



**WWF** *for a living planet*

**WWF Scotland**

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## SCOTTISH CLIMATE UPDATE

Embargoed Until: 00:01hrs 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2008

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

# SEPTEMBER 2008

**TOP LINE: September was the dullest September since 1985 and the 8<sup>th</sup> dullest on record as well as being warmer than average.**

Measure	Sept 2008	Comparison*	Rating	Records start
Temperature	11.1°C	0.6°C	+	1914
Rainfall	105.8mm	-27%	-	1914
Sunshine	81.7hrs	-17%	--	1929

\*compared to 1961-1990 average, +++ exceptionally above average; ++ well above average; + above average;

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

### THE YEAR SO FAR:

September was very low on sunshine but still a bit above average temperature. August saw major floods in Fife, Ayrshire, Dundee, Edinburgh and Renfrewshire and a major landslip near Stonehaven. July was very warm and a bit wetter and less sunny than average. June was slightly warmer and quite a bit wetter than average. May was the warmest May ever in the Scottish records, which go back to 1914. It was also the 4<sup>th</sup> driest ever with only 34% of the usual rain for May. March and April were both average, apart from very wet conditions in April in eastern Scotland. February was more than two degrees centigrade warmer than the long-term average. This January was more than a degree centigrade warmer than the long-term average and the 3<sup>rd</sup> wettest January ever recorded.

### COMMENT:

Dr Richard Dixon, Director of WWF Scotland, said:

"September was another warmer than average month, this time with very little sunshine. So far 2008 has had two months more than 2°C warmer than average and will certainly be one of the warmer years in the records that go back to 1914.

"The UK's Committee on Climate Change have just published their advice on climate targets, providing the recipe for Scotland to create the best climate change legislation anywhere in the world. The SNP have promised an 80% cut by 2050 but they need to include all the climate change gases, not just CO<sub>2</sub>, and the growing emissions from our share of international aviation for this to be credible.

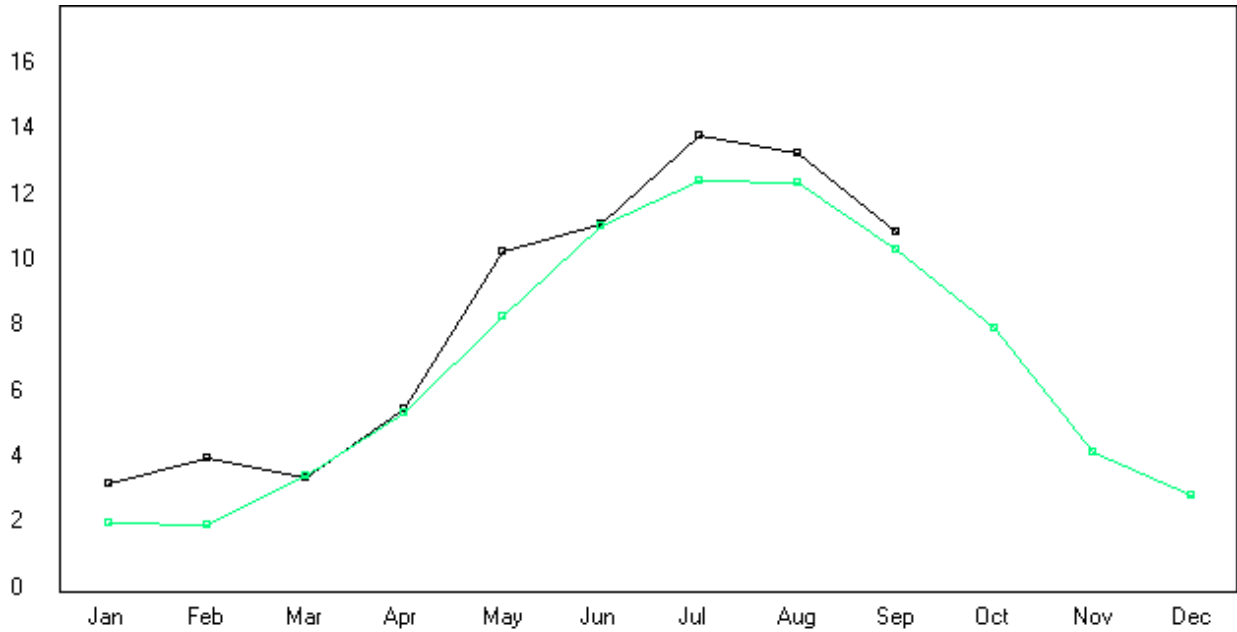
"There is huge public backing for a strong Climate Bill. Members of the public are showing their support through our online action and WWF volunteers will be on the streets across Scotland this month to enable even more people to get involved. Visit [www.wwfscotland.org.uk](http://www.wwfscotland.org.uk) for more information."

