

Europe | Drought update and UCPM activations for wildfires

- The extreme drought that has been affecting most of Europe in spring and summer has worsened throughout July, August and early September, and led to an increased amount of wildfires.
- The severe precipitation deficit has impacted river discharges across Europe, while soil moisture levels are below average across most of Europe.
- Water and heat stress, alone or combined, has significantly reduced summer crop yields (cereals and other crops).

Source: JRC [EDO](#), JRC [EFFIS/DG ECHO](#), JRC [EFFIS](#), JRC [MARS](#)

UCPM Response to wildfires
 From 6 June to 9 September the UCPM was activated 11 times (involving 10 EU MS), deploying 41 aerial assets (of which 22 from [rescEU](#)), 369 firefighters and 97 vehicles.

Combined Drought Indicator (CDI v2)¹
 1-10 September
 Source: JRC [EDO](#)

- Alert (vegetation stress following precipitation/soil moisture deficit)
- Warning (observed precipitation/soil moisture deficit)
- Watch (observed precipitation deficit)

EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) activation for wildfires²
 6 June – 9 September

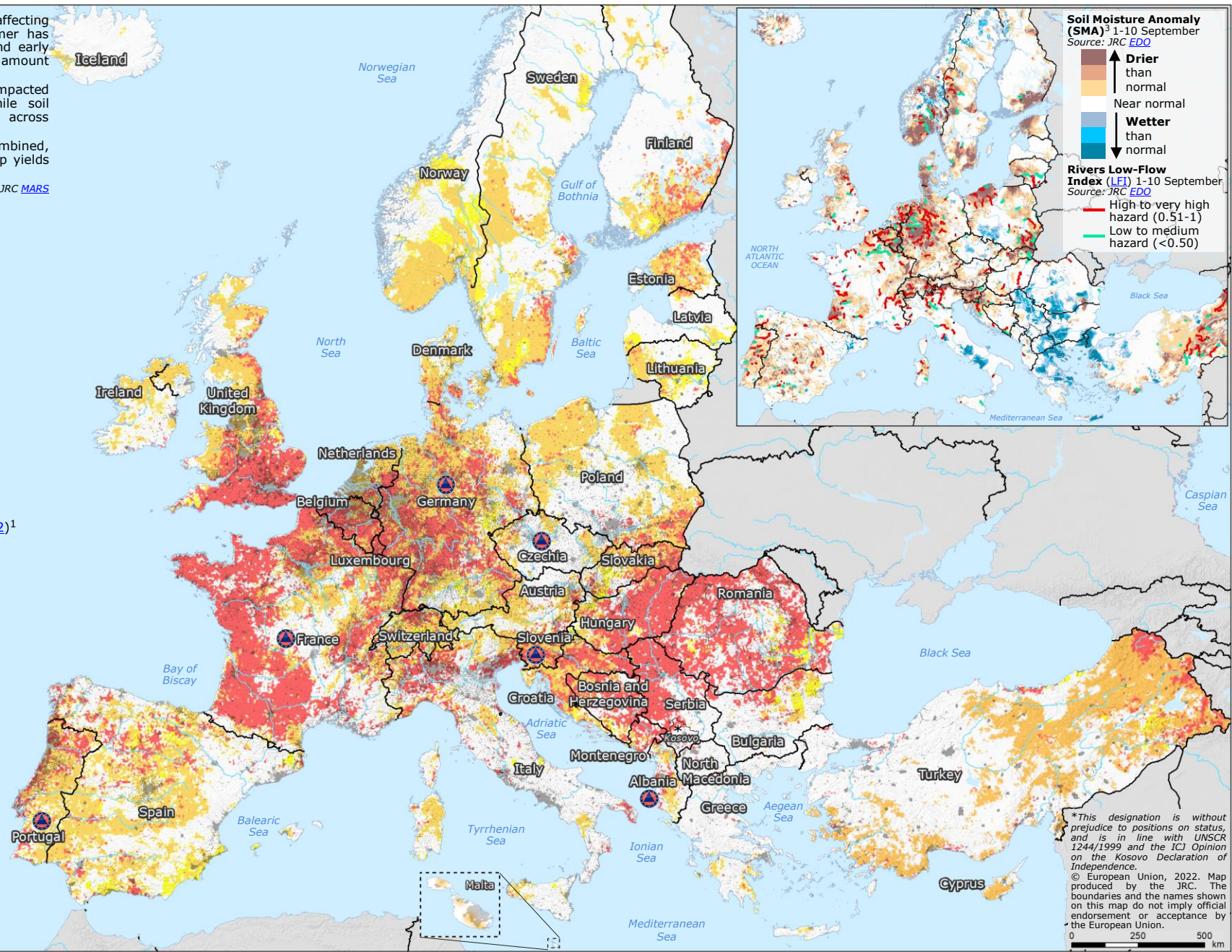
- Densely populated area Source: JRC [GHS](#)
- Country boundary

¹On the same topic, see also the DG ECHO Daily Map of 29 July.

²On wildfires situation across Europe and EU response see also DG ECHO Daily Maps of 18, 22, 26 July and 12 August.

³The SMA indicator provides an assessment of the top soil water content, which is a direct measure of drought conditions, specifically the difficulty for plants to extract water from the soil.

EDO: European Drought Observatory.
 EFFIS: European Forest Fire Information System
 MARS: Monitoring Agricultural Resources.



*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.
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