

Water Resource Position Statement: 24 May 2010

Leeds & Liverpool Resource Position

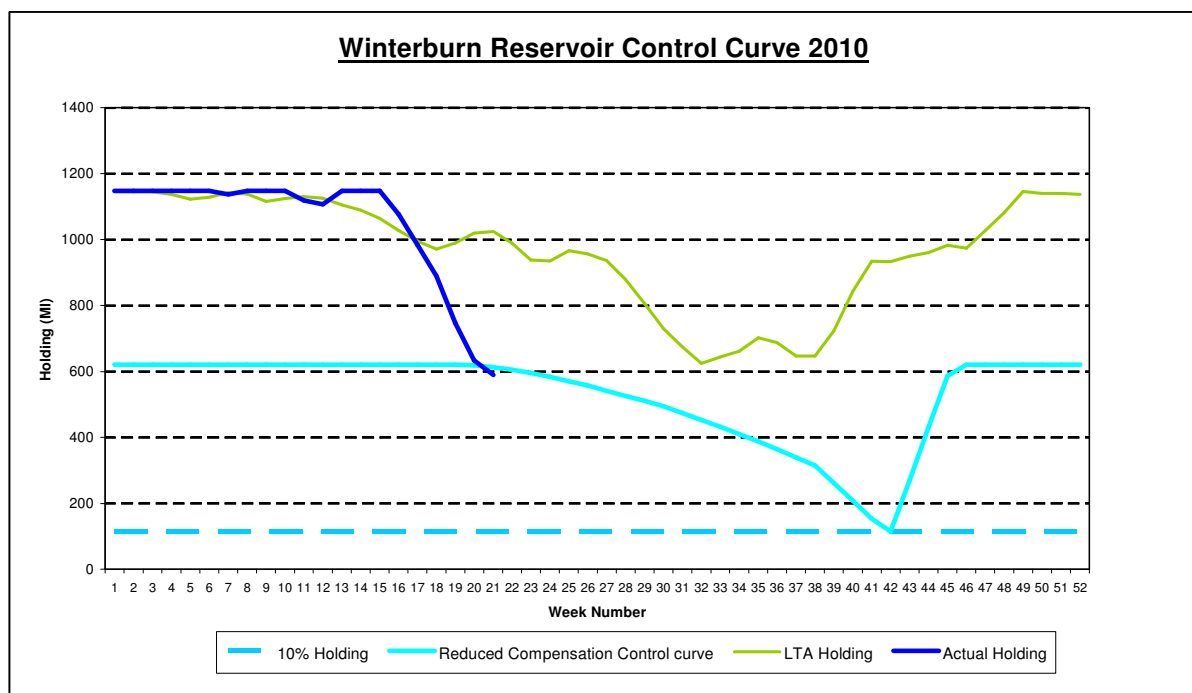
Following issue of the position statement dated 18 May 2010 the dry weather has continued and we have further drawn down our reservoirs to feed the canal. As a result the reservoirs supplying the summit of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal continue to have holdings below their long term average for this time of year. Analysis indicates there is between a 25% to 50% risk that the reservoirs supplying the Leeds & Liverpool Canal will not have sufficient water to supply the canal throughout the boating season, however we are now very close to the 50% risk threshold.

As a result, BW are putting in place a number of overnight restrictions to reduce the demands on our resources, in an attempt to prolong boating activity throughout the summer.

Two of the four reservoirs supplying the Peak Forest Canal and Macclesfield Canal remain below their long term average holding. Analysis currently indicates a low risk (less than 10%) that the reservoir group supplying these canals will have insufficient water to last until the end of the season.

