

Yorkshire Water Report to Gouthwaite Board of Management April 2026

2025-2026

During the year YW undertook reservoir safety work, installing a syphon.

Temporary use (hosepipe ban) restrictions came into force on 11th July, following the driest and warmest spring in 132 years, which to the region being declared in drought. This restriction remained in force until the 10th December, after 14 week of sustained increases in reservoir levels.

Locally the Scar House rain gauge received very low rainfall in February to March 44mm, typically a quarter of the 180mm expected. The February-April was 50% of the average, this trend persisted through to October (Feb-Oct 63% of the Long Term Average rainfall).

Gouthwaite fell to 40.2% in early September, the 2nd lowest level in the previous 12 years. Between April and September releases fluctuated between the 28 MI/d and 40 MI/d bands, with 2 weeks of 50 MI/d releases.

Figure 1 shows the reservoir levels from the start of 2025, plus the required and actual compensation releases.

Figure 2 shows Gouthwaite historical reservoir stocks (percentage). Considering the very dry period from February to April saw a decline in Gouthwaite stocks compared to most other years. This has resulted in a reduction in compensation releases to 28 MI/d. There was a good recovery at the end of May, raising levels from 50% to 65%. Reservoirs fell consistently till the 7th September, in the following 2 week period the reservoir filled and spilled.

Figure 3 shows the reservoir stocks plotted with the control lines. It shows that for much of the summer 2024 the stocks fell along control line 7, i.e. 28MI/d required release zone.

