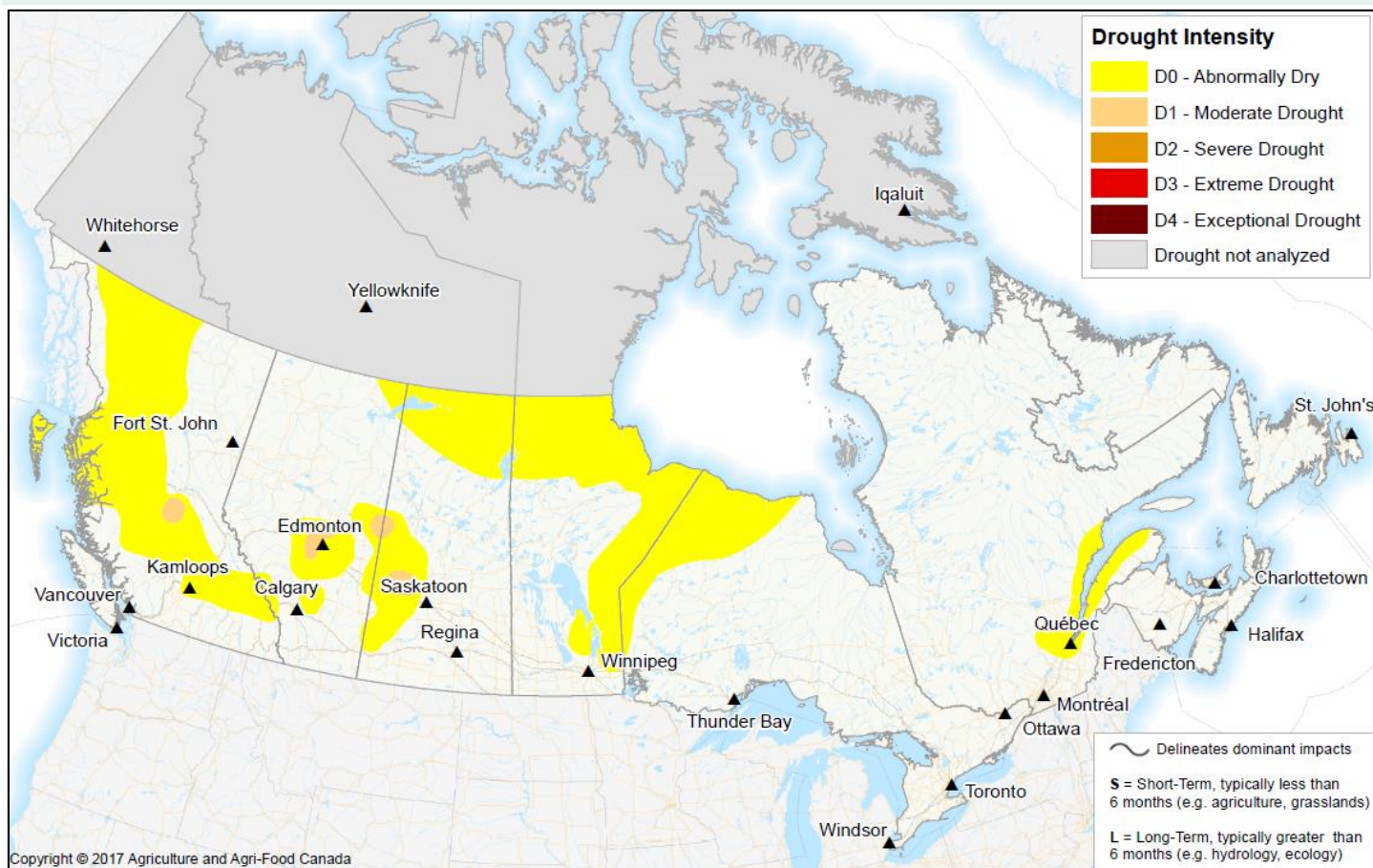


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of September 30, 2013



In September the extent and severity of drought increased across Canada. Moderate Drought (D1) classifications were added to four areas impacted by drought conditions in western Canada. In eastern Canada, Abnormally Dry (D0) areas were expanded in eastern Quebec

Pacific Region (BC)

Monthly temperatures were much warmer than normal from British Columbia (BC) to northwest Ontario, and also in eastern Newfoundland. In the west, temperatures were 3-4 degrees Celsius warmer on average. Similar to last month, that increased dry conditions and wildfire risk, but also maintained ideal conditions for harvesting operations in agricultural regions. Normal to below normal temperatures prevailed for the rest of the country. Rainfall in



September was above average in western Canada for regions along the American border and the southwest coast of BC. Rainfall in central Alberta and Saskatchewan was less than 40 percent of average. Below average rainfall was also found throughout interior BC. In eastern Canada monthly rainfall was normal or better apart from eastern Quebec.

Abnormally Dry (D0) areas were maintained throughout interior British Columbia where rainfall remained 40-60 percent of average over the past three months. A D1 area was added in the central region where rainfall was 70 mm less than normal over the past three months. The Queen Charlotte Islands and interior regions east of the Islands remained classified D0. Significant improvement however was noted across Vancouver Island and southern coastal BC. Extraordinary rainfall of 100-200 mm during the last two weeks of September eliminated all dry conditions. Wildfire risks experienced during the summer were also alleviated.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

In western Canada surface soil moisture throughout southern Alberta and Saskatchewan continued to decrease due to above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall. Short term impacts to crop and pasture land were reported in three small pockets classified D1 (Moderate Drought) in central Alberta and western Saskatchewan. In Alberta, drier conditions affected seeding and condition of the 2014 autumn cereal crop, while in Saskatchewan much of the crop and pasture land was reported to be short of moisture. In north-eastern Manitoba stream flows were reported to be lower due to the dry conditions. In the northern boreal forest region above normal temperatures and low rainfall continued the D0 classification across the region from northern Saskatchewan to northern Ontario. Since April 1, rainfall in this region has been 70 percent of normal.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Along the St. Lawrence River and in the Gaspé region of eastern Quebec, the D0 classification was expanded as September rainfall continued to be below normal; impacts however were minimal.