Summary of Current Position

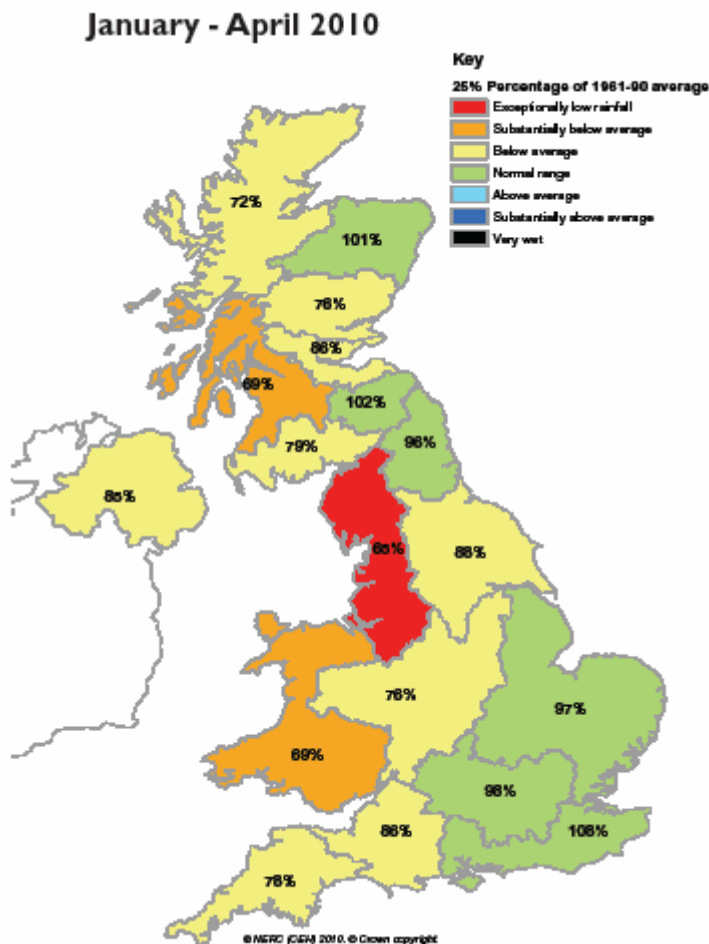
Winterburn Reservoir, which supplies the Leeds & Liverpool summit, is below its long term average holding for this time of year. As reported last week, the current holding in Winterburn Reservoir only allows us to meet the statutory compensation and there is no further resource available to feed the canal.



The Leeds & Liverpool summit reservoir group is below its long term average holding for this time of year. Without implementing overnight restrictions, assuming no significant rainfall, we estimate that we currently have enough water in the summit reservoirs to feed the canal for another 9 weeks, until late July, However by implementing the overnight restrictions, canal demands will be reduced. Therefore we estimate that the current water resources, will then meet canal demands for an additional three weeks, until mid August.

Rainfall accumulations

Recorded rainfall across the UK during January through to April is shown on the map below. Rainfall over Yorkshire (88%) and North West (65%) during this period has been exceptionally low and below long term average for this time of year, respectively.



Rainfall across North West and Yorkshire for each month during January to May is detailed in the table below. This is expressed as rainfall received as a percentage of the long term average for each month.

	% of LTA rainfall received			
	January	February	March	April
North West	51	70	90	46
Yorkshire	87	122	102	39

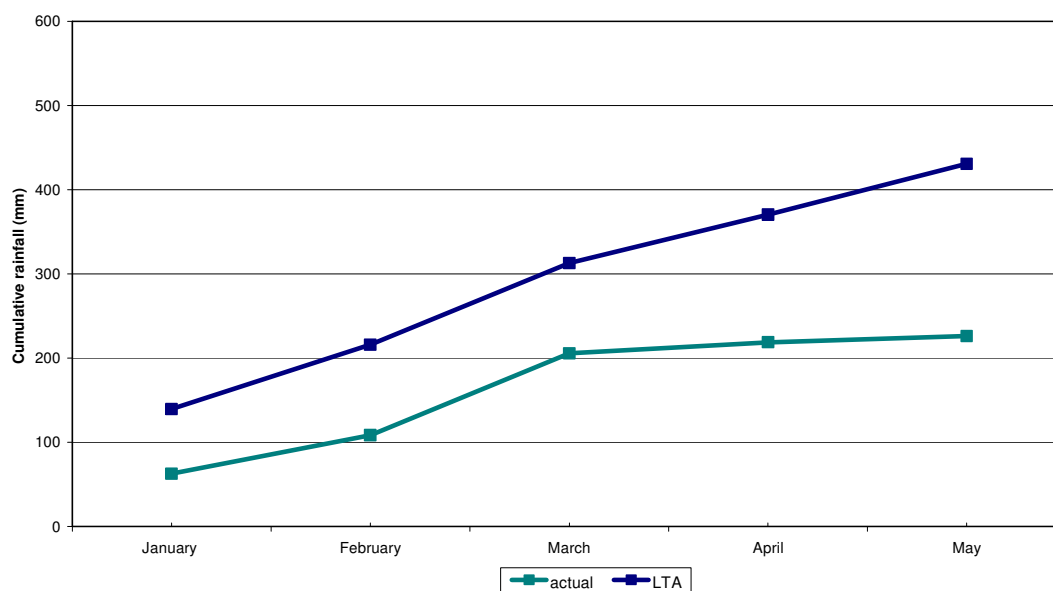
Rainfall received across the North West and Yorkshire areas during the early months of 2010 were recorded to be below long term average, with the exception of rainfall recorded in Yorkshire during February. More significant to the BW water resource system, rainfall recorded at rain gauges close to BW reservoirs which supply the Leeds & Liverpool Canal, received even lower amounts of rain compared to the average rainfall recorded across these areas.

