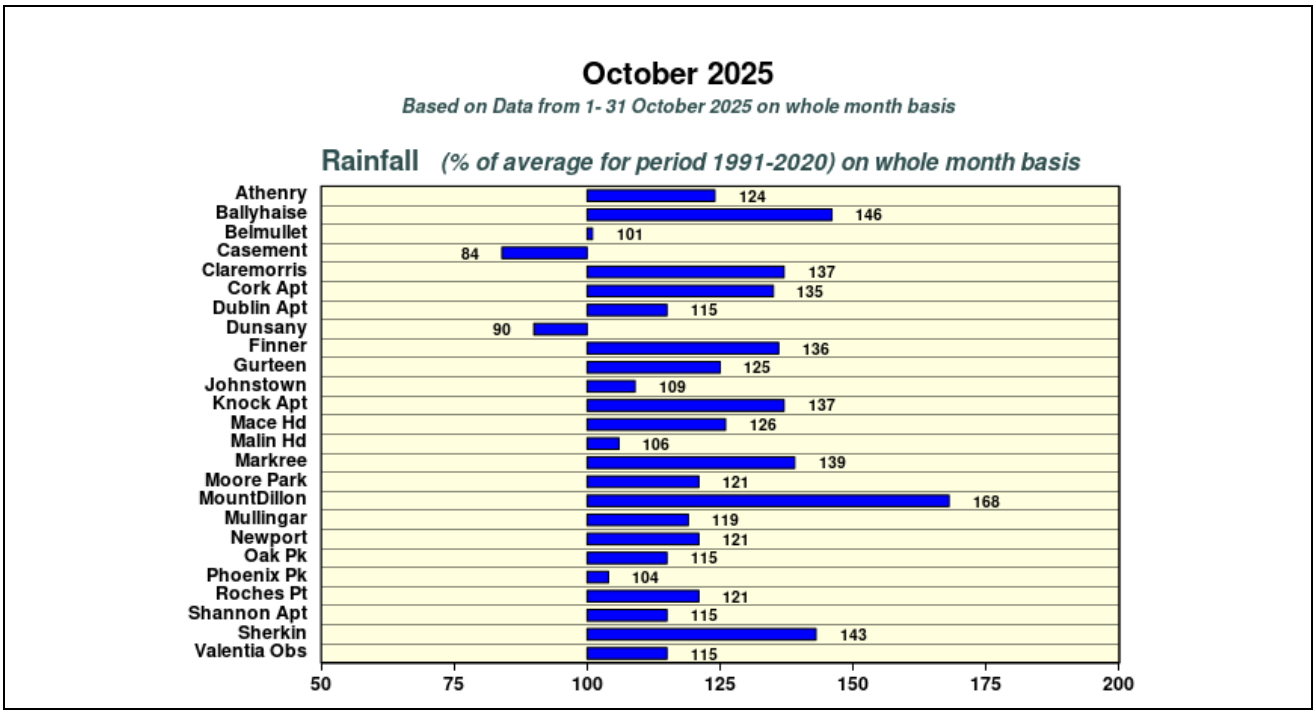


Figure 5: Summary of rainfall at synoptic stations for October 2025, figures indicate the percentage difference from the Long-Term Average rainfall for this month ***(Source: Met Eireann.ie).***

