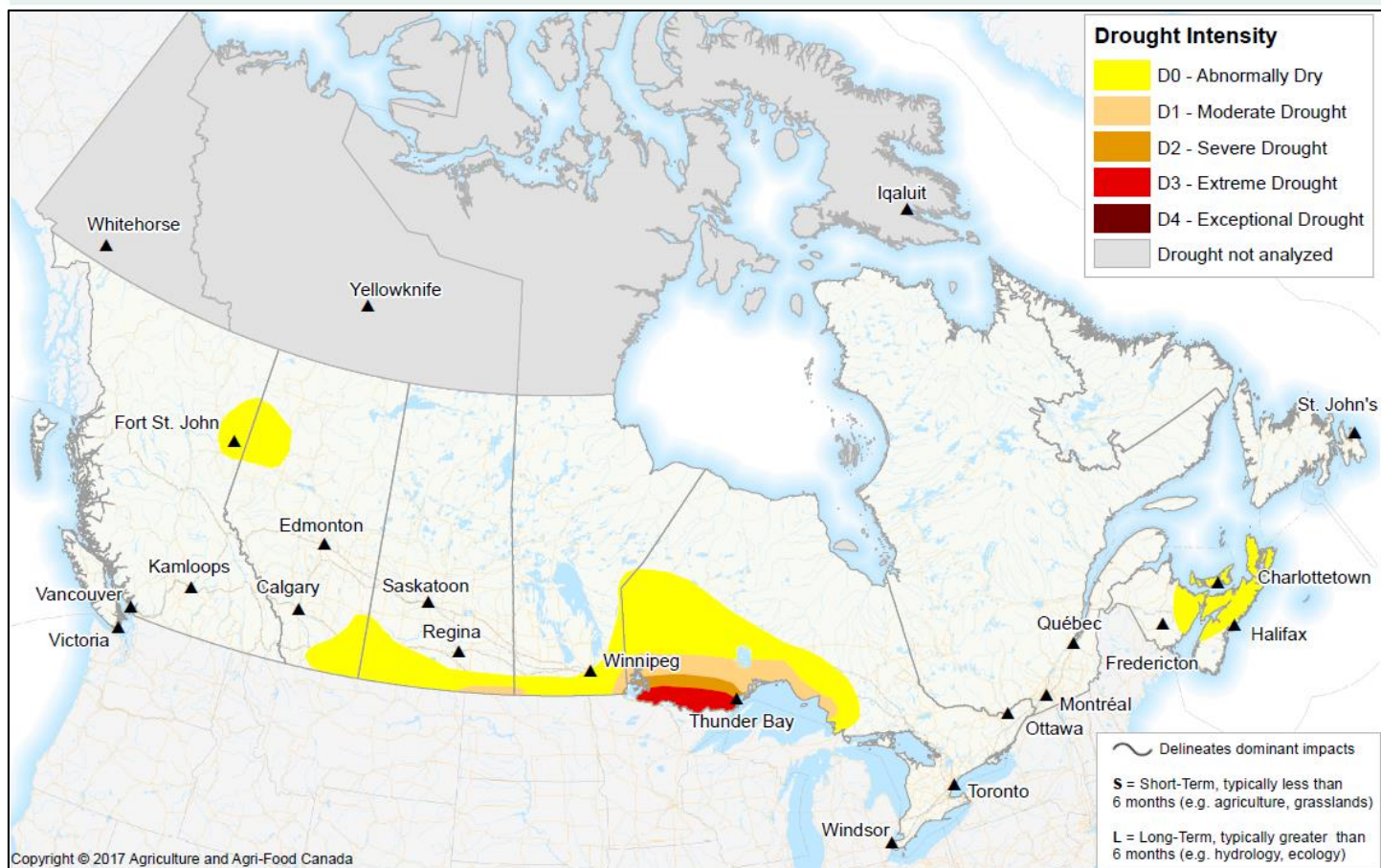


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of March 31, 2007



Moderate improvement was seen throughout most of Canada with average to above-average precipitation throughout March. Melting snow packs began to add to stream flow and increased soil moisture and water supplies. Northwest Ontario is the one main exception; this region continued to receive below-normal precipitation resulting in poor soil moisture conditions and reduced river flow.

Pacific Region (BC)

British Columbia (B.C.) continued to receive adequate precipitation throughout March. Three large pacific storm systems brought rain to low elevations and snow to upper elevations over large areas, predominantly in the north. Well above-normal snowpacks have been recorded



over much of the province, including record snowpacks in the Peace, Skeena/Nass, Bulkley, and Nechako basins, and along the North and Central Coast. There are no major river basins with below-normal snowpacks; however, some low elevation portions of the Okanagan, Kettle and Kootenay are below normal following warm weather, rain and snowmelt during March. Drought conditions in northern regions that have been reported in previous months have improved significantly. This improvement is anticipated to continue as the above-normal snowpack for the region begins to melt.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Conditions throughout Northern Alberta continue to improve, with the driest of regions receiving above to well above normal precipitation in the month of March. New precipitation, added to the melting above average snow pack, should result in favourable conditions heading into the spring. Runoff predictions for northern areas have been assessed at much above average and river levels are at near normal levels. Central and southern regions of the province received below-average precipitation throughout March. Abnormally dry conditions still exist in the southeast, with the driest region being in the extreme southeast. This region will require significant spring precipitation for the producers of the region to have an average year.

Conditions throughout southern Saskatchewan continue to slowly improve. Southern areas remain abnormally dry; however, early spring snow accumulations and spring showers resulted in some improved soil moisture and runoff, filling or partially filling dugouts in the region. Stream flow in the southern regions is still below normal in most watersheds and many reservoirs are below or well below capacity. Slow melt conditions (melting and refreezing) have been favourable for slow runoff conditions and have improved soil moisture. Soil moisture is still extremely poor and without significant spring precipitation this region will be once again headed for a difficult agricultural season. There are no concerns at this time for drought in central and northern Saskatchewan, especially in eastern regions where flooding is a significant concern.

Manitoba received normal to above normal precipitation through the month of March. Southern Manitoba received significant snowfall early in the month followed by additional precipitation occasionally throughout the month. This moisture along with above average winter snow accumulations has resulted in significant improvements in the conditions of this region. Small pockets of the southwest are still abnormally dry; however, conditions overall have improved. There is still some snow left to melt which should continue to improve the situation.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Northwestern Ontario continues to be extremely dry, especially the northwestern shores of Lake Superior. This region recorded between 40-60 percent of normal precipitation throughout

March and continues to be in the 10th percentile bracket for fall and winter seasons. Stream flows throughout this region are also low, especially in the Dryden, Thunder Bay and Wawa regions. Southern areas of the province continue to receive sufficient precipitation and mild temperatures.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Quebec and the Atlantic Region of Canada received adequate precipitation throughout much of the region with the exception of central Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The winter for this region featured limited snow events and minimal precipitation. Dry conditions are emerging as a slight concern; however, one or two Atlantic region events will quickly change the outlook. At this time we have classified these regions as abnormally dry; however, we will continue to monitor their situation closely.