

Yorkshire Water Report to Gouthwaite Board of Management April 2022

2020-2021

The end of spring and summer 2020 were very dry. Regionally conditions changed from the extremely wet February, to a slightly dry March (with high rainfall at the start of the month and low rainfall at the end resulting in an average of about 65% for the month as a whole). April and May were then significantly drier than usual (only 20% and 24% LTA respectively). Reservoir releases decreased from spilling and over 1000MI/d in March to only 28MI/d in early June. Preparations were being made for Drought Permit applications in the Yorkshire Water Region, due to rapidly falling reservoir stocks caused by the dry weather and the high demand for water (partially driven by the COVID-19 lockdown), and the extremely high temperatures. Rain in June returned conditions to normal, and refilled Gouthwaite, which spilled again in early July.

2021-2022

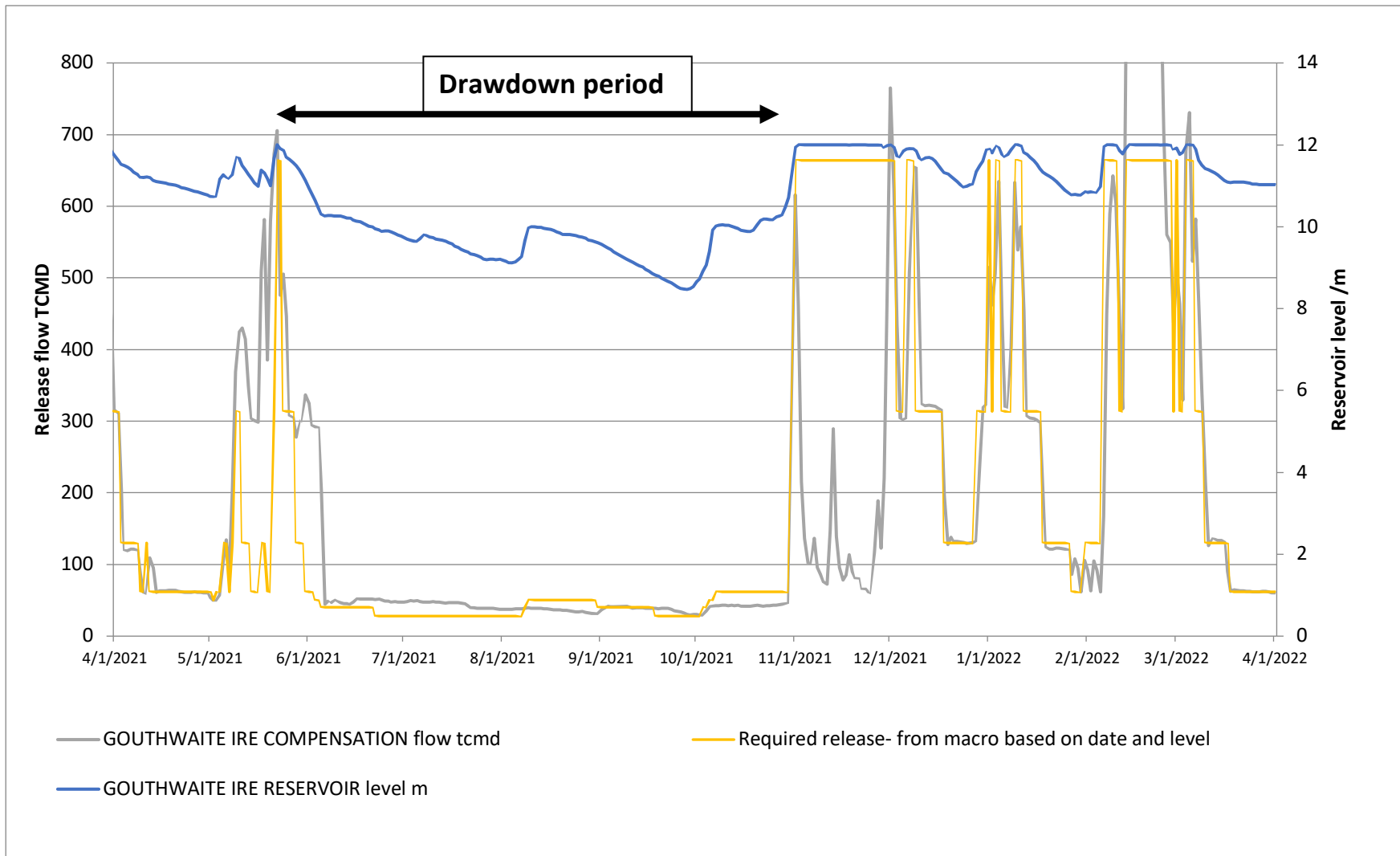
A relatively dry spring led to reservoir levels falling to the 50MI/d release band by May. The reservoir filled towards the end of May, and drawdown for the planned siphon installation was started at the end of May, with 300MI/d released from 27 May until 4th June when the release was reduced to 40MI/d after the release of poor quality water which coincided with the start of the siphon installation works.

The works were halted, and the release was kept as constant as possible to avoid further disturbance. A relatively dry summer saw reservoir levels drop, with the release adjusted occasionally.

Surveys of the reservoir around the valves were carried out before testing the lower valves, and the reservoir returned to normal operation in early December.

In light of the issues in 2021, we are reviewing options for the syphon installation, with a view to recommencing the work in 2023.

Gouthwaite Levels and compensation releases



Gouthwaite Compliance 2020-2021