River Flows

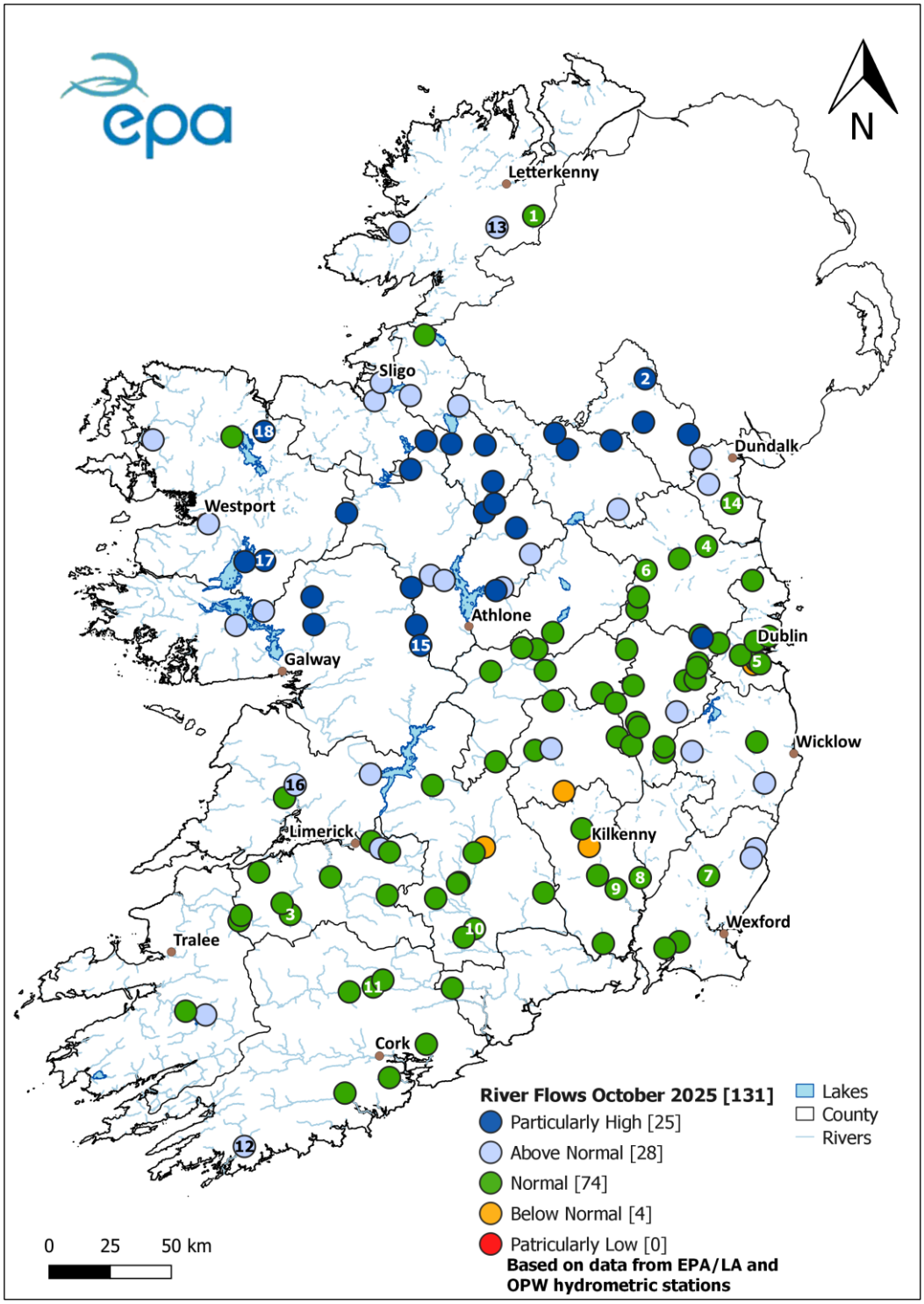


Figure 6: Monthly average river flows for October 2025 relative to historic monthly average flows expressed as percentile of the long-term values of monthly flow. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA, OPW).***

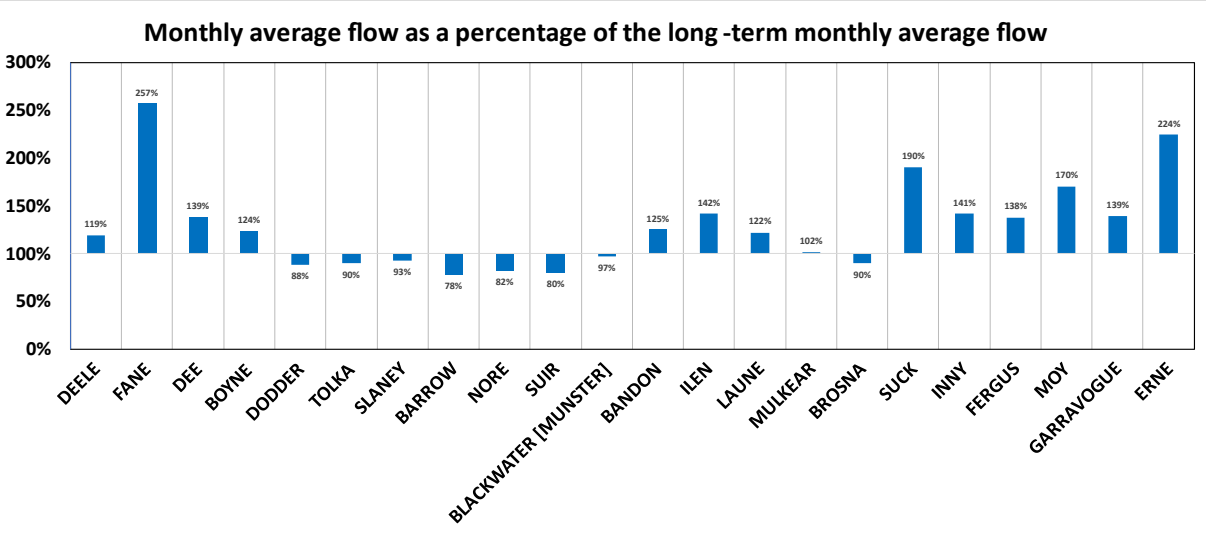
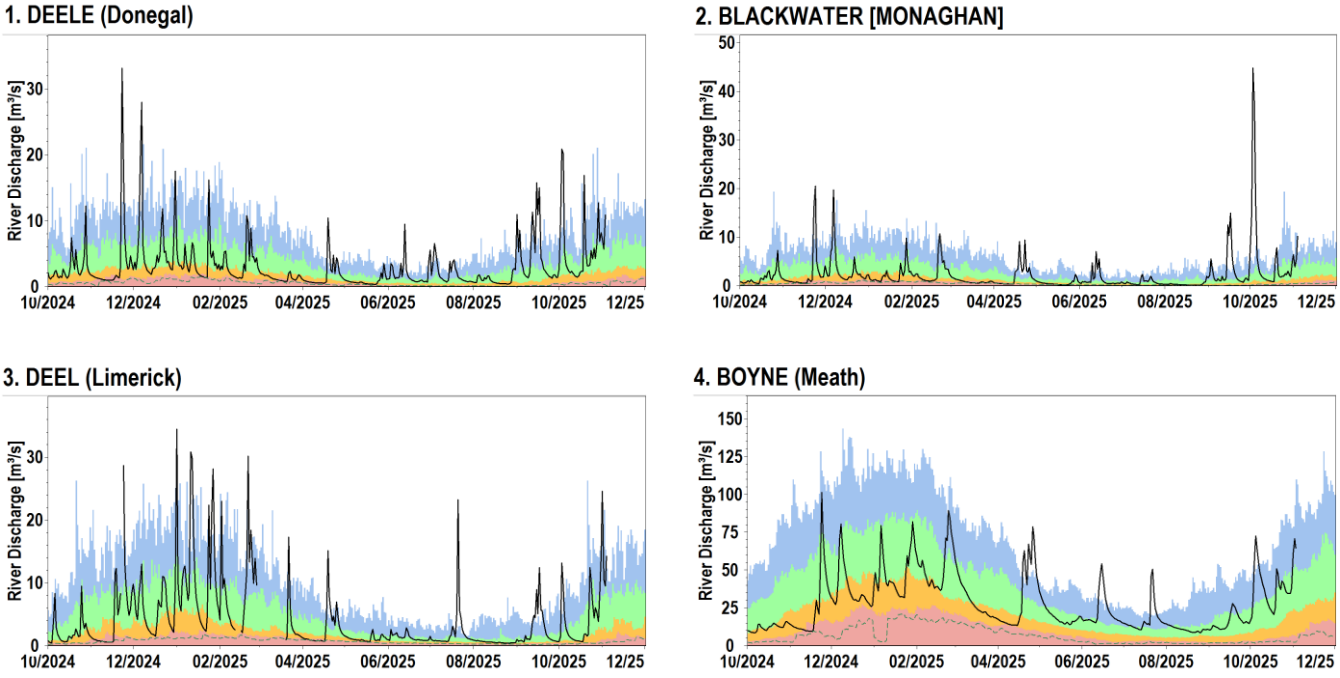
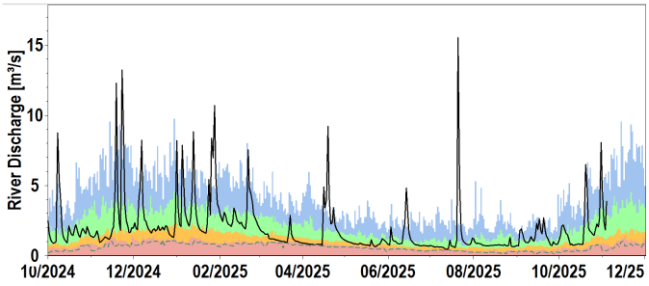


