FZJ Experimental Water Resources Bulletin for Germany, Spring 2026

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The **Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ) experimental water resources bulletin (eWRB)** gives a **regular seasonal update** on the **current state and the upcoming potential evolution of terrestrial near-surface water resources**. The eWRB is an open access research data product for an expert environmental sciences and stakeholder audience as well as the interested public.

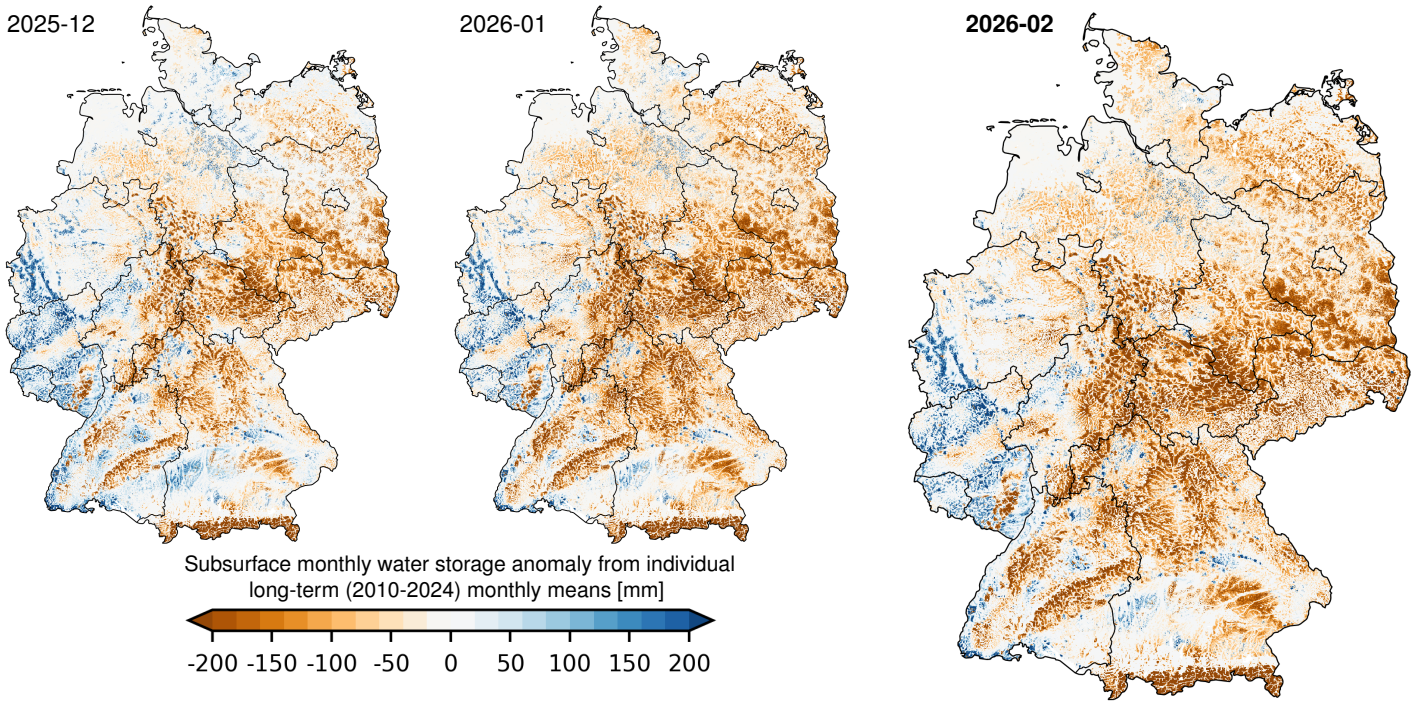

Fig. 1: **Monthly anomalies of total subsurface water storage, i.e. shallow groundwater, for the past season** with respect to long-term monthly means from 2010-2024 in **mm water column**. With the **eWRB, the total subsurface water storage includes the shallow soil zone and groundwater to a depth of 60m.** Data: Hindcasts from ParFlow/CLM simulations with ECMWF HRES atmospheric forcing.

State and possible developments: Over the winter the subsurface water storage continued to decline slightly compared to autumn. The partly severe deficits in the south, east, and particularly in the central regions are expected to persist. Based on the 50-member ensemble forecast from 2026-03-01.

