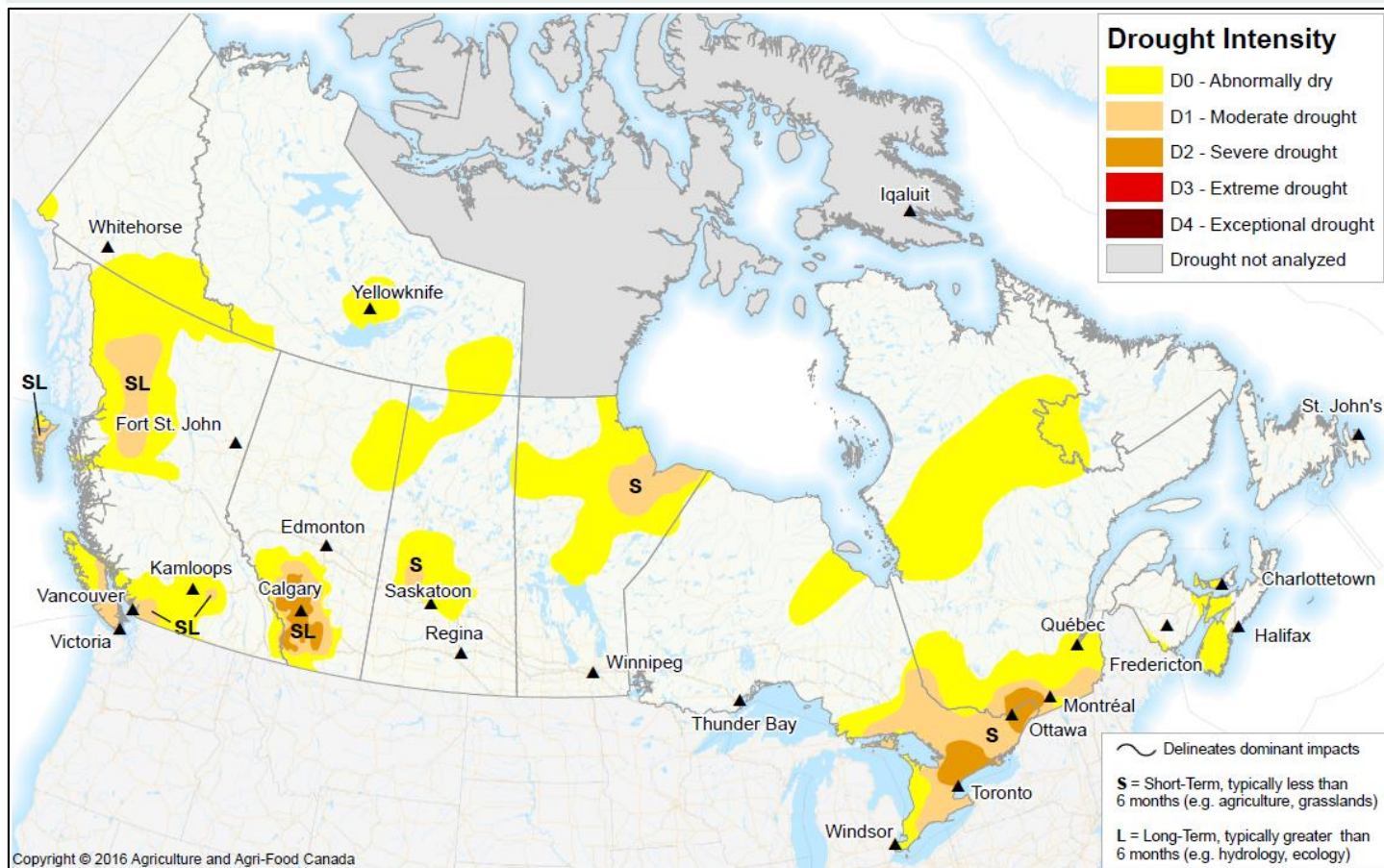


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of June 30, 2016



The month of June brought an abundance of rain across much of western Canada, alleviating much of the drought woes across parts of central Alberta and Saskatchewan. The province of British Columbia, however, saw persisting dry conditions, leading to the development and expansion of Moderate Drought (D1) across both southern and northwestern regions. Southern parts of central Canada remained of particular concern, especially southern Ontario, where a lack of rainfall and high temperatures resulted in the deteriorating conditions, leading to the development of Severe Drought (D2) in some areas.