Figure 7: October 2025 average flows as a percentage of the long-term monthly average flow for this month at a selected number of stations. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA, OPW)***

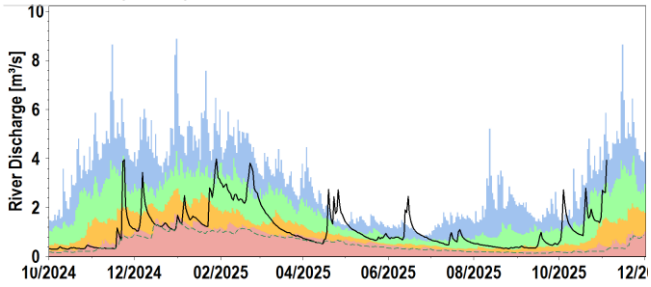
Flow hydrographs for selected rivers.



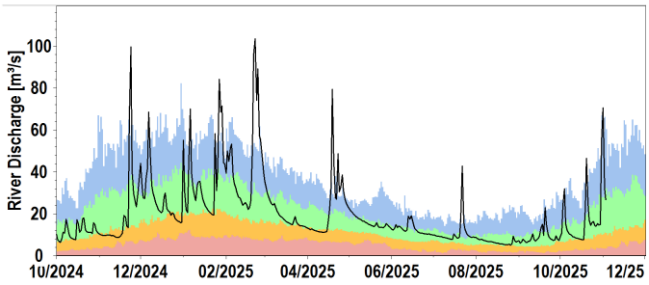
5. DODDER (Dublin)



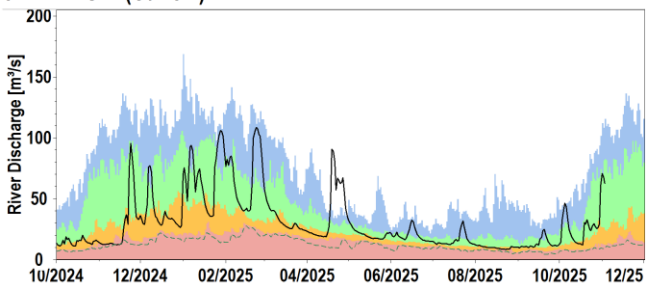
6. ATHBOY (Meath)



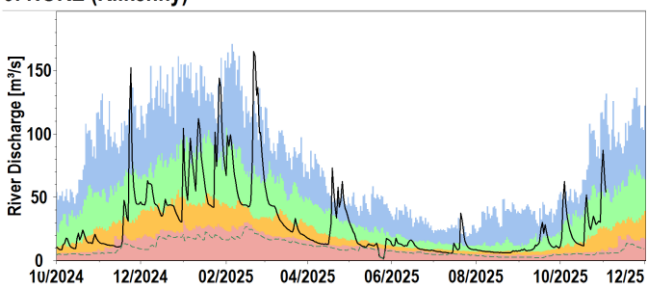
7. SLANEY (Wexford)



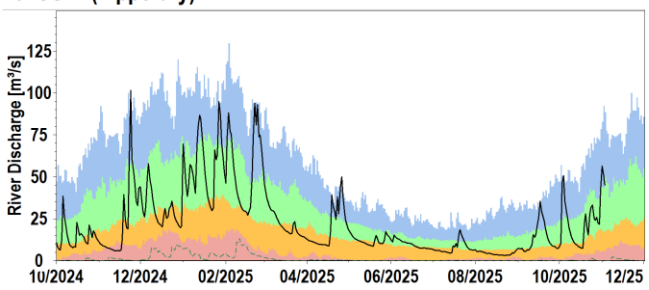
8. BARROW (Carlow)



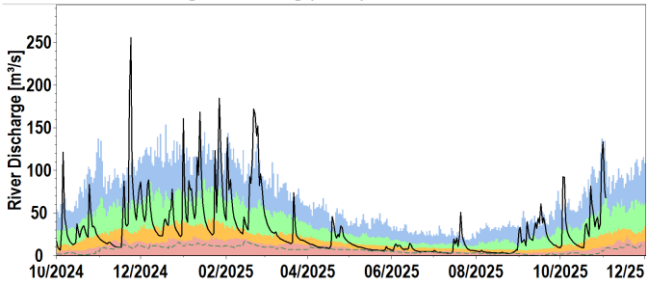
9. NORE (Kilkenny)



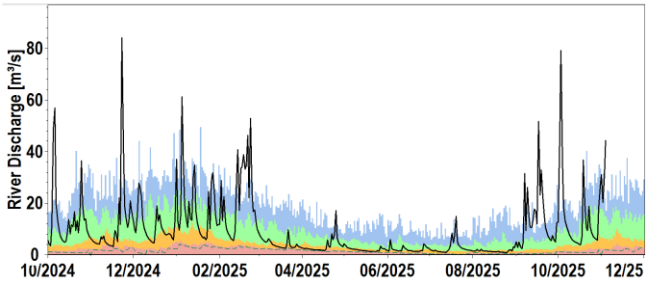
10. SUIR (Tipperary)



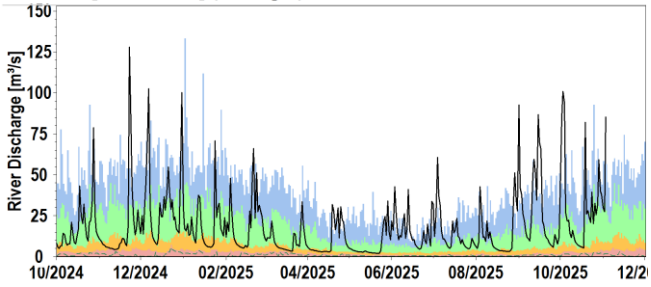
11. BLACKWATER [MUNSTER] (Cork)



