

Flooding from groundwater

Hampshire

9th May 2018

Current situation

In Hampshire, notably high rainfall totals were recorded in March and April, with almost twice the monthly average recorded in both months. There has been a fairly dry start to May.

The table below shows rainfall data values recorded at Otterbourne Raingauge, near Winchester, up to 9th May 2018 (used statistically for comparisons because of its long term record).

Month				Hampshire at Otterbourne (near Winchester)			
	Total rainfall	Long Term Average Rainfall	% of Long Term Monthly Average	Wettest		Driest	
	(mm)	(mm)	Average	mm	year	mm	year
Mar	127	66.0	192%	183.9	1947	2.3	1929
Apr	90.6	50.0	181%	186.8	2000	0.3	1938
May	11.0	56.0	20%	147.3	1932	4.1	1989

There are no Groundwater Flood Alerts in force.

Groundwater levels still remain high and are above average for the time of year.

While levels remain high, the dry, very hot weather in the last 10 days means the levels are now falling in all locations except for villages surrounding Andover, where levels have only just stabilised. Levels should begin to fall here within the next few days.

The weather forecast for the next five to ten days is for generally settled weather.

Although levels remain high, it would now take a much more significant volume of rain to cause groundwater levels to rise again. Given the current forecast, we do not expect groundwater flooding to affect communities this spring.

As the flood risk has now reduced, this will be the last briefing note this season.

However, we continue to monitor groundwater levels closely and will issue further briefing notes if heavy rain begins to impact the area, increasing the groundwater flood risk.

Forecast risk of flooding

The current weather outlook for the next 10 days remains largely settled with the potential for some thunderstorms from days 6 to 10. Overall there is no signal for heavy and persistent rain.

The continued dry weather means that groundwater levels will continue to fall steadily. It also means that it would take a much more significant amount of rainfall to cause water levels to rise again. As such, we no longer expect groundwater flooding this spring.

The graphs below show data from our key indicator boreholes. Current water levels (shown in red) are compared to long term average data. The graphs show data recorded up to 9th May 2018.

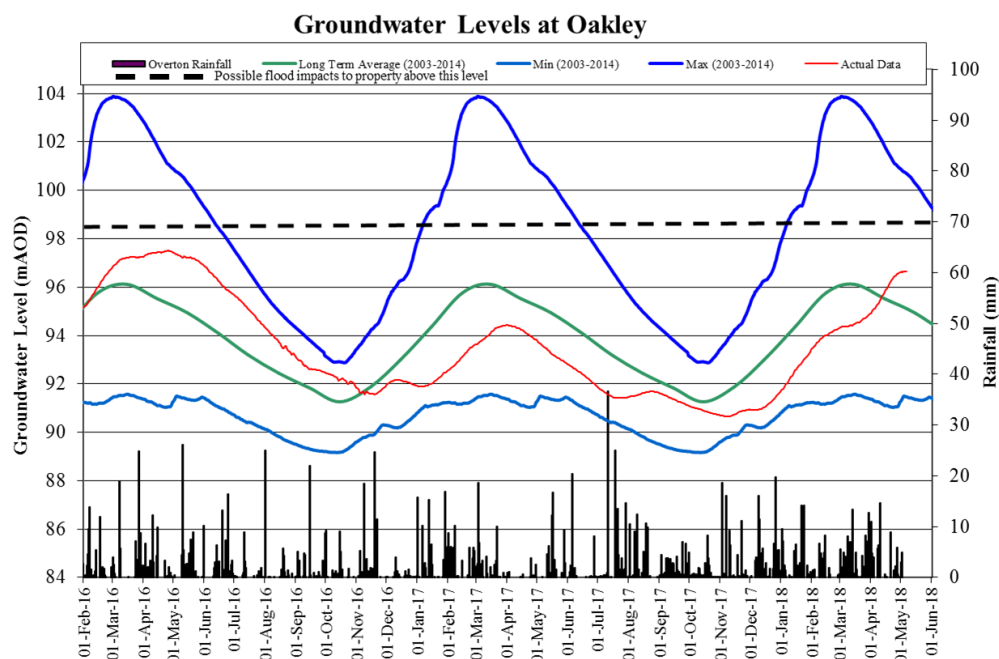
(note: data shown on these graphs are representative of groundwater levels impacting communities. We have an extensive groundwater monitoring network. Data from many sites is used alongside the levels shown at our key indicator boreholes to help decide flood impacts)

Basingstoke, Crondall and Alton

Groundwater levels are now falling and no impacts are currently expected.

Deane and Ashe, North East Hampshire

Levels stabilised on 3rd May. They have fallen by 1cm since then.



