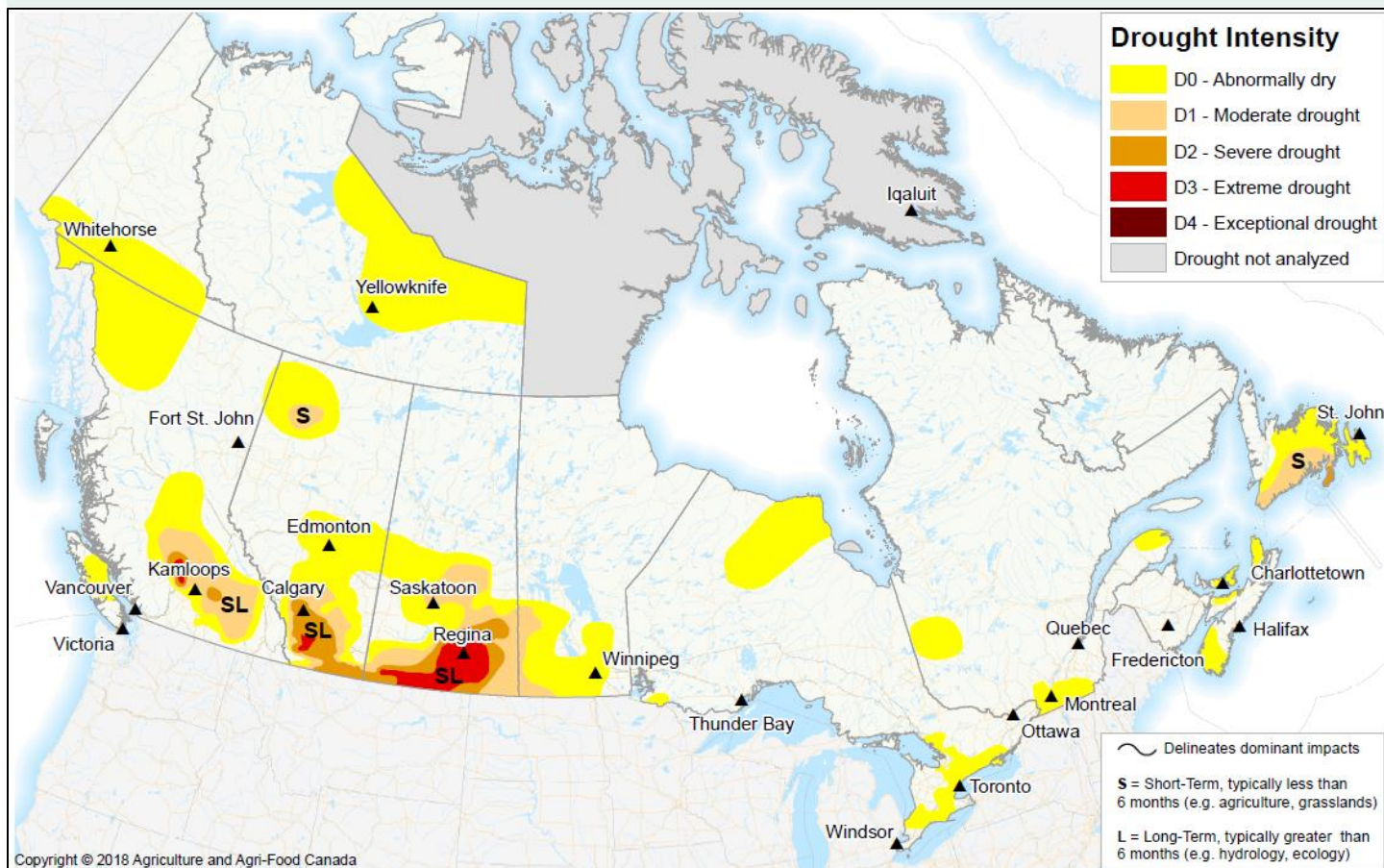


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of December 31, 2017



Drought conditions across most regions in Canada generally improved over December. Precipitation was variable across the country, as moisture conditions improved along the coastal regions and deficits persisted across the Prairie and Central regions. As much of the country settled deeper into winter, many of the remaining moisture concerns were lingering conditions from the fall season. Long term drought persisted in southern British Columbia, southern Alberta, southern Saskatchewan, and Newfoundland.

Pacific Region (BC)

High amounts of precipitation across much of British Columbia resulted in continued improvement of drought conditions. Coastal B.C. experienced good moisture levels, prompting the decrease of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions on Vancouver Island. Some improvement was



seen in the south-central regions of the province, although Severe (D2) and Extreme (D3) Drought conditions persisted in some of the hardest-hit regions from the growing season that have continued to experience significant precipitation deficits. Dry conditions persisted along the northern border of the province, thus a D0 pocket in this region remained.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Drought conditions improved across the Prairie Region from last month's assessment. Minimal improvement was seen in southern Alberta, where precipitation deficits continued to persist, and some pockets of Severe (D2) and Extreme (D3) Drought conditions remained. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions developed in central Alberta. In northern Alberta, droughts conditions improved slightly due to a short term increase in precipitation, however overall dryness persisted. Long-term drought continued to dominate the southern half of Saskatchewan, as precipitation was below the seasonal normal and inadequate to provide any relief from persisting dry conditions. As such, Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate (D1) drought conditions persisted across the south-central region of the province, with the exception of pockets in the west. Moisture levels remained a concern for the southernmost central and eastern regions characterized by D3 conditions. Due to below normal precipitation, much of the southern half of Manitoba continued to remain under D0 conditions, with a small D1 pocket along the border with Saskatchewan.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Conditions across Central Canada were variable throughout December. Continued precipitation deficits and poor streamflow led to the expansion of Abnormally Dry (D0) pockets in southern Ontario and southwestern Québec. Conversely, conditions improved in northern Québec with the decrease of a D0 pocket as precipitation began to return to seasonal averages.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Atlantic Canada experienced a relatively wet month which helped to alleviate some drought conditions. Streamflow across the region was above average at the end of December. Conditions improved in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with only a few persistent Abnormally Dry (D0) pockets along parts of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. In Newfoundland, continued below normal precipitation allowed for persistent drought conditions.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Conditions in the Northern Region remained similar to the previous month's assessment. The Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket in the Northwest Territories persisted as a result of poor streamflow and prolonged below normal precipitation. The D0 pocket along the southern

Yukon Territory border saw some improvement due to exceptional streamflow, but a small pocket persisted.

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