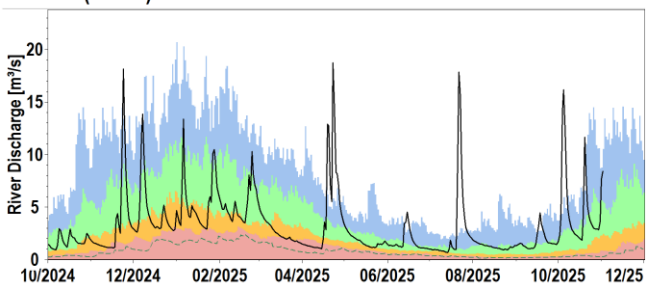
12. ILEN (Cork)



13. FINN [DONEGAL] (Donegal)



14. DEE (Louth)



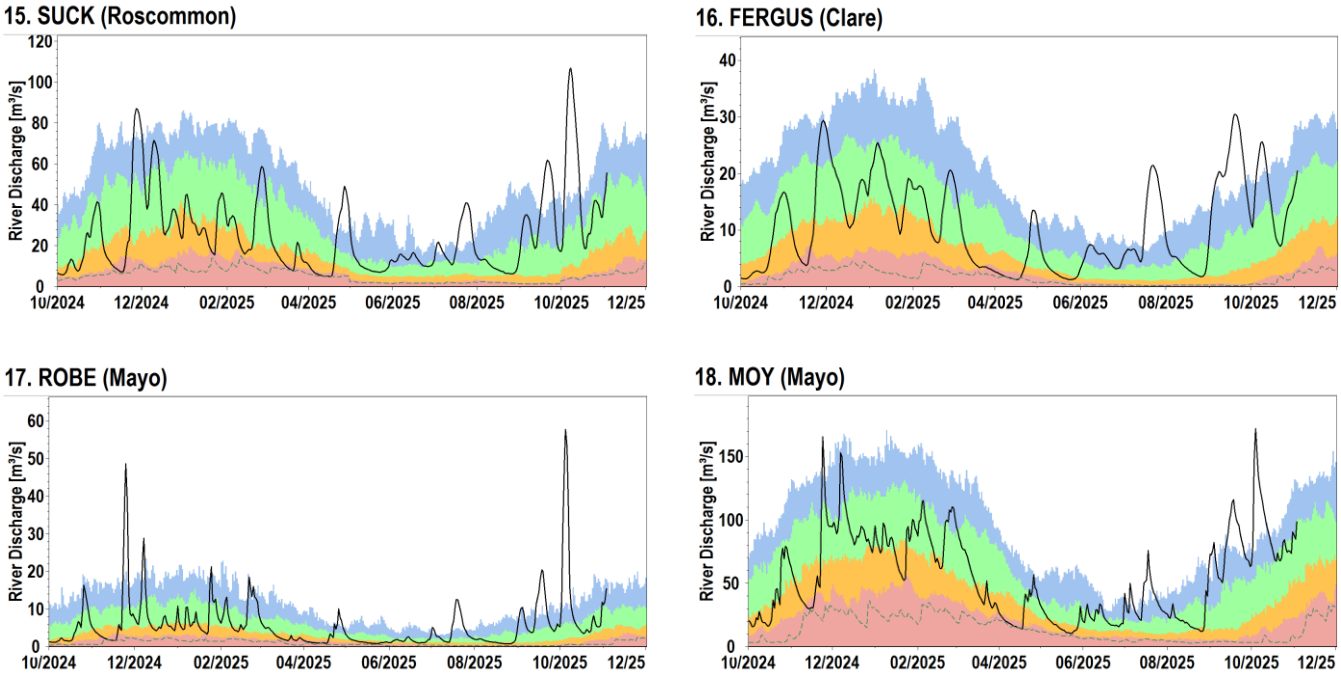


Figure 8: Daily average river flows measured in cubic metres per second relative to historic daily average flows expressed as percentile of the long-term values of each day and long-term minimum flows. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA, OPW).***

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

Lake and Turlough Levels

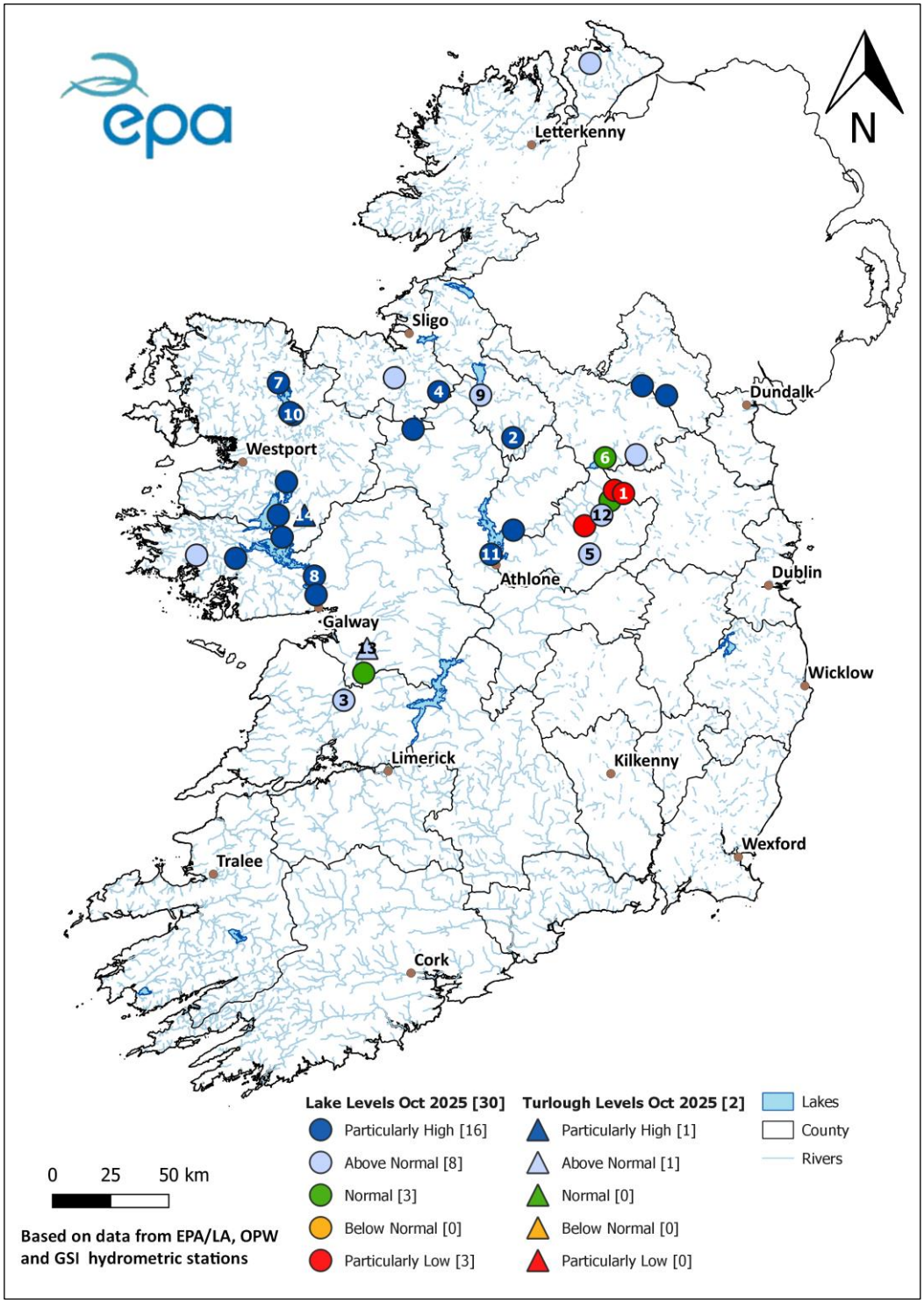
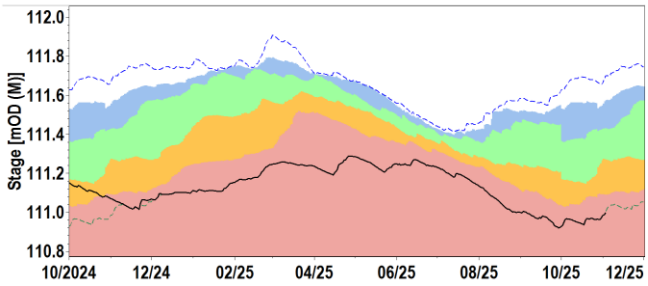


