

## Reservoir Watch 2015

Reservoir group	May 2015 holding	June 2015 holding	July 2015 holding	Change in June - July Period	Minimum historical* July holding (Year)
<b>Kennet &amp; Avon Canal</b>	81.5%	80.5%	82.3%	+1.8%	67.3% (2011)
<b>Oxford &amp; GU</b>	86.1%	80.3%	67.8%	-12.5%	53% (2011)
<b>GU South</b>	92.3%	85.5%	74.9%	-10.6%	74.9% (2015)
<b>GU North</b>	96.6%	76.7%	57.2%	-19.5%	34.2% (2011)
<b>Lancaster Canal</b>	100%	100%	89.8%	-10.2%	56.4% (2010)
<b>Leeds &amp; Liverpool Canal</b>	98.9%	94.5%	75.8%	-18.7%	28.1% (2010)
<b>Peak Forest &amp; Macclesfield Canal</b>	92.6%	88.5%	75.7%	-12.8%	55.1% (2003)
<b>Caldon Canal</b>	93.1%	89.3%	78.9%	-10.4%	60.7% (2011)
<b>Huddersfield Narrow Canal</b>	96.1%	96.2%	81.0%	-15.2%	13.5% (2011)
<b>Chesterfield Canal</b>	94.6%	90.7%	87.1%	-3.6%	69% (2005)
<b>Grantham Canal</b>	100%	100%	98.5%	-1.5%	89.1% (2006)
<b>Birmingham Canal Navigations</b>	89.9%	91.3%	79.7%	-11.6%	27% (2011)
<b>Staffs &amp; Worcs, Shropshire Union</b>	95.5%	91.6%	85.5%	-6.1%	69.3% (2010)

\* for the purposes of this analysis, historical holdings cover 1998-2015 reservoir holding data, inclusive.

According to the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, June was a dry month with warmer than average temperatures in the south east of England. Rainfall for most of England was below average (56% of typical June rainfall), leading to an increase in soil moisture deficits alongside the recession of river flows and groundwater levels.

The Met Office rainfall anomaly graphs and maps can be viewed at:

[http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/pub/data/weather/uk/climate/anomalygraphs/2015/2015\\_Rainfall\\_Anomaly\\_1981-2010.gif](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/pub/data/weather/uk/climate/anomalygraphs/2015/2015_Rainfall_Anomaly_1981-2010.gif)

[http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/pub/data/weather/uk/climate/anomacts/2015/6/2015\\_6\\_Rainfall\\_Anomaly\\_1981-2010.gif](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/pub/data/weather/uk/climate/anomacts/2015/6/2015_6_Rainfall_Anomaly_1981-2010.gif)

Despite the drier conditions in June, the demands for water associated with the increase in lock usage as the boating season has progressed, the reservoir groups still remain in a relatively good position for this point in the year. All but one reservoir group is still at 70% holding or greater. Typically, reductions of around 2 to 13% in group holding over the reporting period have been observed, although the GU North group (Saddington Reservoir) has seen a more substantial use over the past month, which we are carefully monitoring. Only two reservoirs across the network are being drawn down or are now held down for planned engineering works at present, namely Lower Bittell (which is not used to supply the canal network) and Bosley Reservoir (which supplies the Peak Forest & Macclesfield Canals).

Boaters are advised to sign up for email notifications of any waterway restrictions or closures at:

<http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/notices>

### Issued by:

Water Management team, Canal & River Trust  
16 July 2015

Reservoir data presented is from week ending Monday 13 July 2015 unless stated, along with data from the nearest comparable date in May and June.

#### Annex 1 – Canal & River Trust reservoir groups

<b>Group name</b>	<b>Reservoirs within group</b>
<b>Kennet &amp; Avon Canal</b>	Crofton [ <i>this is a principally spring-fed reservoir, and its yield is therefore greater than the storage volume indicates</i> ]
<b>Oxford &amp; GU</b>	Boddington, Wormleighton, Clattercote, Naseby, Sulby, Welford, Drayton, Daventry
<b>GU South</b>	Startopsend, Wilstone, Marsworth, Tringford
<b>GU North</b>	Saddington
<b>Lancaster Canal</b>	Killington
<b>Leeds &amp; Liverpool Canal</b>	Rishton, Barrowford, Upper & Lower Foulridge, Slipperhill, Whitemoor & Winterburn
<b>Peak Forest &amp; Macclesfield Canal</b>	Sutton, Bosley, Toddbrook & Combs
<b>Caldon Canal</b>	Rudyard, Stanley, Knypersley
<b>Huddersfield Narrow Canal</b>	Sparth, Slaithwaite, Diggle
<b>Chesterfield Canal</b>	Harthill and Pebley
<b>Grantham Canal</b>	Knipton & Denton
<b>Birmingham Canal Navigations</b>	Windmill Pool, Terry's Pool, Engine Pool, Cofton, Upper Bittell, Rotton Park, Chasewater
<b>Staffs &amp; Worcs, Shropshire Union</b>	Belvide, Gailey Upper, Gailey Lower & Calf Heath