Customer service line

03708 506 506

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline

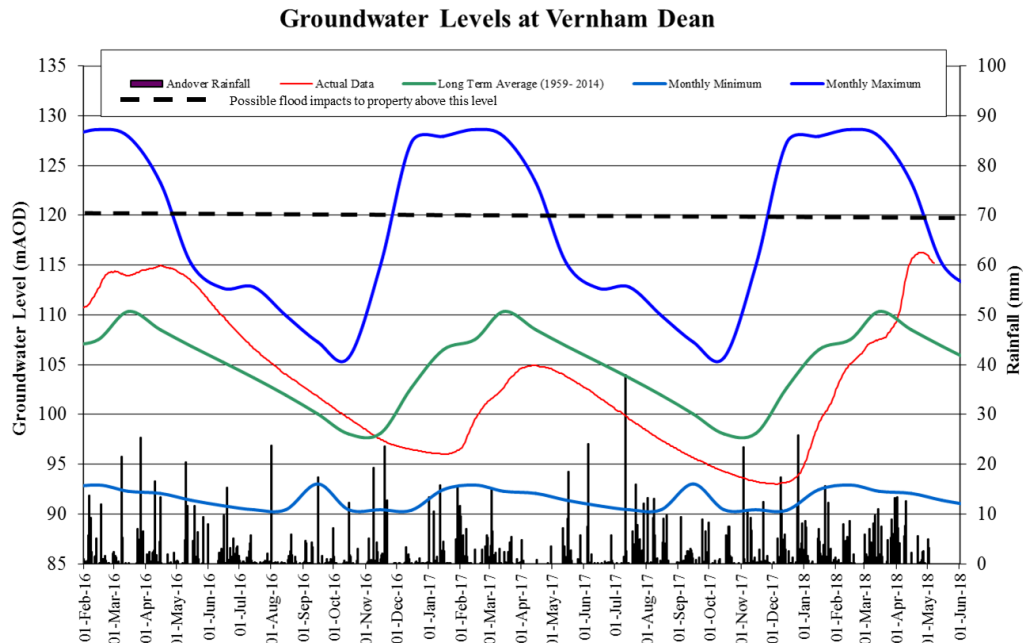
0800 80 70 60

Floodline

0345 988 1188

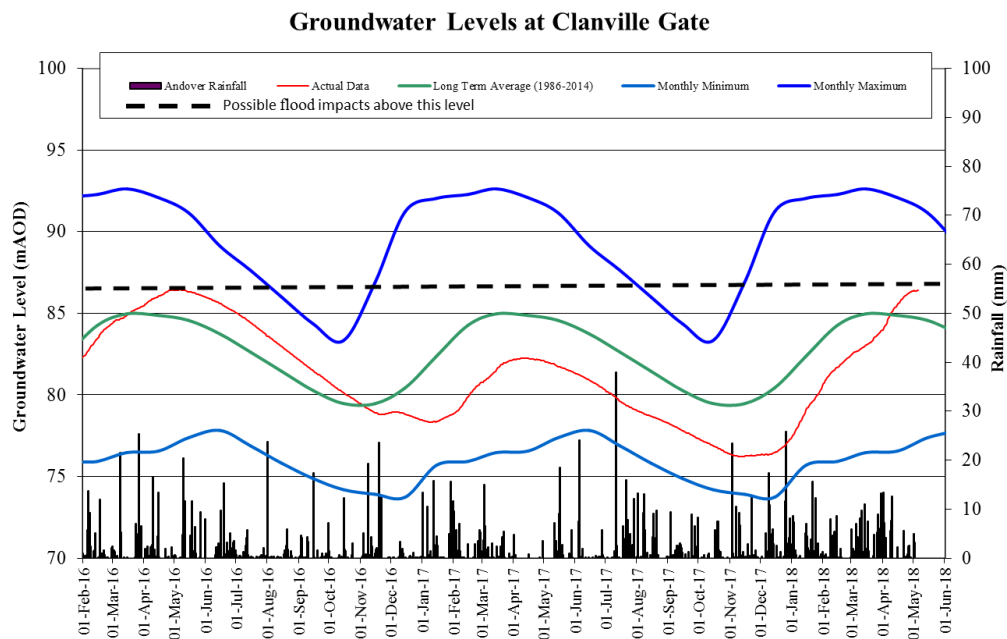
Bourne Valley

In the last two weeks levels have fallen by 1m.



Villages Surrounding Andover

Levels are very high, above long term average, but are just stabilising. We expect levels will fall over the next week.