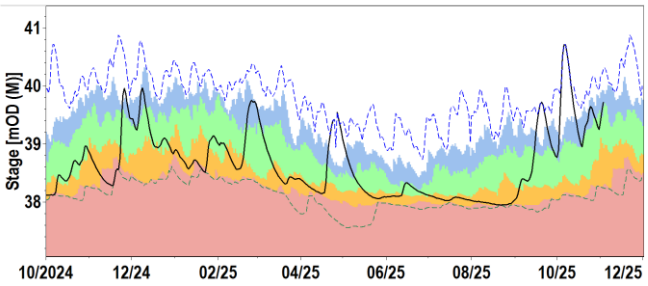
Figure 9: Monthly average lake & turlough levels for October 2025 relative to historic monthly average levels expressed as percentile of the long- term values for this month. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA,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

Water level hydrographs for selected lakes and turloughs

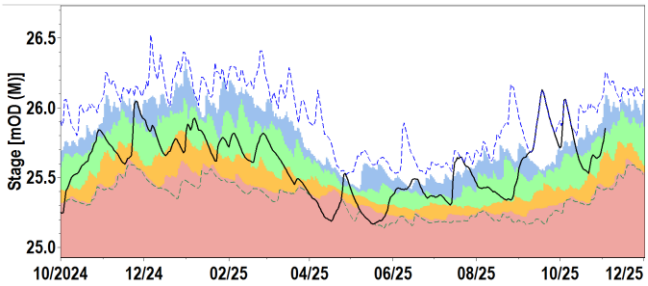
1. L. BANE (Meath)



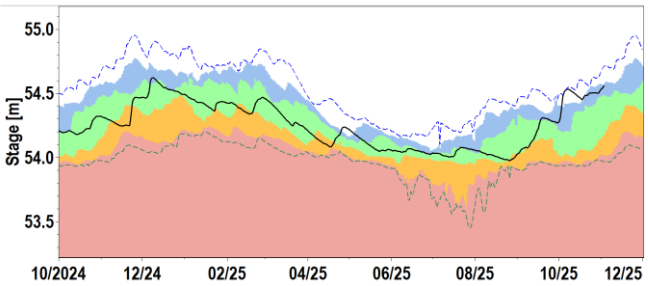
2. LOUGH RINN (Leitrim)



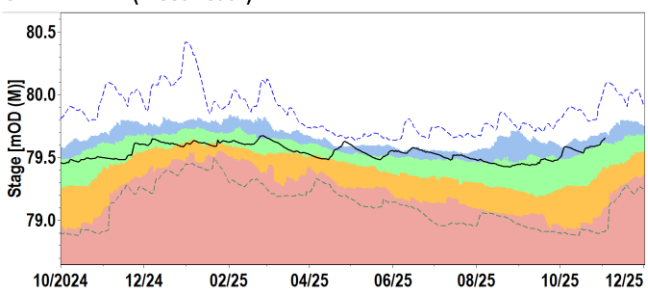
3. INCHICRONAN LOUGH (Clare)



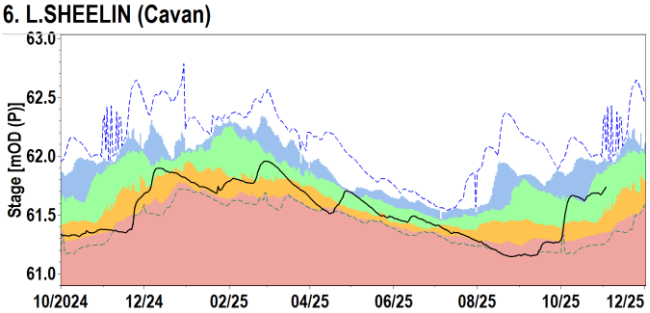
4. L.ARROW (Sligo)



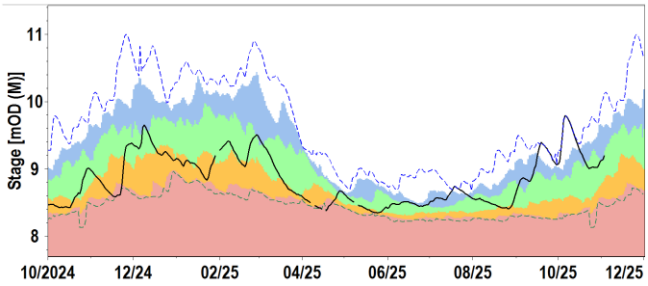
5. L.ENNELL (Westmeath)



