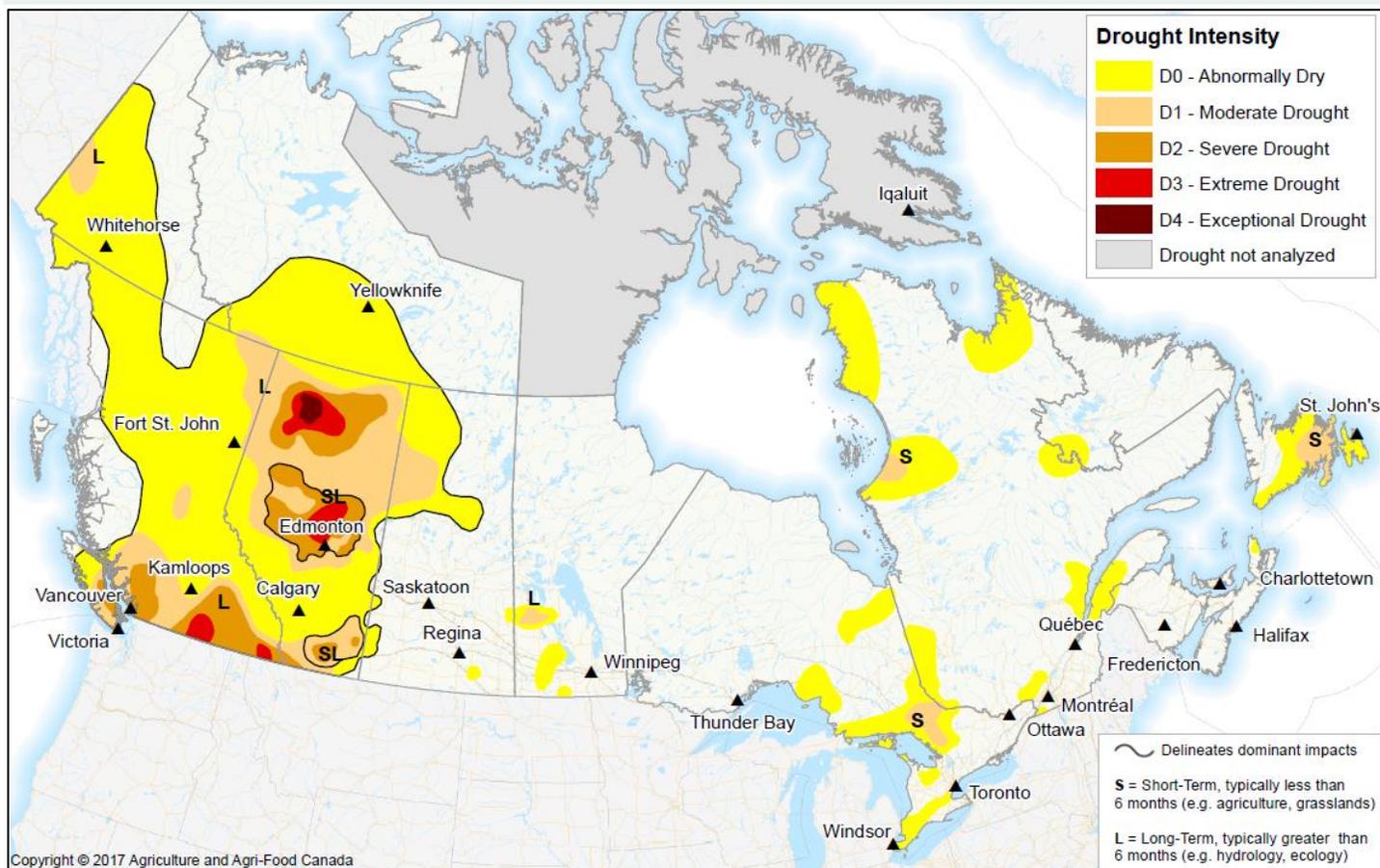


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of October 31, 2015



For the month of October, conditions across the country have improved overall, with only specific areas showing signs of declining drought. The west, specifically in southern British Columbia, is showing signs of improvement, as more than adequate precipitation has fallen throughout the month. Conditions across the remainder of the west remain relatively unchanged, with the exception of northern Alberta, which has deteriorated in particular areas. Throughout the eastern portion of the country, very little change has been noted, with only slight decline showing in parts of northern Ontario and near St. John's, Newfoundland.

Pacific Region (BC)

B.C. saw an overall improvement of drought conditions over the past month, especially in southern regions previously experiencing Extreme Drought (D3). Some improvement was seen



southeast of Kamloops, where the area reported 150-200% of average precipitation for October. However, an area of dry conditions continued to persist north of Vancouver and into Vancouver Island, stretching across to the Okanagan region and towards the U.S. border. Precipitation remained low throughout the area, indicated by 60-80% of precipitation below normal.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Throughout October, much of Alberta remained relatively unchanged, except for northern regions and parts of the south. Areas around Lethbridge and Medicine Hat received near normal to relatively high precipitation compared to normal, leading to some slight improvement to drought in the region. The remainder of the southern portions, however, continued to see abnormally dry conditions persist. The situation has also worsened slightly in the northern region, where a small area near High Level saw some of its driest conditions, occurring at a rate of once in more than 50 years. This led to the formation of Exceptional Drought (D4), with a subsequent expansion of D3 and D2 designations as well. While Alberta continued to contend with slightly worsening drought, overall conditions have improved for much of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. 115% to more than 200% of average precipitation over the previous 3 months has led to the improvement of Moderate Drought in the southwest corner of Saskatchewan, into Manitoba. The northern regions of the provinces have also seen improvement, with much of the drought improving and only remaining in the northwestern portions.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Much of Ontario and Québec remained unchanged, with only slightly worsening conditions around North Bay, Ontario along with southern parts of the province. The area surrounding North Bay has seen less than 120 mm below average precipitation over the previous 6 months, leading to the development of Moderate Drought in and around the region. Unfortunately, over the past month, conditions in southern Québec have shown signs of decline as well. There has been between 60 to 120 mm of precipitation below average over the previous 6 months around the St. Lawrence River, prompting the extension of Abnormally Dry conditions in the region.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Conditions in Newfoundland have significantly degraded for the month of October, leading to D0 covering much of the island and an area of D1 developing in east-central regions; St. John's and Cape Ray are now included within the area of abnormally dry conditions.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Anomalously high precipitation along the border between Nunavut and Northwest Territories has led to an improvement of conditions, resulting in the drop in drought designation. While there has also been improvement around Great Bear Lake and bordering British Columbia, much of the abnormally dry conditions in the region continued to persist.

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