



**WWF** *for a living planet*

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# SCOTTISH CLIMATE UPDATE

Embargoed Until: 00:01hrs 9<sup>th</sup> August 2008

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

## JULY 2008

**TOP LINE: July 2008 was nearly 1.5°C warmer than the long-term average  
The month was also wetter and less sunny than average.**

Measure	July 2008	Comparison*	Rating	Records start
Temperature	14.0°C	+1.4°C	++	1914
Rainfall	108.9mm	+14%	+	1914
Sunshine	135.2hrs	-5%	~	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:

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:

“July was a mix of very hot weather, heavy rain and thunderstorms. The summer is turning out very variable with a record warm May and a washout in June. We are now seeing floods and landslides closing road and railways. This is just the kind of impact we will expect to see more of as the climate changes further.

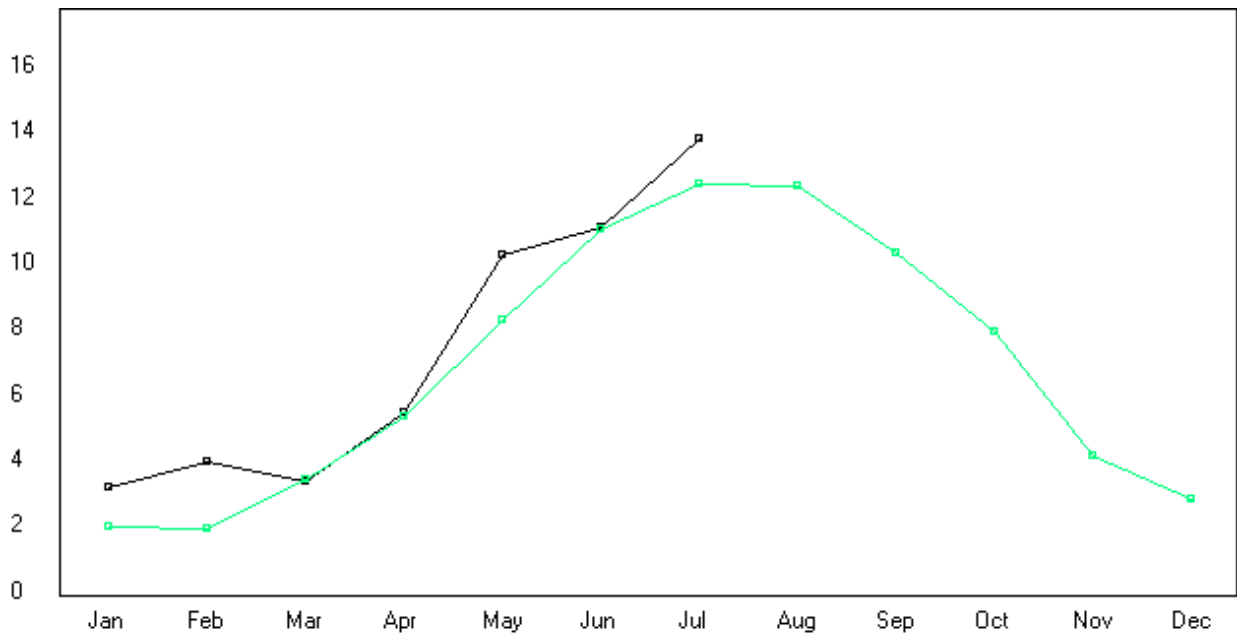
“Scotland has the potential to produce the best climate change legislation anywhere in the world, setting the benchmark for the climate talks over the next 18 months. The SNP have promised a lot but the detailed legislation will need to include all of the climate change gases and emissions from international aviation and shipping if it is to capture all of Scotland’s direct impact. The 80% cut by 2050 target needs to be matched by a statutory commitment to annual reductions of 3% a year.”



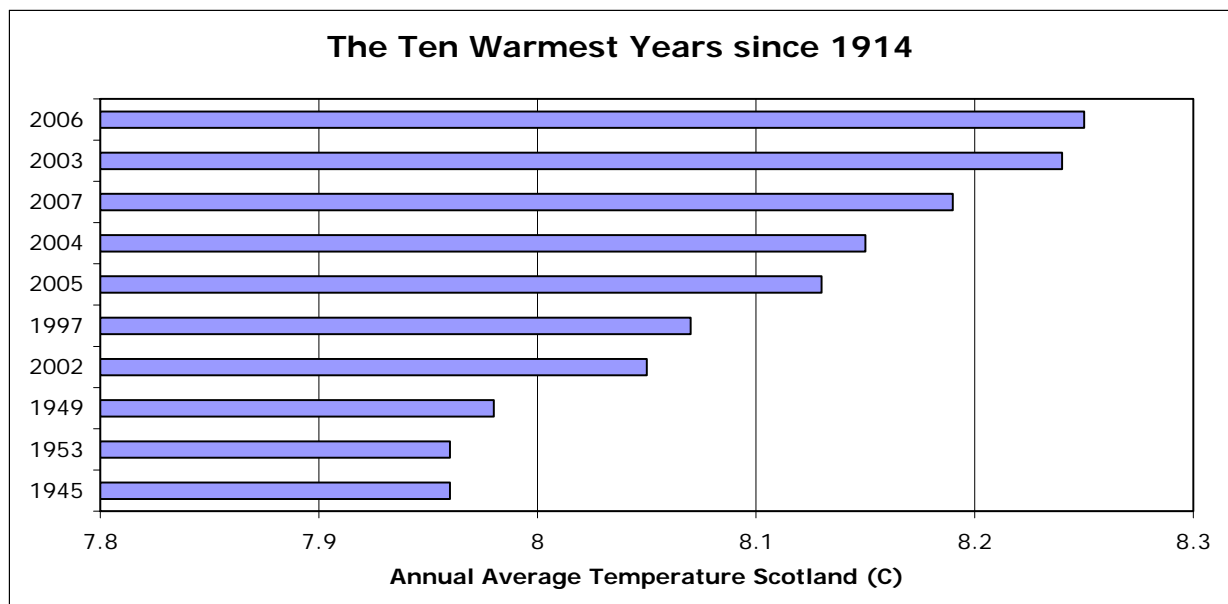
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Director of WWF Scotland: Dr Richard Dixon  
WWF Scotland is part of WWF-UK  
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the Hon Lady Ogilvy GCVO  
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*2008 compared to the average temperatures of the years 1961-1990*



### Further Information

1. 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.
2. 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 aviation and shipping. The Scottish Government received over 20,000 responses to their consultation on what should be in the bill.
3. 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>

4. If everyone used natural resources and generated carbon emissions at the rate we do in the UK we would need three planets to support us. The way we live is leading to environmental threats such as climate change, species extinction, deforestation, water shortages and the collapse of fisheries. WWF is working to help people live a good quality of life within the earth's capacity. For more information visit [www.wwf.org.uk/oneplanet](http://www.wwf.org.uk/oneplanet)