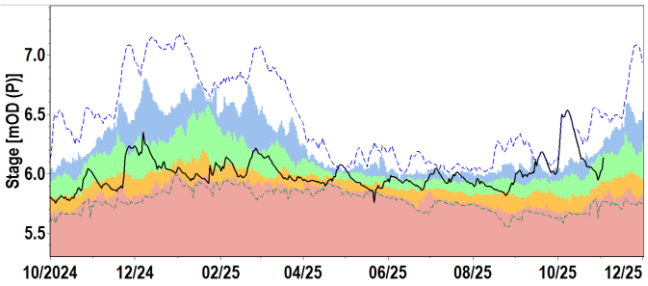
6. L.SHEELIN (Cavan)



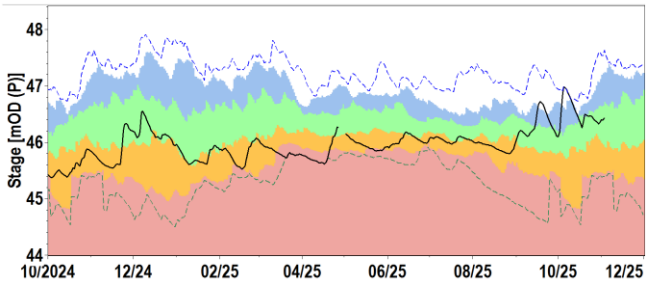
7. L.CONN (Mayo)



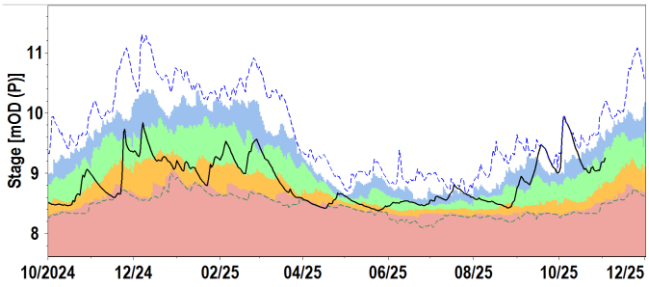
8. L.CORRIB (Galway)



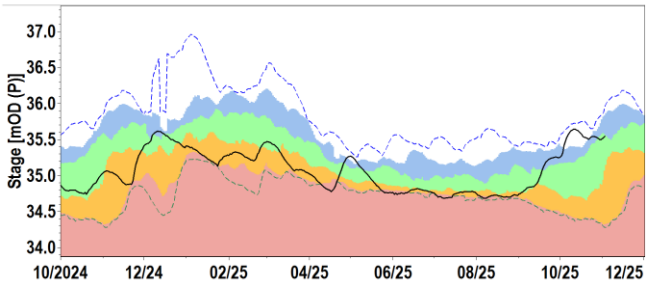
9. L.ALLEN (Leitrim)



