

## Storm Floris, 4 to 5 August 2025

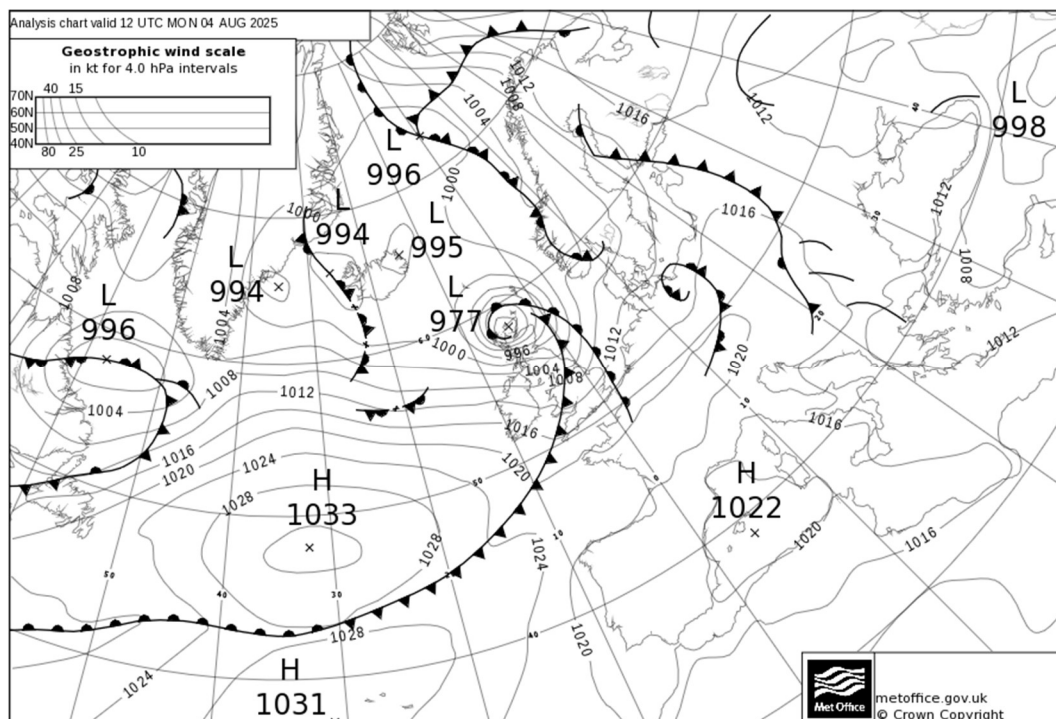
Storm Floris was the sixth named storm of the 2024/2025 season. The strongest winds were across northern parts of Scotland, exceeding 50Kt (58mph) widely and 60Kt (69mph) in the worst affected areas. Wick Airport, Caithness recorded a gust of 71Kt (82mph), equalling Scotland's August gust speed record. While not unprecedented, this was one of the most severe wind storms to affect Scotland in the summer months in observational records.