-ends-

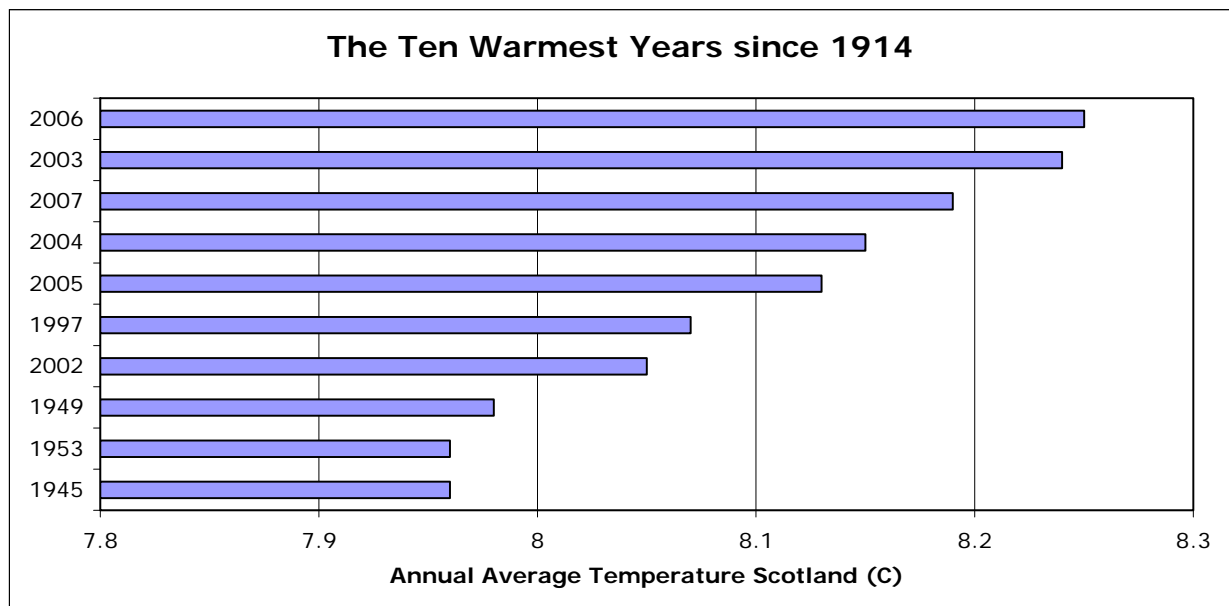


Director of WWF Scotland: Dr Richard Dixon  
President: HRH Princess Alexandra,  
the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG, GCVO  
Chair: Ed Smith  
Chief Executive: David Nussbaum

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*2008 compared to the average temperatures of the years 1961-1990*



**Editor's notes**

1. Data from the Met Office <http://www.metoffice.com/climate/uk/2008/september.html> with further analysis by WWF Scotland.
2. 2007 was the 3<sup>rd</sup> warmest ever recorded in Scotland (records back to 1914) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> warmest ever recorded for the UK. This means that the five warmest years since records began are the last five years. April was the warmest April, May was the 4<sup>th</sup> wettest and December was the 2<sup>nd</sup> sunniest, since records began. Spring 2007 was the 2<sup>nd</sup> warmest ever recorded in Scotland, beaten only by 2003.
3. WWF Scotland is campaigning for a robust Scottish climate bill, containing annual statutory greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets of at least 3% and including emissions from

international aviation and shipping. The Scottish Government received over 20,000 responses to their consultation on what should be in the bill.

4. WWF Scotland is part of Stop Climate Chaos, an alliance of development, environment and civil society groups aiming for tougher action to reduce emissions – <http://stopclimatechaosscotland.org>

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