Figure 1: Gouthwaite Levels and compensation releases

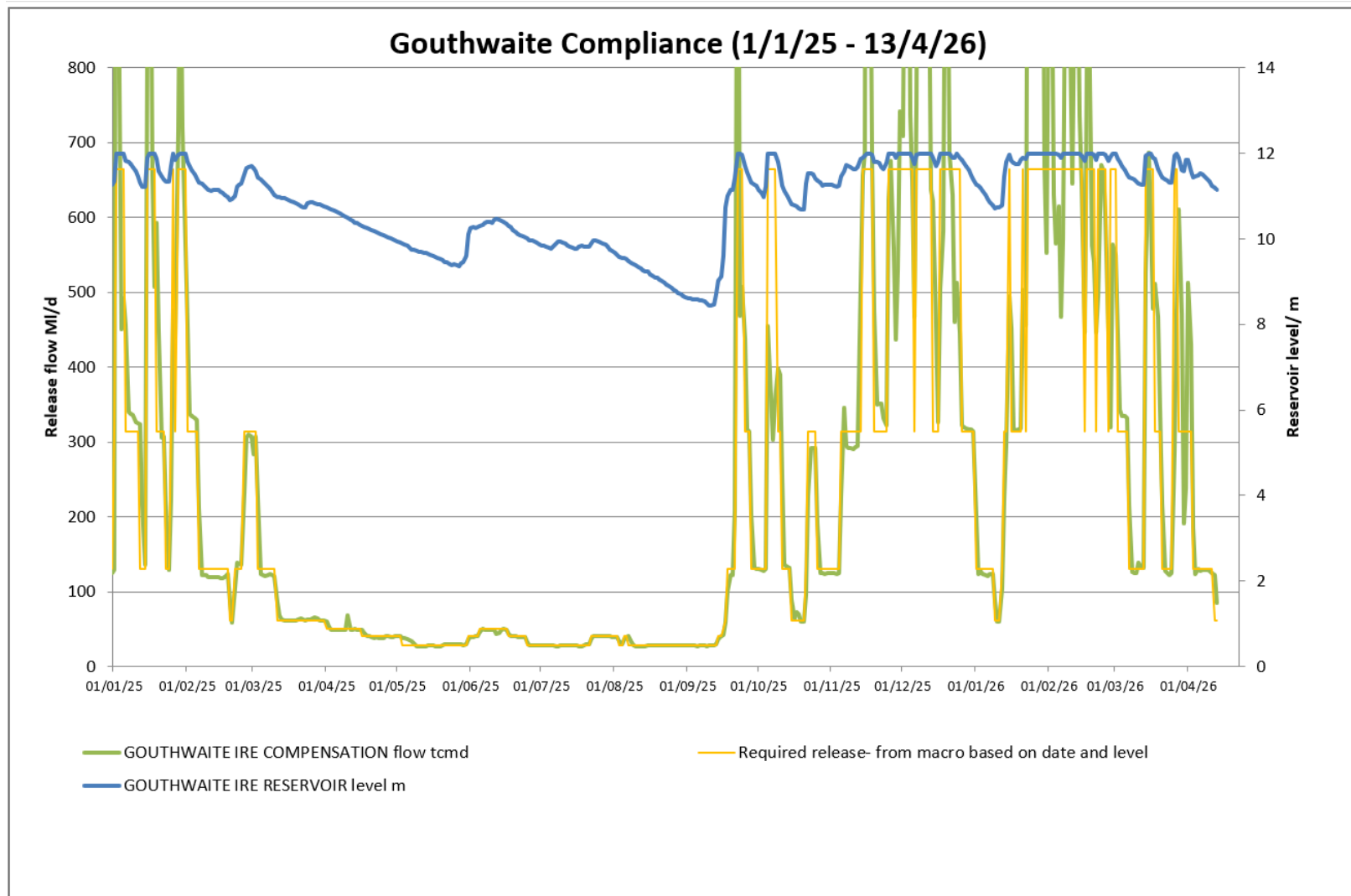


Figure 2: Historical Gouthwaite stocks

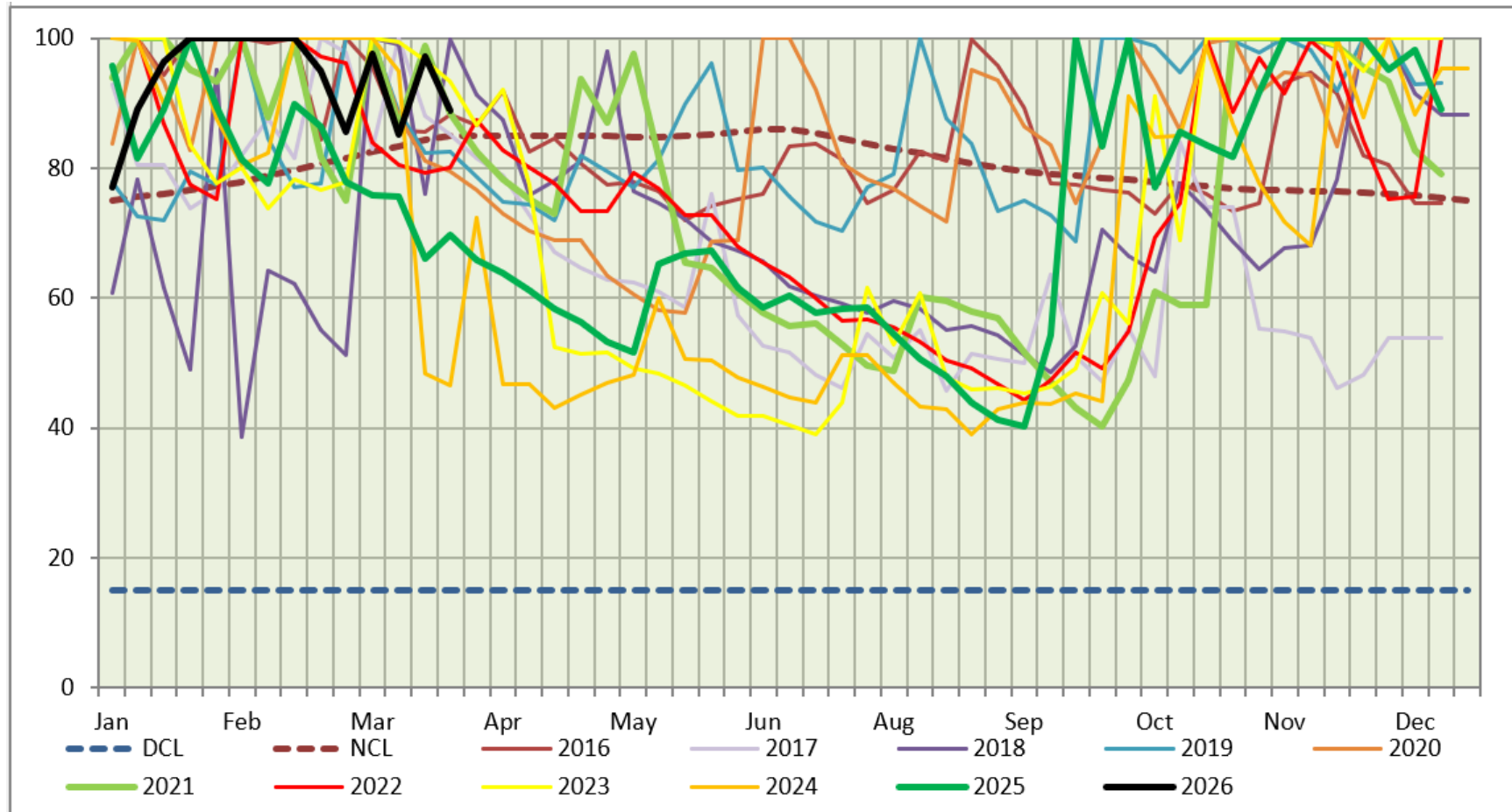


Figure 3: Gouthwaite Control Lines, 2025 weekly reservoir levels, and releases