### Impacts

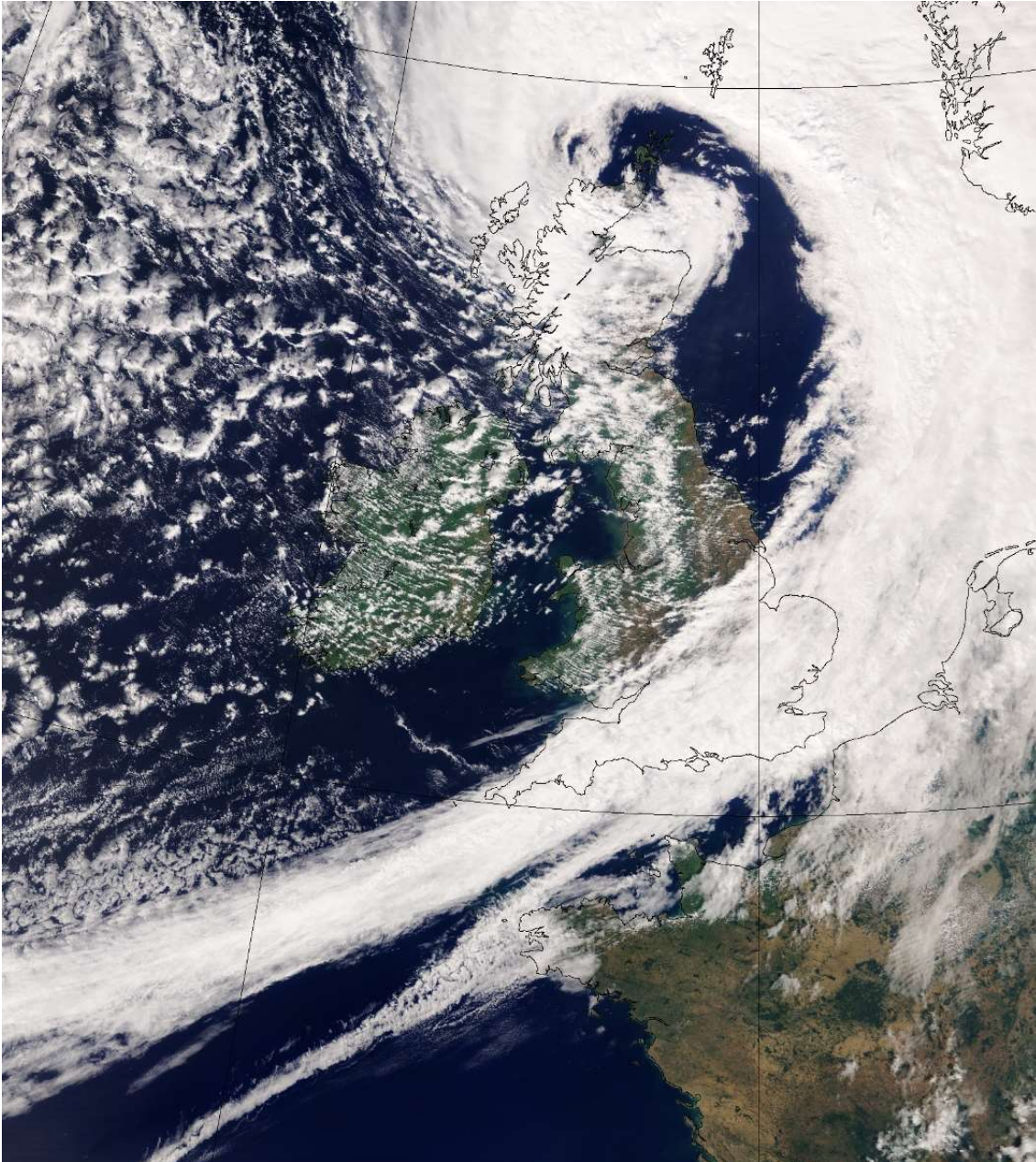
Storm Floris brought widespread transport disruption to road, rail and air. The East Coast Main Line was closed north of Newcastle and West Coast Main Line passengers were advised not to travel north of Preston. Scotland's rail network was also disrupted with some ferry services cancelled. Most of Scotland's bridges were closed to certain vehicles and some altogether, with fallen trees blocking some routes. Dozens of flights to and from UK airports were cancelled. Over 70,000 properties in the Highlands, Moray and Aberdeenshire were reported to have lost power supplies. The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo was cancelled and several botanic gardens closed as a precaution.