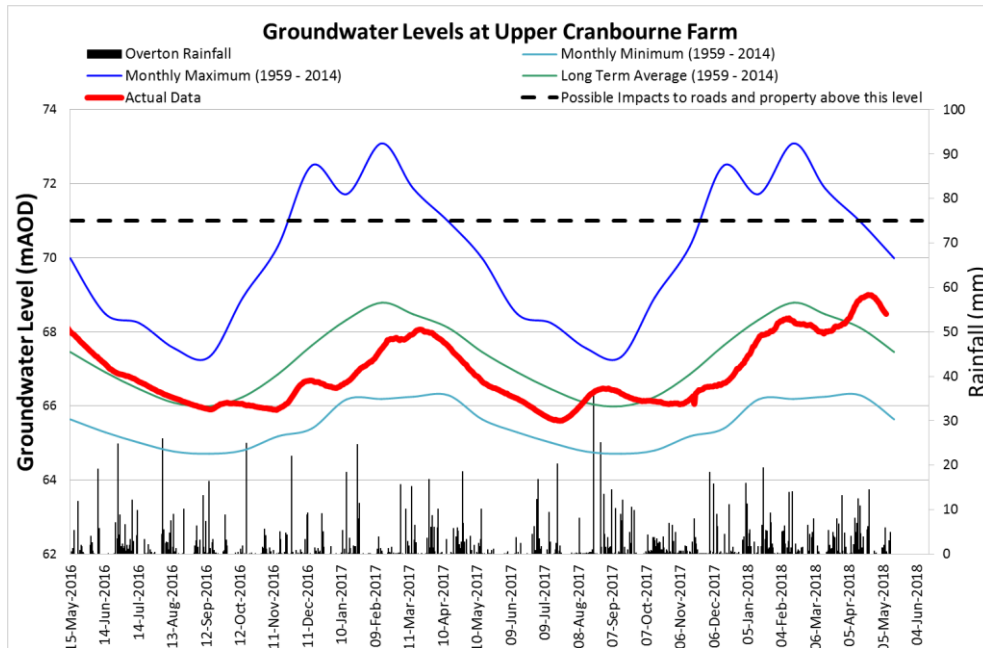
Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188

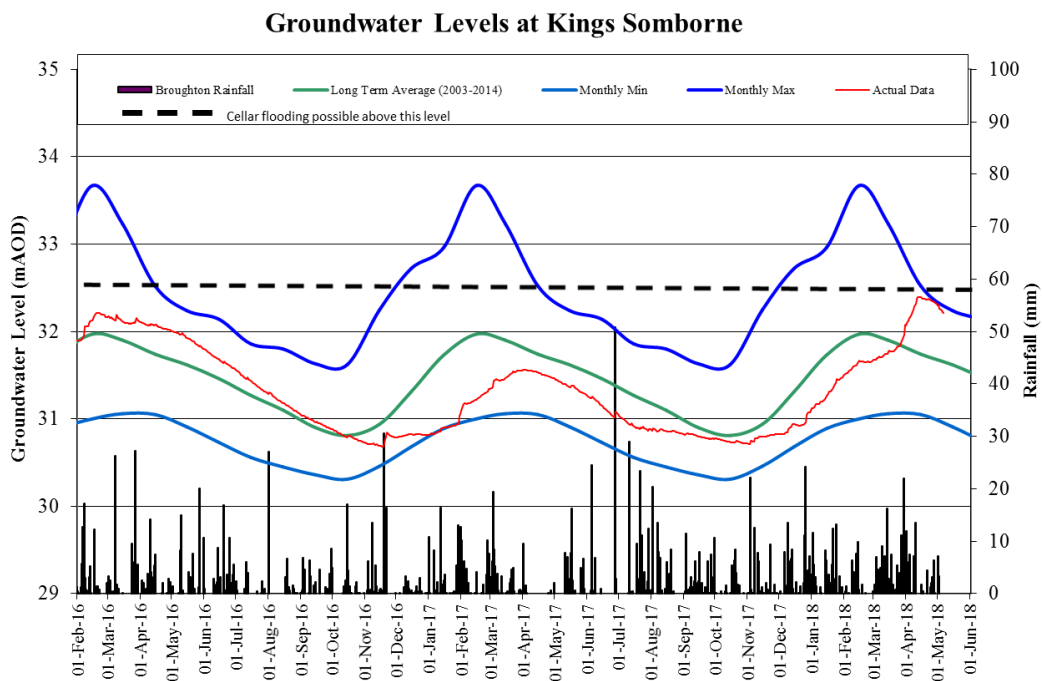
Sutton Scotney and Chilbolton

Levels are above long term average but have fallen almost 0.6m in the last two weeks.



Kings Somborne

In the last two weeks, levels have fallen by 0.15m.



Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

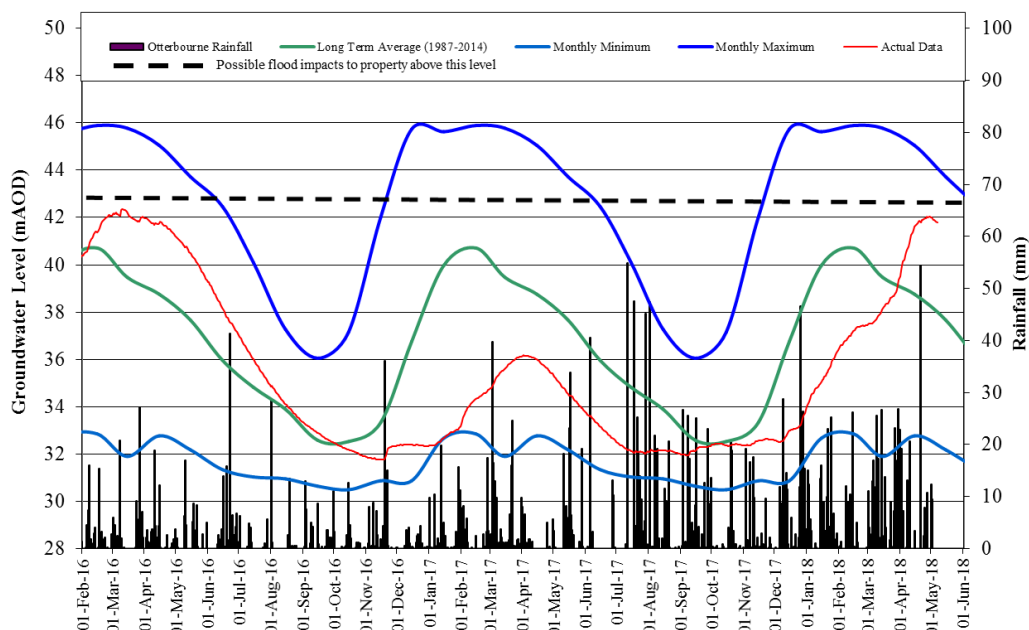
Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188

Hursley

Levels didn't stabilise until the 2nd May but have fallen by 0.2m since then.

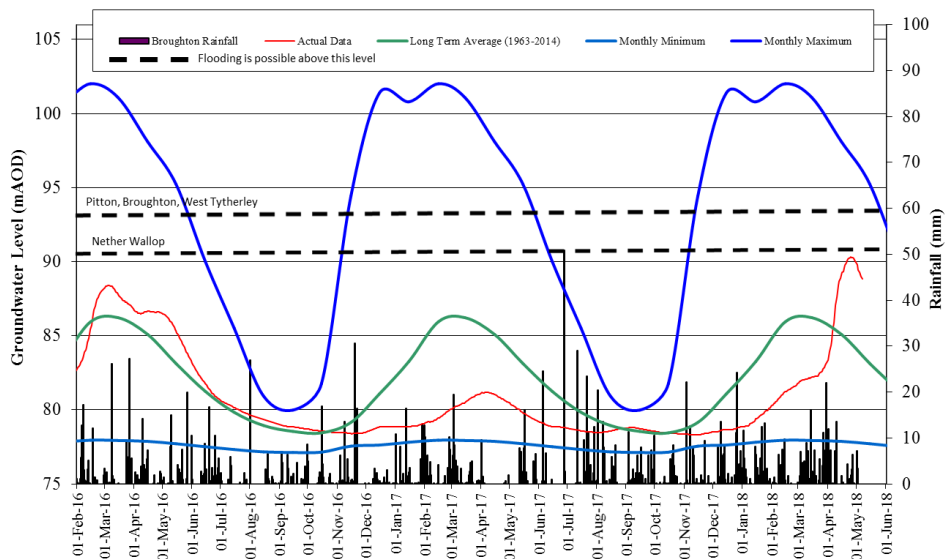
Groundwater Levels at Hursley



Pitton, West Tytherley, Broughton

Levels have fallen by 1.6m in the last two weeks.

Groundwater Levels at Lopcombe Corner



Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

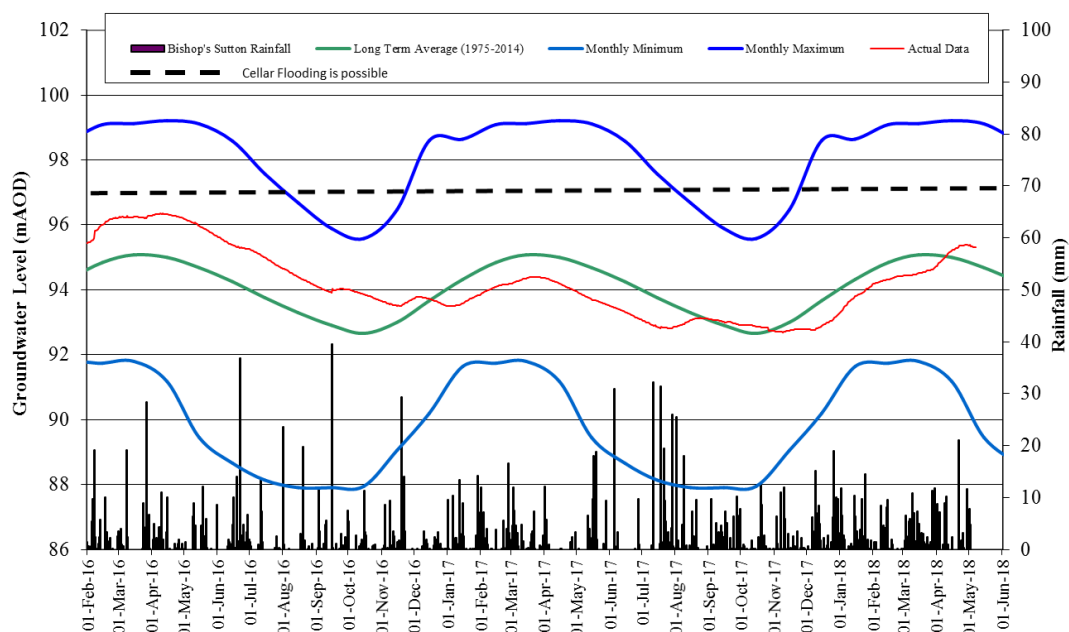
Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188

