



**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 8<sup>th</sup> August 2009

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

## JULY 2009

**TOP LINE: July 2009 started with a heatwave and then became warm and wet  
It was the 5<sup>th</sup> wettest July ever recorded in the East of Scotland**

Measure	Jul 2009	Comparison*	Rating	Records start
Temperature	13.8°C	0.8°C	+	1914
Rainfall	148.3mm	+61%	++	1914
Sunshine	166.6hrs	+14%	+	1929

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

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

### 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 has set a strong international example of what is possible.

Dr Richard Dixon, Director of WWF Scotland, said:

“July started warm and then went unsettled, with high rainfall, especially in the east. This gave us serious floods in Fife and Perthshire. Overall it was nearly a degree warmer than the long-term average. If the second half of the year follows the pattern of the first seven months 2009 would end up as the 8<sup>th</sup> warmest year on record.

“The Scottish Climate Change Act has been attracting international attention because of its tough 2020 target of 42%, the inclusion of aviation and shipping emissions and the limit on using international carbon credits. We’re certainly hoping it will help countries come to a strong climate deal at the UN climate meeting in Copenhagen at the end of the year.”

### THE YEAR SO FAR

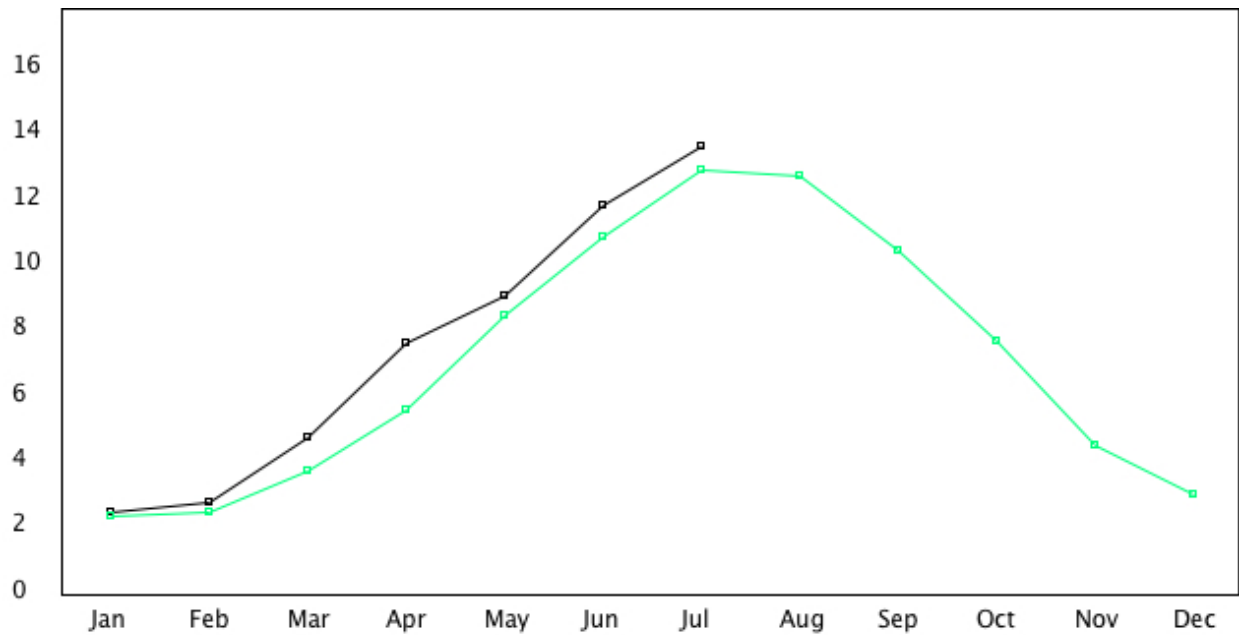
July was the 5<sup>th</sup> wettest July in the east of Scotland. June 2009 was the 6<sup>th</sup> sunniest June ever recorded and finished with a very warm spell. May 2009 was the 6<sup>th</sup> wettest and 4<sup>th</sup> sunniest May ever recorded, and it was also the 9<sup>th</sup> sunniest month ever recorded, as well as being 0.6°C warmer than average. 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



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

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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.



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

