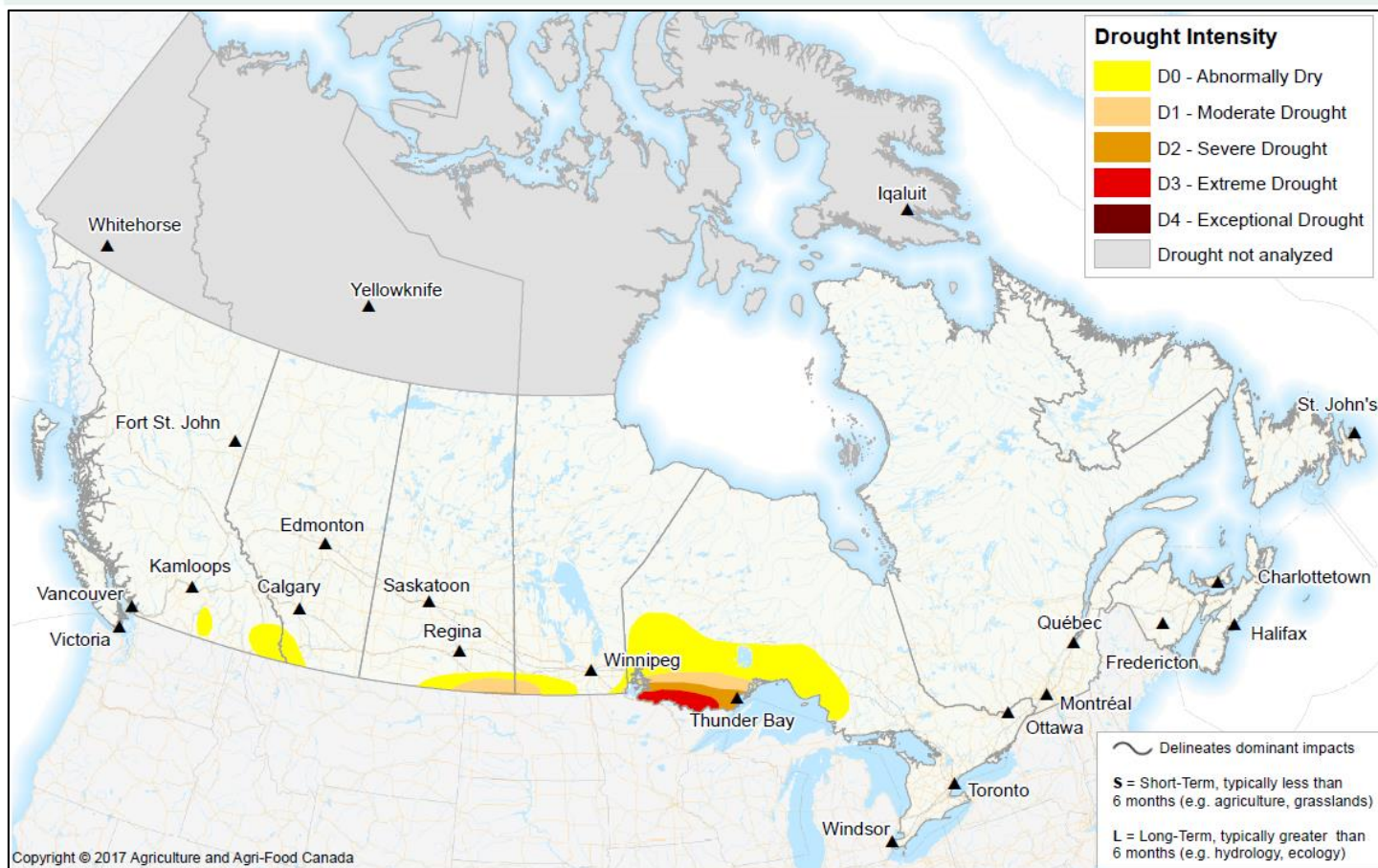


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of April 30, 2007



Conditions remained relatively unchanged from the previous month. Drought is still a concern for the southern Prairies and northwestern Ontario. Slight improvements have been seen in northern British Columbia and Alberta, and parts of Atlantic Canada. At the same time, some regions have seen minor deterioration due to below average precipitation in April. These regions include parts of southern British Columbia and Alberta, and portions of northwestern Ontario.

Pacific Region (BC)

Warmer-than-normal temperatures in British Columbia in spring facilitated early snow melt and resulted in reduced snow pack accumulation in the Rockies. This, coupled with below-average



precipitation over the past few months, resulted in drier-than-normal conditions in the province and caused a northward and eastward expansion of drought. Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions were present in southeastern and southcentral British Columbia, including Vancouver Island. The majority of precipitation fell as rain rather than snow in March and April; therefore, water supply concerns emerged, as snow packs were generally low to extremely low.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Conditions continued to improve as much of Alberta received well-above normal precipitation in April. The northern Alberta Peace District, which had been dry for some time, has improved after good snow accumulation and recent spring precipitation. This has recharged groundwater and filled streams and dugouts. Areas in Central Alberta that were previously dry received large amounts of precipitation causing seeding to be delayed for a couple of weeks. With the exception of a dry pocket in the southwest, southern Alberta has adequate moisture.

Conditions throughout southern Saskatchewan continue to improve. Southern areas remain abnormally dry; however, snow accumulations and spring showers improved soil moisture and runoff, filling or partially filling the majority of the dugouts in this region. There are no concerns in the Central or Northern areas at this time.

Conditions throughout Manitoba continue to improve. Most of southern Manitoba has good autumn soil moisture levels and has received adequate winter precipitation. This moisture along with above average winter snow accumulations has resulted in significant improvements in the condition of this region, although the southeast is still classified as a D0 and D1.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Northwestern Ontario continues to receive below-normal precipitation resulting in poor soil moisture conditions and reduced river flows. As a result, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources classified the watersheds of Dryden, Fort Frances and Lakehead with a low water flow advisory. Without well-above-average precipitation over the next couple months, forage and water supply prospects will not be favourable for the 2007 season. In direct contrast, Southern Ontario has received adequate precipitation and the start of the growing season looks positive with no concerns as reservoirs and ponds are filled and groundwater is recharged.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Throughout much of Atlantic Canada, soil moisture conditions are normal for this time of year with the exception still being parts of central and northeastern Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Although these regions were previously classified as a D0 due to drier than normal

conditions, there are no significant impacts at this time and therefore have been upgraded to average.

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