Preston Candover and Bishops Sutton

At Preston Candover and Bishops Sutton, levels did not begin to fall until 2 May. Since then, levels at Preston Candover have reduced by 7cm and at Bishops Sutton by 2cm.

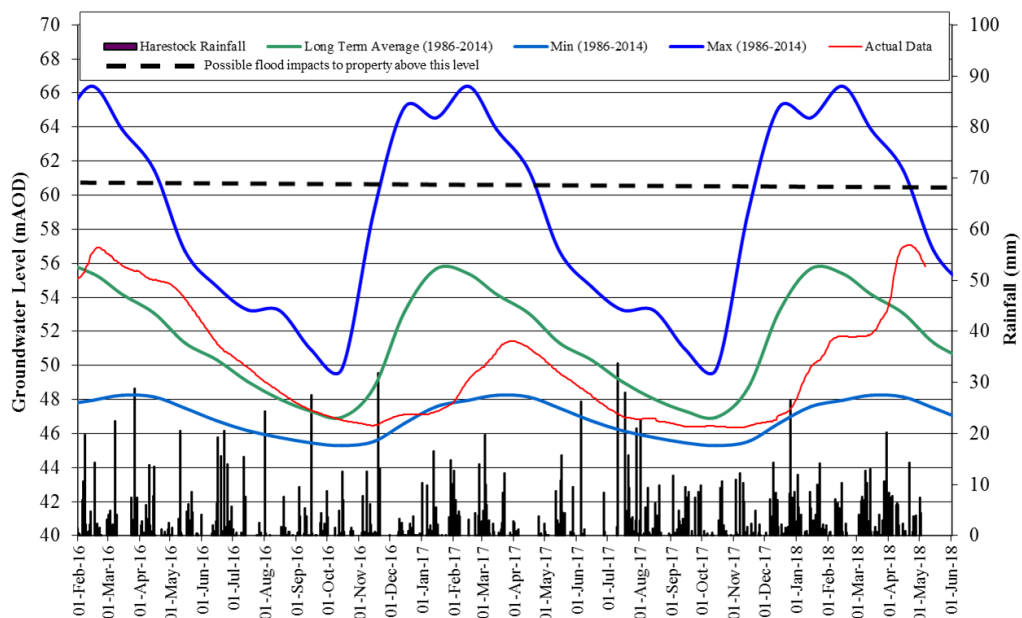
Groundwater Levels at Preston Candover



Kings Worthy, Headbourne Worthy and Littleton

In the last two weeks, levels have fallen by 1.3m

Groundwater Levels at Harestock Corner



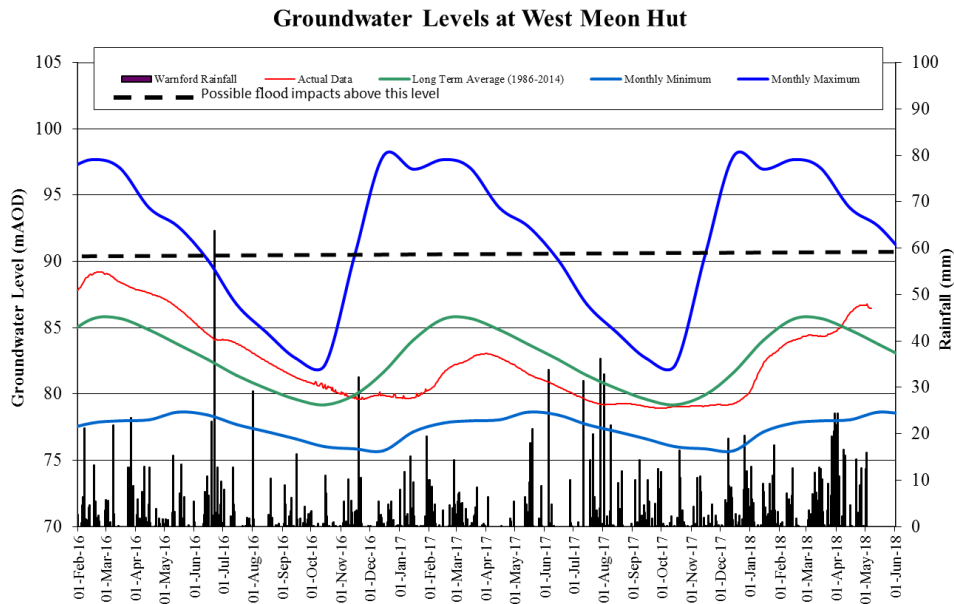
Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188

