



**WWF** *for a living planet*

**WWF Scotland**

Little Dunkeld, Dunkeld  
Perthshire PH8 0AD  
t: 01350 728200  
f: 01350 728201  
ISDN: 01350 728276  
[wwfscotland.org.uk](http://wwfscotland.org.uk)

# SCOTTISH CLIMATE UPDATE

Embargoed Until: 00:01hrs 16<sup>th</sup> May 2009

One of a series of Climate Updates from WWF Scotland based on data from the Met Office.

## APRIL 2009

**TOP LINE: April 2009 was more than 2 degrees warmer than the long-term average, and was the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest April ever recorded, after 2007 and 2003.**

Measure	Apr 2009	Comparison*	Rating	Records start
Temperature	7.8°C	2.1°C	+++	1914
Rainfall	83.6mm	97%	~	1914
Sunshine	151.4hrs	116%	++	1929

\*compared to 1971-2000 averages, +++ exceptionally above average; ++ well above average; + above average;

~ close to average; - below average; -- well below average

### THE YEAR SO FAR

April was the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest April in the records which go back to 1914 and it was also sunnier than average. March was the 5<sup>th</sup> sunniest ever recorded and a full degree warmer than the long-term average. The east of Scotland was 1.6° warmer than the average. The start of February was cold but temperatures picked up to allow the month to finish with an average temperature above the long-term average. January was the 3<sup>rd</sup> sunniest January in Scotland according to the records which began in 1929. Although it was cooler than in recent years it was still 0.1°C warmer than the long-term average. If 2009 continues in a similar fashion, it will be in the top 10 warmest years ever recorded in Scotland.

### COMMENT:

2009 is a crucial year for climate change with world leaders meeting in Copenhagen in December to agree a new international climate deal that will come into force when the first phase of the Kyoto treaty expires in 2012. The Scottish Climate Change Bill is also currently making its way through Parliament.

Dr Richard Dixon, Director of WWF Scotland, said:

“April was very warm and pretty sunny, promising the kind of barbeque summer that the Met Office has been talking about. With April the third warmest on record, 2009 is heading to be another top-ten year.

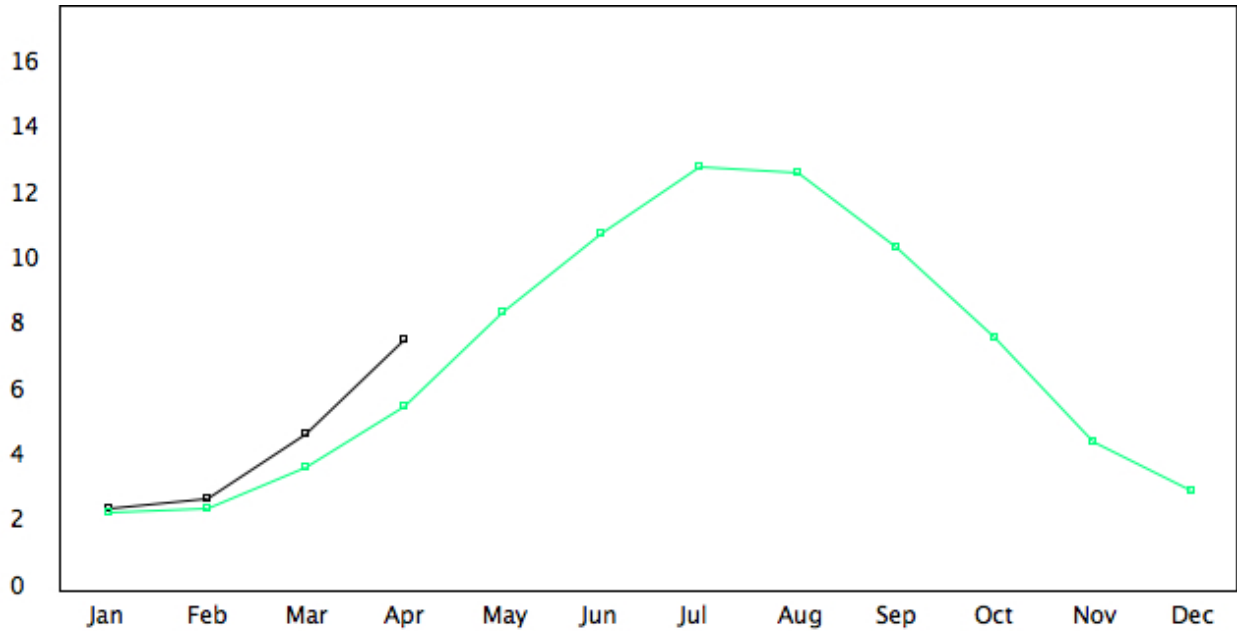
“The Scottish Climate Change Bill has already been tightened up a bit but the next few weeks will be crucial in seeing if the Scottish Parliament and the Government between them will make sure this is a truly world-leading example of how to tackle climate change. The Government have so far announced only a very unambitious target for emissions in 2020. We want to see them deliver on their manifesto promise of at least 3% cuts every year.



Director of WWF Scotland: Dr Richard Dixon  
President: HRH Princess Alexandra,  
the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG, GCVO  
Chair: Ed Smith  
Chief Executive: David Nussbaum

WWF Scotland is part of WWF-UK, a charity registered in England number 1081247 and in Scotland number SC039593 and a company limited by guarantee registered in England number 4016725.  
VAT number 733 761821  
Printed on recycled paper

“WWF Scotland has been working since February 2008 to ensure the Scottish Climate Change Bill is as strong as it can be and we are delighted our campaign has been shortlisted in the Campaign of the Year category of the Third Force News Scottish Charity Awards 2009.”



Monthly temperatures for 2009 compared to the long-term average (1971-2000)