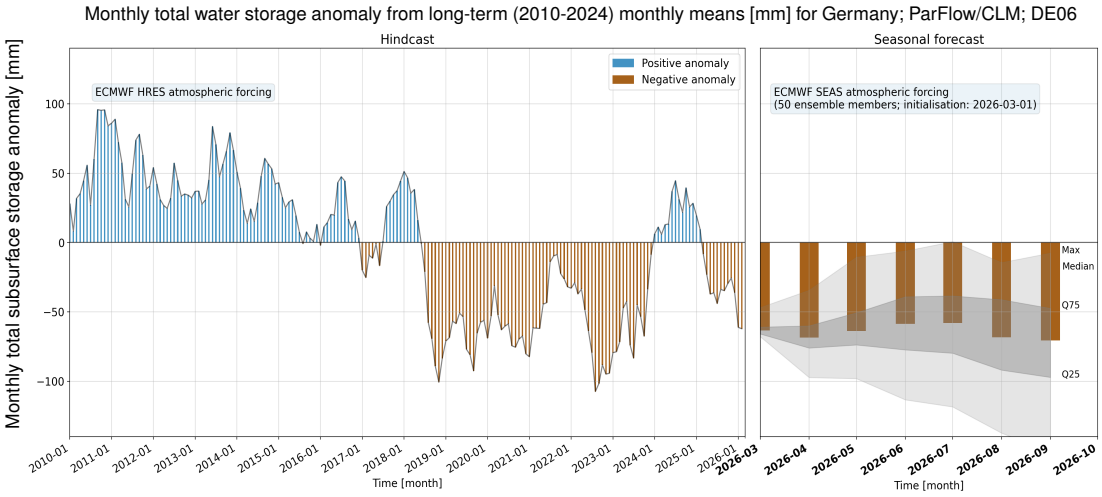

Fig. 2: **Past evolution of monthly total subsurface water storage anomalies as spatial means for Germany** from 2010-Jan to 2026-Feb as simulated at 611m resolution with the ParFlow/CLM (www.parflow.org) integrated hydrological model based on daily forecasts driven by ECMWF HRES deterministic atmospheric forcing ("hindcast"), and 7-months forecast from 2026-Mar to 2026-Sept based on ECMWF SEAS 50-member ensemble ("seasonal forecast").

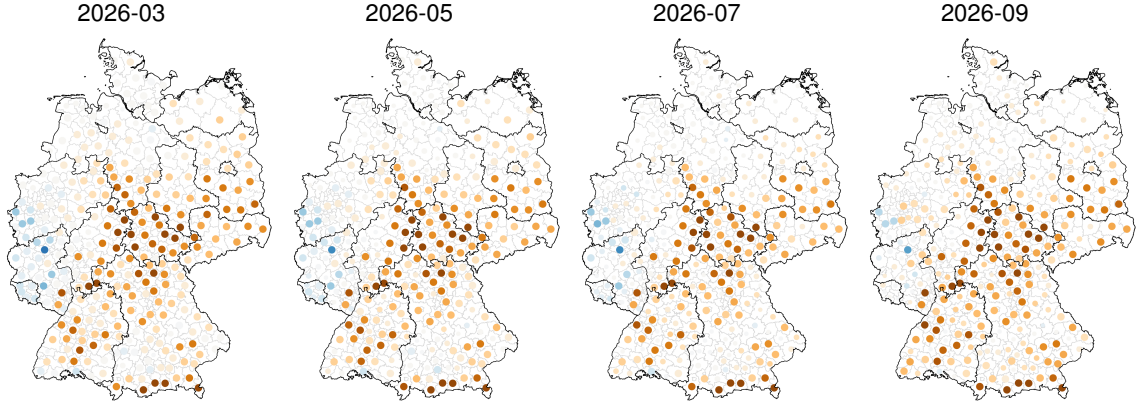

Fig. 3: **Seasonal forecasts (2026-Mar to 2026-Sept)**; mean of total subsurface water storage anomalies from 50-member ParFlow/CLM ensemble (initialized on 2026-03-01), ECMWF SEAS seasonal ensemble prediction driven. Dots: NUTS-3 level administrative regions; dot size: proportional to how many members agree in their sign.

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