Meon Valley, Bramdean and Chertion, Twyford and Hensting

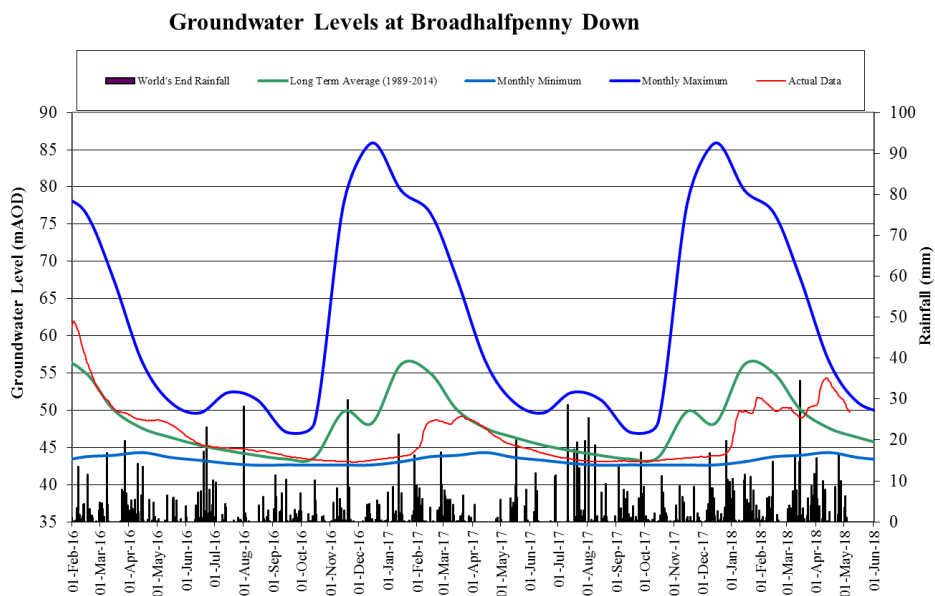
Levels only stabilised on 30th April but have fallen 0.3m since then.



Hambledon and Denmead

In the last two weeks, levels have fallen by 2.5m at Broadhalfpenny Down and Whitedale Farm.