10. L.CULLIN (Mayo)

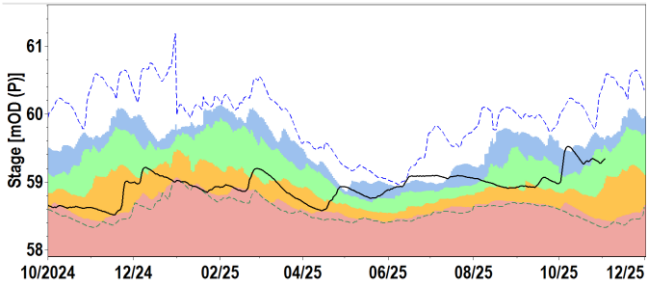


11. L.REE (Roscommon)



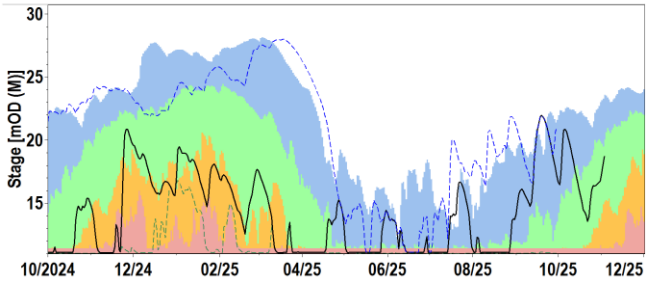
** Modelled long-term percentiles

12. L.DERRAVARAGH (Westmeath)



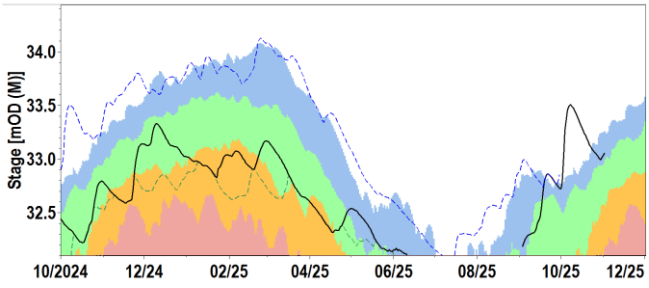
** Modelled long-term percentiles

13. BLACKROCK TURLOUGH (Galway)



** Modelled long-term percentiles

14. SKEALOGHAN TURLOUGH (Mayo)



** Modelled long-term percentiles

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

Groundwater Levels and Spring Flows

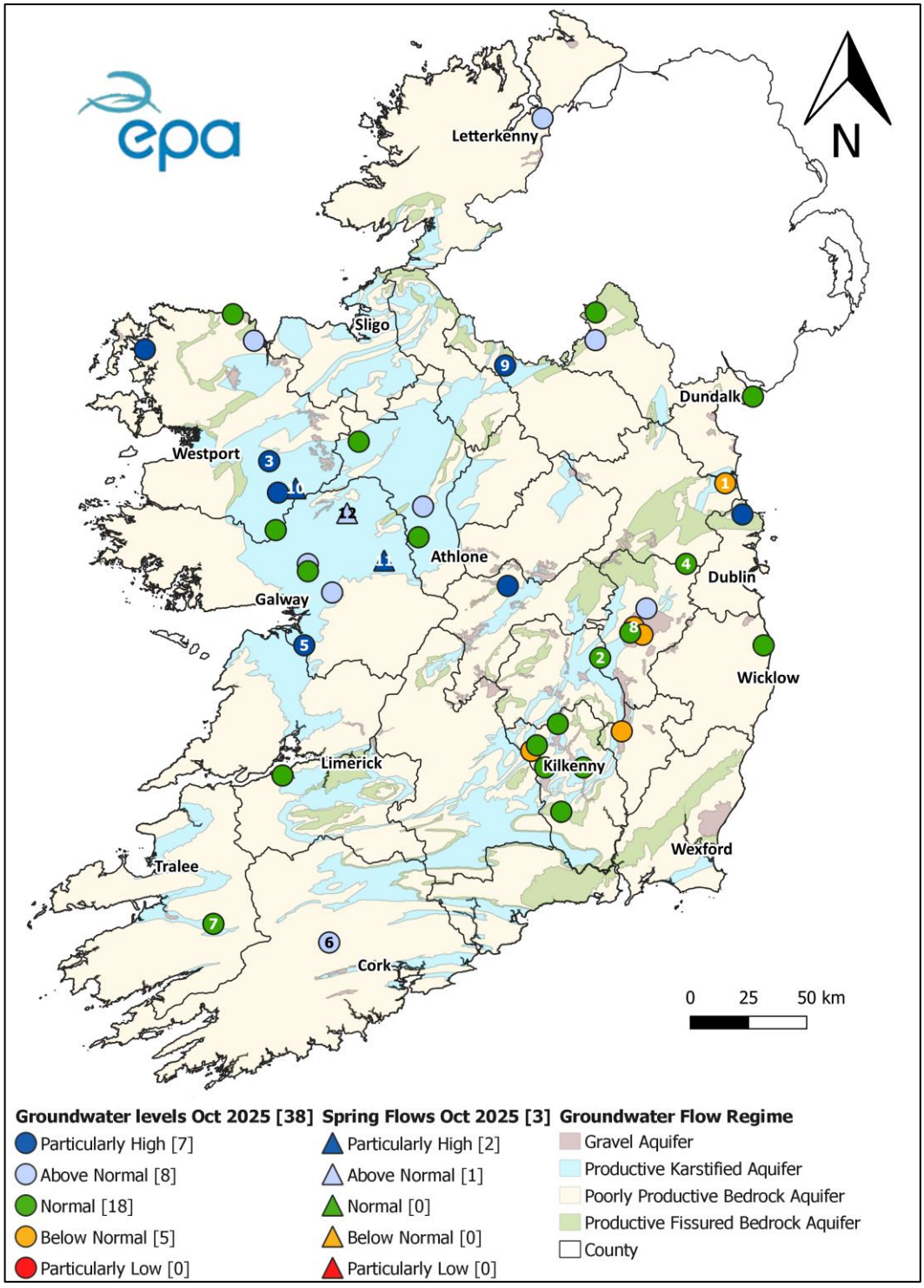
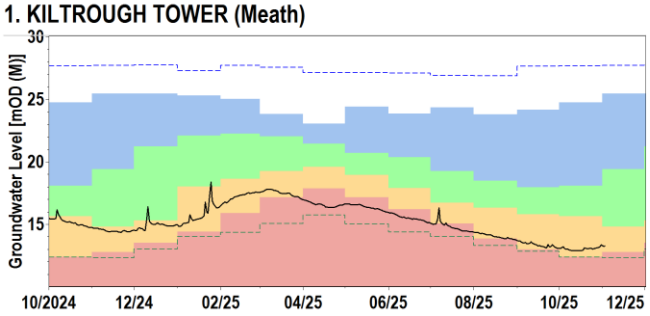


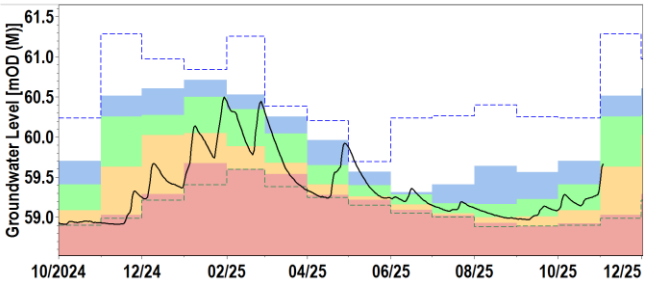
Figure 11: Groundwater level and Spring Flow status for October 2025, relative to historic monthly groundwater levels. Numbered sites are represented in the hydrographs below. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA).***

Groundwater and spring hydrographs

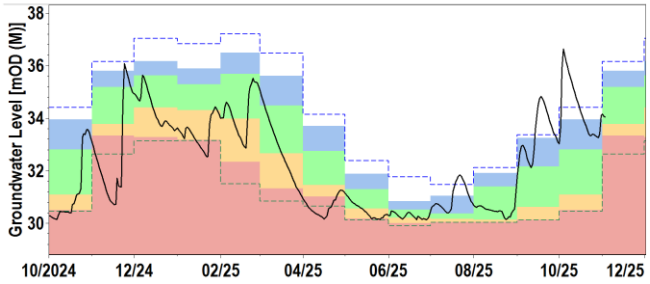
1. KILTROUGH TOWER (Meath)



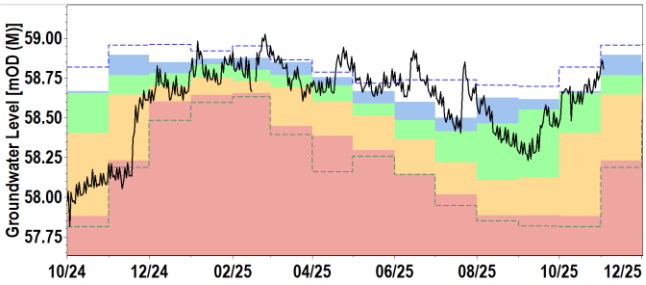
2. VICKERSTOWN (Laois)