Pacific Region (BC)



Snowmelt in British Columbia continued to be ahead of normal conditions as rivers started to transition into the declining limb of the spring freshet in June. Over the past month, B.C. saw an overall reduction in Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions. The Peace River region received significant precipitation in mid-June, causing some major flooding in the area, but nonetheless alleviated dry conditions in the eastern part of the province. The D0 and D1 area on the Queen Charlotte Islands stayed in place, though the D0 over on the mainland was reduced in terms of lateral extent, now excluding Prince George; this D0 area has also shifted to cover a significant portion of northwestern B.C. The D1 from May in this region also shifted northwestward, now stretching towards a region between Dease Lake and Terrace. Southern parts of the province saw a slight shift in drought conditions: the area of D0 was reduced as the southern interior region experienced higher levels of precipitation compared to last month. On the other hand, conditions depreciated across Vancouver Island which led to an increase in D0. Given the province's designation of a drought level 4 to the island, an area from the southern end of the island running up along the eastern edge was given a D1 designation; this pocket of D1 was further extended into the lower mainland towards the interior, including Penticton, Kelowna and Ashcroft. A small pocket of D1 has also emerged around Salmon Arm as a result of particularly low precipitation in June, with D0 conditions extending slightly northeastward towards Revelstoke.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Drought conditions in the Prairies were greatly reduced for June: in Alberta, all D0 and D1 conditions north of Edmonton were removed as a result of extremely high precipitation throughout the month. Conditions in northern Saskatchewan also improved; given normal to above normal streamflow conditions and sufficient rainfall, the D0 area was greatly reduced to encompass only the northwestern part of the province from Stony Rapids to La Loche, extending westward to Fort McMurray. Other parts of the Prairies, however, continued to experience dry conditions over the past month. Severe Drought (D2) conditions emerged in southwestern Alberta surrounding Calgary as a result of persisting dry conditions and low precipitation. As well, the D0 area around Saskatoon remains as a result of lingering dry conditions, though the pocket of D1 has shrunk and shifted slightly southward around North Battleford. Contrasting conditions existed across Manitoba; while the southern portion received ample, if not excessive moisture during the month of June, areas of dryness increased in northern parts of the province. The pocket of D0 at the northern end of Lake Winnipeg was expanded up to northeastern Manitoba, stretching westward across the province towards Reindeer Lake, SK; this was mainly a result of extremely low stream flows as well as severely low precipitation around Gillam in the past few months.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Across northern Ontario, D0 conditions were reduced as the region received adequate moisture over the previous 90 days. A much different story was seen in southern areas of the province as

the drying trend from last month continued and increased in extent and severity. Nearly 50% of the agricultural region of Ontario was considered to be under the 10th percentile as of June 26, 2016, impacting roughly 714,000 cattle and 10,000 farms in the region. As such, D0 conditions increased to cover all of southern Ontario, up towards Sault Ste. Marie and past Sudbury. An area of D1 roughly mirrored the D0 area, excluding Kitchener, Ontario but extended north and eastward into the Ottawa valley and southern Québec. Additionally, less than 100 mm of precipitation compared to normal was reported around Toronto to Peterborough as well as the Ottawa Valley over the past 3 months; as a result, two pockets of D2 emerged. The D0 was also expanded to cover a much larger portion of southern Québec as compared to May, extending from La Sarre into the bottom of the St Lawrence River. The D0 area in northern Québec remained from last month; however adequate precipitation did alleviate the dryness along the upper St Lawrence.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Low precipitation and low stream flow levels in the Atlantic Provinces resulted in the extension of abnormally dry conditions seen in Moncton and P.E.I. last month to southern Nova Scotia and a tiny sliver in New Brunswick along the U.S. border for the month of June.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

A variety of conditions existed in the Northern region for the month of June. The depreciating conditions in northwestern B.C. extended into the Yukon Territory, where an area of D0 remained in place. Some slight improvement was seen around the Whitehorse area, however, given adequate precipitation and conditions as suggested by the Drought Code. A pocket of D0 remained in southeastern Northwest Territories as a result of a persisting patch of low precipitation over the past three months. The remainder of the region saw improvement: the area of abnormally dry conditions in the far north of the Northwest Territories was removed for June and the pocket of D0 around Yellowknife was reduced.