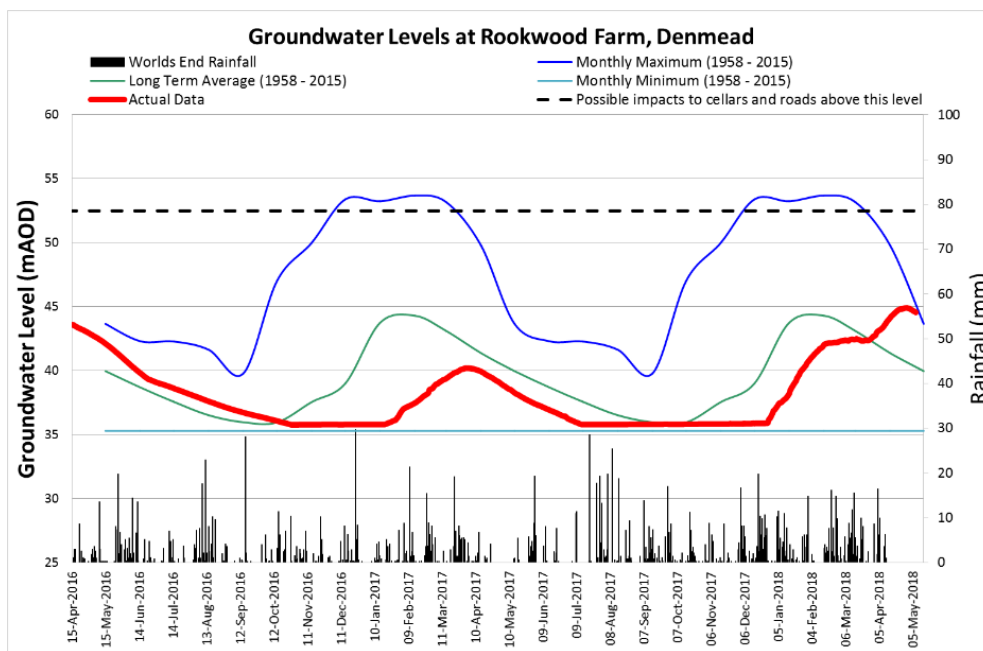
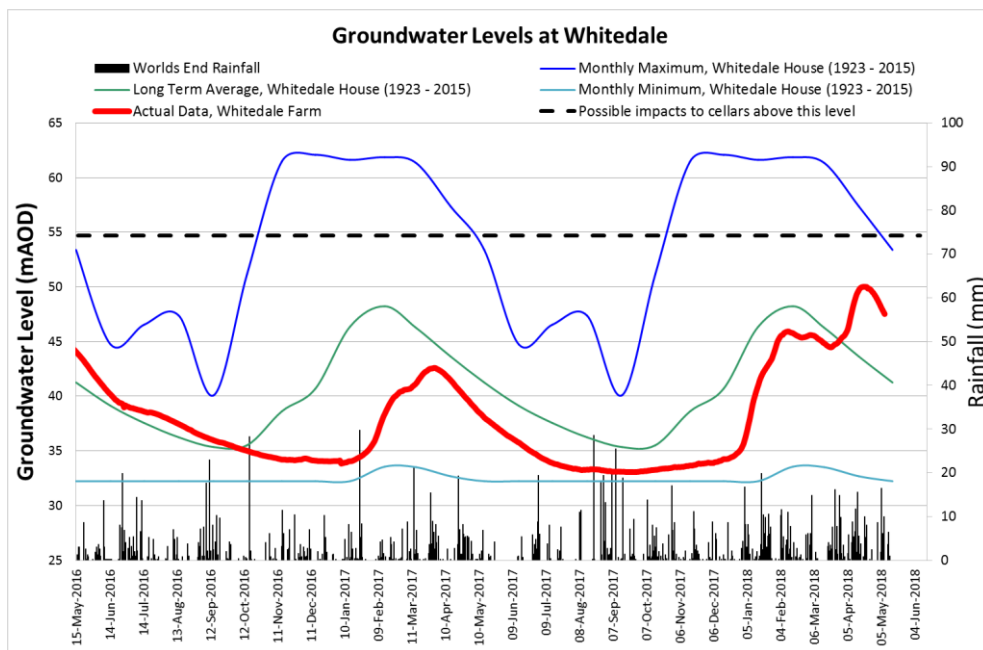
In Denmead, levels only stabilised on 30th April but have fallen by 0.1m since then.



Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188



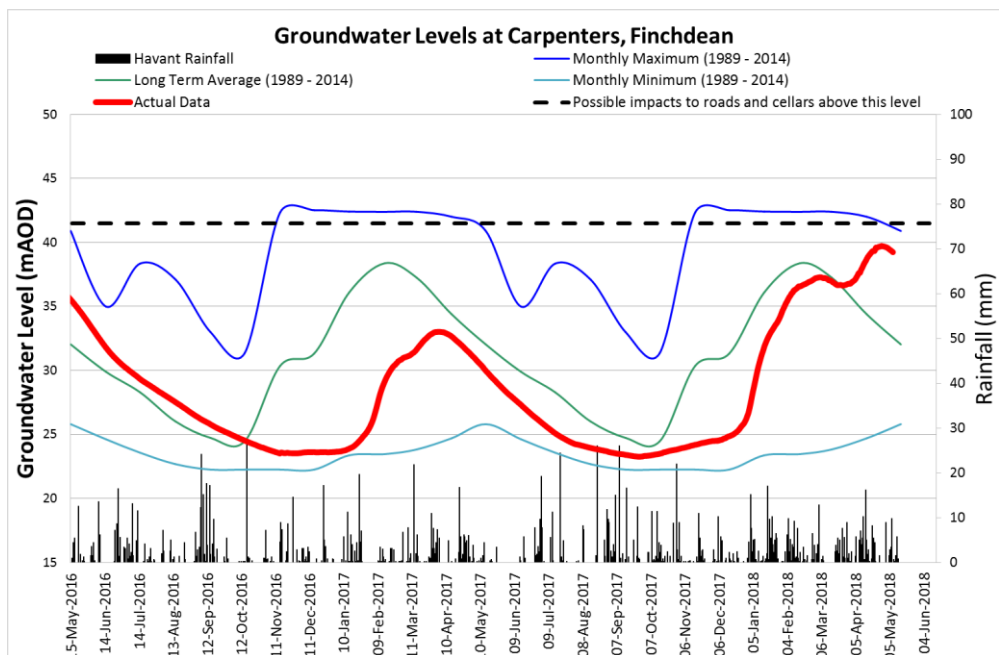
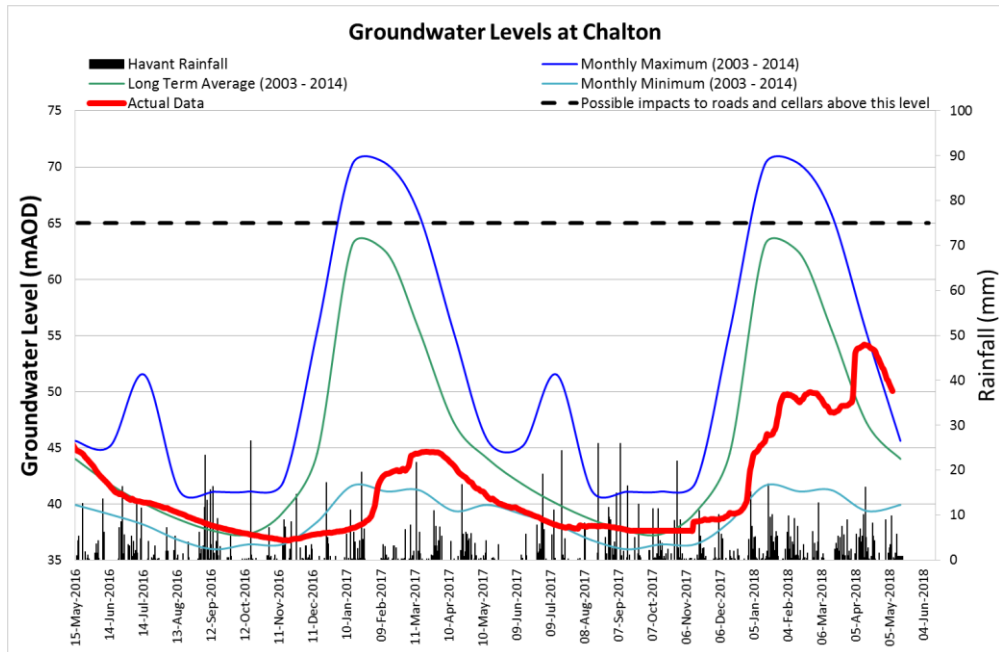
Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188