### Weather data

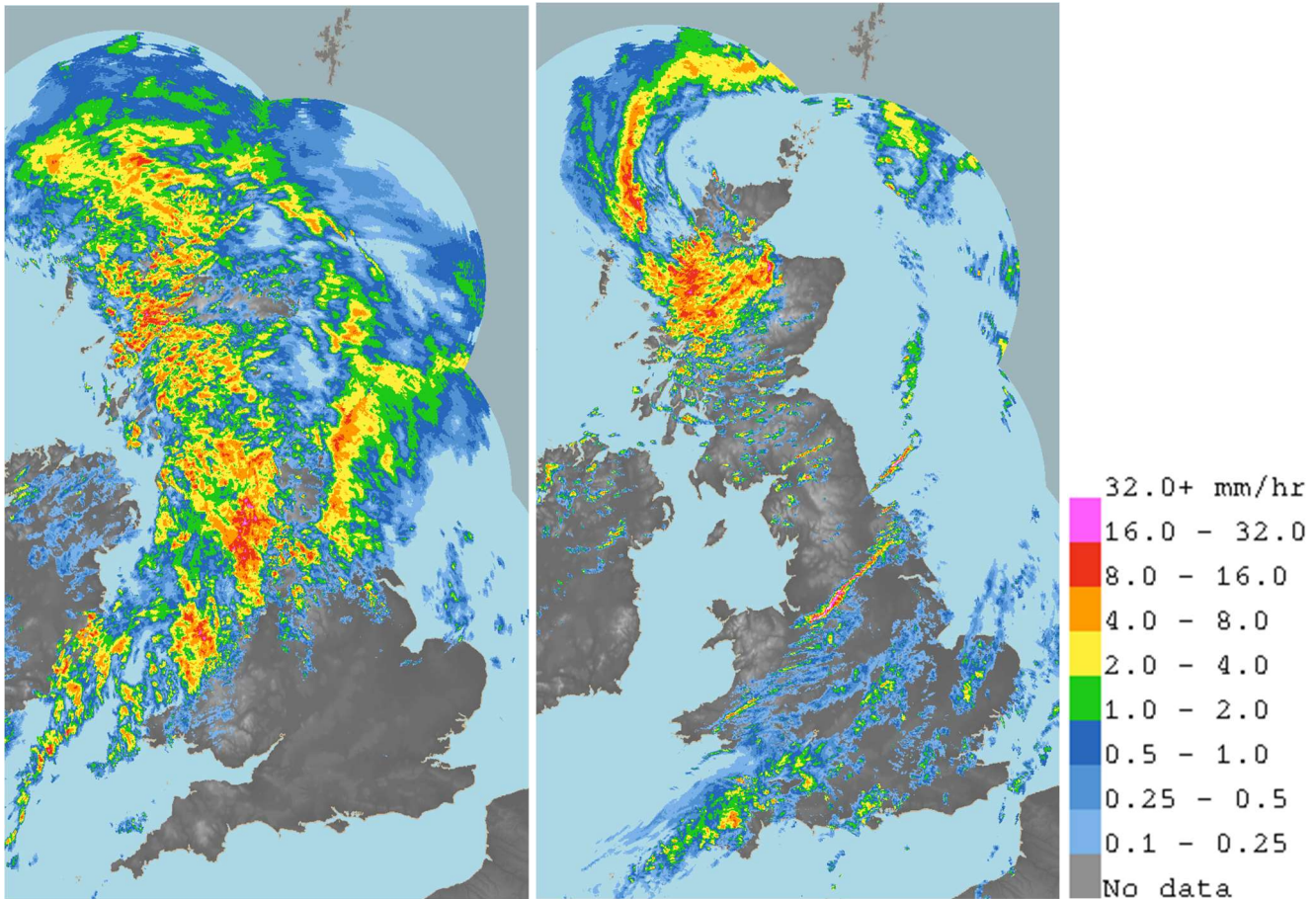
The analysis chart at 1200 UTC 4 August 2025 shows storm Floris over northern Scotland with associated fronts stretched across the UK. The storm tracked in a north-easterly direction and continued to deepen as it moved into the northern North Sea.



The satellite image on 4 August 2025 shows storm Floris across the UK with the back edge of the cold front clearing Wales and Lincolnshire. Image copyright Met Office / NOAA / NASA.



The rain-radar images at 0600 UTC and 1200 UTC on 4 August 2025 show the heavy rainfall across north-western parts of the UK from this storm.