The table below shows the amount of rainfall received at Greenberfield and Bank Newton rain gauges during the same months. This rainfall is expressed as rainfall received as a percentage of the long term average for each month.

	% of LTA rainfall received				
	January	February	March	April	May (part)
Bank Newton	39	66	74	28	12
Greenberfield	45	60	100	23	12

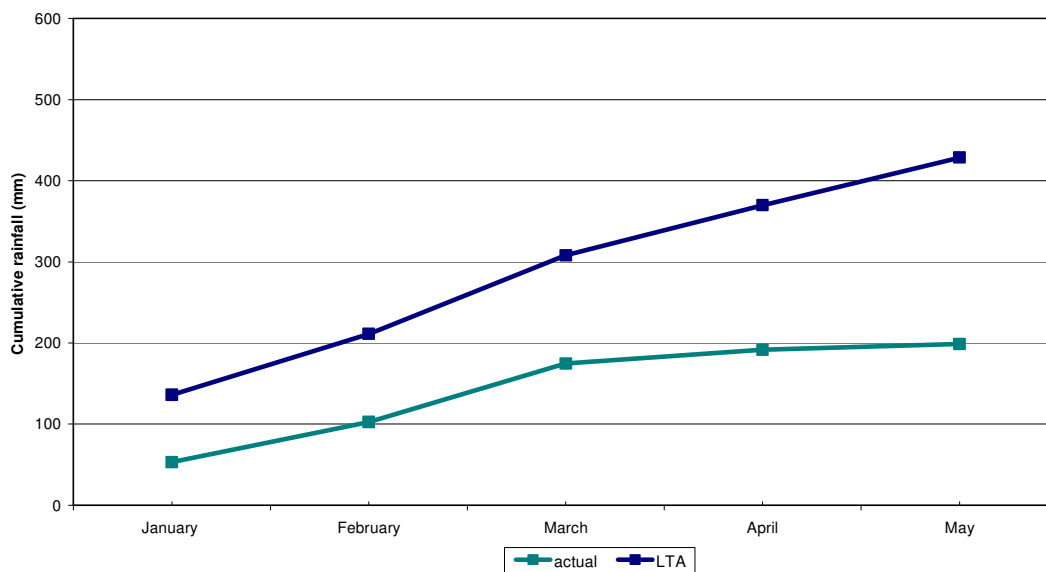
Rainfall at Greenberfield rain gauge is illustrated in the graph below for January through to May. This graph shows the cumulative monthly rainfall totals recorded each month against the cumulative monthly long term average for each month. Rainfall recorded for May is only that recorded up to 24 May against the May LTA.

Actual rainfall totals (2010) compared to LTAs (Greenberfield raingauge).



Rainfall at Bank Newton rain gauge is illustrated in the graph below for January through to May. This graph shows the cumulative monthly rainfall totals recorded each month against the cumulative monthly long term average for each month. Rainfall recorded for May is only that recorded up to 23 May against the May LTA .

Actual rainfall totals (2010) compared to LTAs (Bank Newton raingauge).



Cumulative monthly rainfall totals for both Greenberfield and Bank Newton rain gauges show the total amount of rainfall received at each gauge each month is much lower than the amount of rain expected during an average year.

Outlook

Unfortunately a long range weather forecast is no longer available from the Met Office. However other independent agencies are providing long range forecasts, while they are predicting average rainfall during June, below average rainfall is being predicted for July and August.