Finchdean and Rowlands Castle

In the last two weeks levels in the outer chalk at Chalton have fallen by 3.2 metres, and by 0.5m at Carpenters in Finchdean.



What we're doing

We will continue to monitor the levels and their response to further rainfall. We will be using our technical knowledge and experience alongside our flooding procedures to assess the risk of flooding.

We will issue Briefing Notes and Flood Alerts to communities when flood risk to property increases.

Actions and Advice

1. We offer a Groundwater Flood Alert service for the following locations. If you want to receive Groundwater Flood Alerts then please ensure you register and that your contact details are up to date. If you wish to amend your registration then call Floodline on 0345 988 1188 (24 hour service) or go online at <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>.

Bucksin, Basingstoke and Sherborne St John
Alton and Lower Farringdon
Crandall
Deane and Ashe in North Hampshire
Vernham Dean and Bourne Valley
Villages surrounding Andover
Kings Somborne and Little Somborne
Pitton, West Tytherly, Broughton and Nether Wallop
Sutton Scotney and Chilbolton
The Candovers and Old Alresford

Bishops Sutton
Bramdean and Cheriton
Hensting and Twyford
Kings Worthy, Headbourne Worthy and Littleton
Hursley
Meon Valley
Hambleton
Finchdean and Rowlands Castle
Denmead

2. We encourage Parishes at risk to develop a community Flood Plan, identifying local issues and working with the different agencies to prepare for and respond to flooding should it occur.

3. Where safe to do so, Parish Flood Action Groups may wish to walk local watercourses and check ditches to ensure there are no blockages.

4. Property owners should think about what you'll do if flooding occurs where you live, don't wait until flooding happens. We have a [leaflet](#) offering practical advice to help you reduce the impact of flooding from groundwater.

5. Please make sure you are familiar with where to view groundwater data and information on our website (see links in the section below).

Customer service line

03708 506 506

www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline

0800 80 70 60

Floodline

0345 988 1188

Further Important Information

Daily groundwater and river levels are available on Gaugemap, www.Gaugemap.co.uk
Please note that the data displayed on Gaugemap is raw data and is not quality assured.

The latest Flood Alert information can be found on the GOV.UK website at:
<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/map>

You can see our weekly groundwater level graphs on the GOV.UK website at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/weekly-water-levels-hampshire-west-sussex-and-isle-of-wight>

We also publish a water situation report which can be found on the GOV.UK website at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-situation-report-south-east>

Contacts

If you would like any further information on groundwater levels please contact us by emailing
ssdenquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk.

For any queries about our Flood Warning Service please contact Charlotte Creswell on 0208 4745837 or email Charlotte.cresswell@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Next Groundwater Briefing Note Update

As flood risk has now decreased, there is no planned briefing note update.

A briefing note will only be issued when flood risk next increases.

Customer service line
03708 506 506
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Incident hotline
0800 80 70 60

Floodline
0345 988 1188