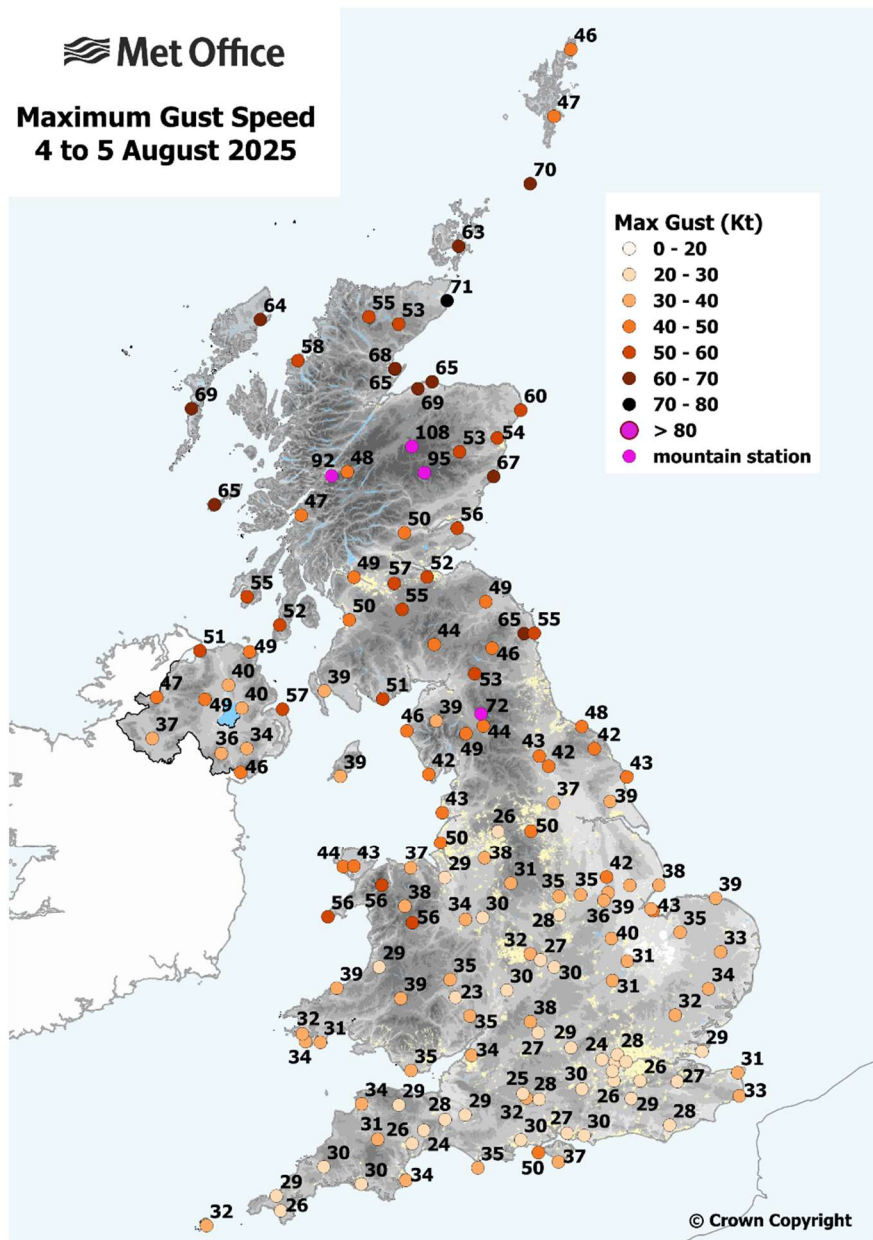


The map below shows maximum gust speeds from 4 to 5 August 2025 from storm Floris. The strongest winds were across northern Scotland, with gusts of 50 to 60Kt (58 to 69mph) widely, and 60 to 70Kt (69 to 81mph) in the worst affected areas. The highest gusts were 71Kt (82mph) at Wick Airport, Caithness, 70Kt (81mph) at Fair Isle, Shetland, 69Kt (79mph) at Kinloss, Moray and South Uist, Western Isles, 68Kt (78mph) at Tain Range, Ross & Cromarty and 67Kt (77mph) at Inverbervie, Kincardineshire.

The 71Kt (82mph) gust recorded at Wick Airport equalled Scotland's August gust speed record set at Fair Isle, Shetland on 30 August 1992.

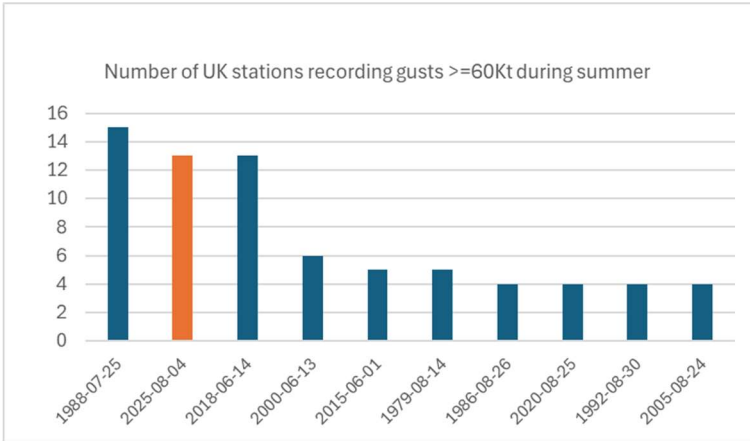
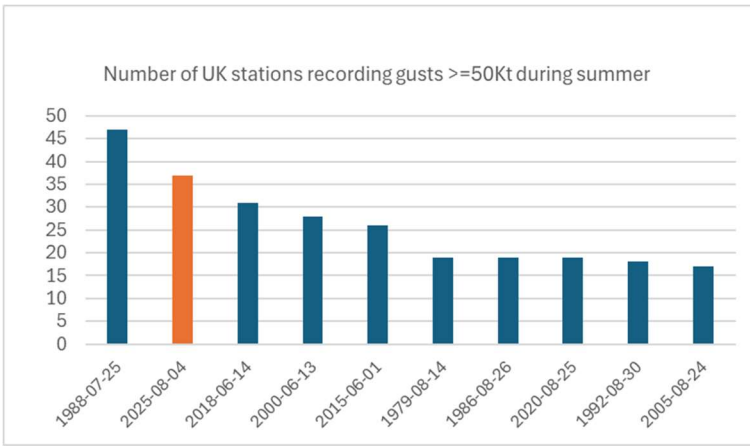
Across Scotland's mountain summits wind speeds reached 108Kt (124mph) at Cairngorm Summit, Inverness-shire (1237masl), 95Kt (109mph) at Cairnwell, Aberdeenshire (928 masl) and 92Kt (106mph) at Aonach Mor, Inverness-shire (1130masl).