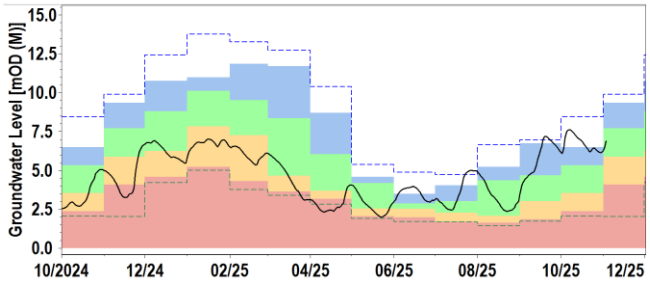
3. MAYO ABBEY (Mayo)



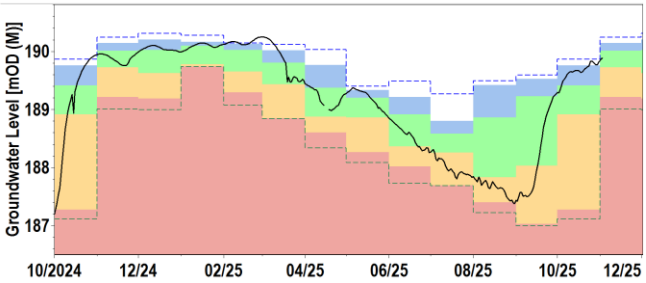
4. RW1 - DEEP (Meath)



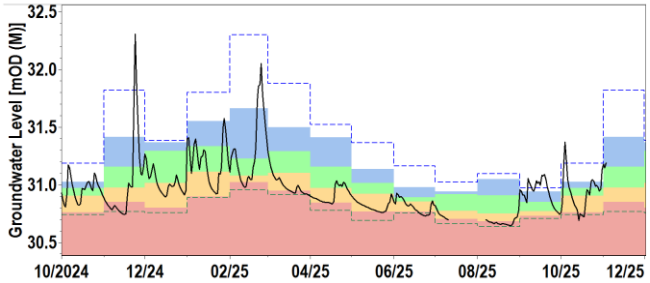
5. KILLINY (Galway)



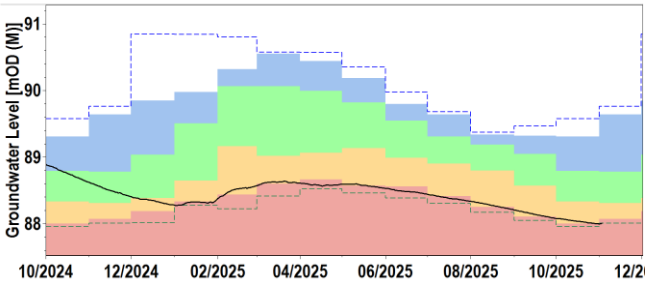
6. DR1 Deep Upper Site (Cork)



7. FBH9 - FLESK (Kerry)



8. POLLARDSTOWN FEN - MB 30 (Kildare)



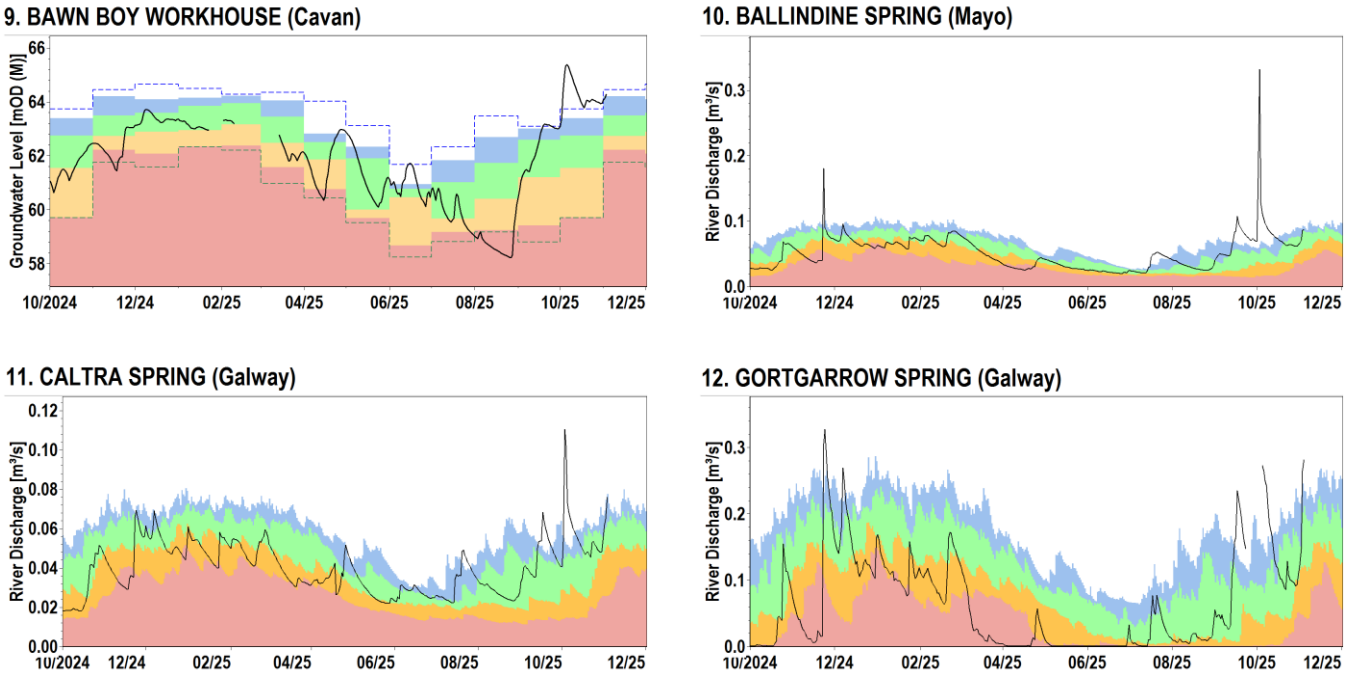


Figure 12: Daily mean groundwater levels (black trace) measured in meters above ordnance datum compared to the 10%tile, 30%tile, 70%tile and 95%tile for each month for the period of record and long-term maximum and minimum levels. All data are provisional and may be subject to revision ***(Source: EPA)****.*

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

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: ➢ Karstic (Rk and Lk) aquifers; ➢ Gravel (Rg and Lg) aquifers; ➢ Productive fractured bedrock (Rf and Lm) aquifers; ➢ Poorly productive bedrock (Ll, Pl 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.