Maximum Gust Speed  
4 to 5 August 2025

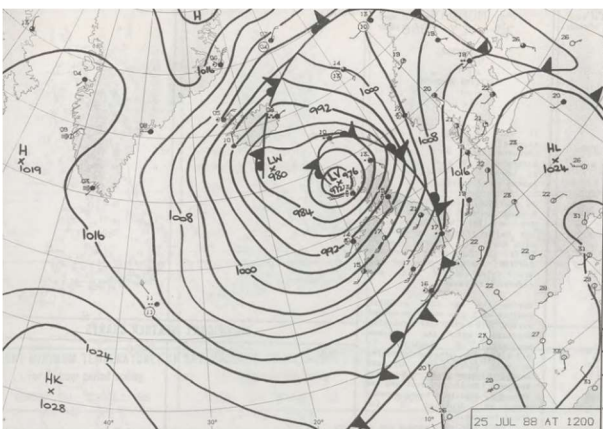
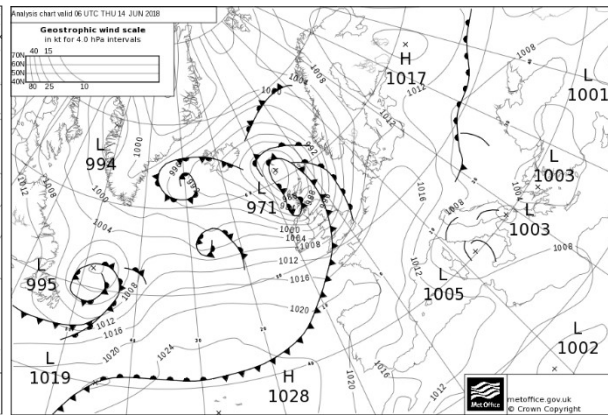
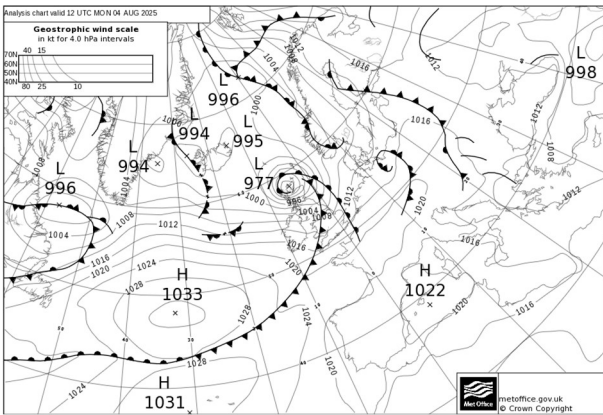


Named storms across the UK in the summer months are not particularly unusual, with examples including storm Lilian in August 2024, storms Antoni and Betty in August 2023, storm Evert in July 2021, storms Ellen and Francis in August 2020 and storm Hector in June 2018. However, what made Floris unusual was the strength of the strongest winds. More than 30 stations across the network recorded gust speeds of 50Kt (58mph) or higher, with 13 reaching 60Kt (69mph) or higher. While this would not be unusual in the winter months, this number of stations in the summer months makes this one of the most severe summer wind storms to affect the UK in observational records – although not unprecedented.

The charts below count the number of UK stations recording gusts  $\geq 50$ Kt (58mph) and 60Kt (69mph) during summer wind storms, based on wind observations from the 1970s until present. The varying number of stations in the network makes direct comparisons difficult, but in terms of severity storm Floris was overall comparable with storm Hector in June 2018, with overall gust counts slightly lower than 25 July 1988.



The analysis charts below compare each of these three UK summer storms: top left storm Floris on 4 August 2025, top right storm Hector on 14 June 2018, bottom left 25 July 1988.



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