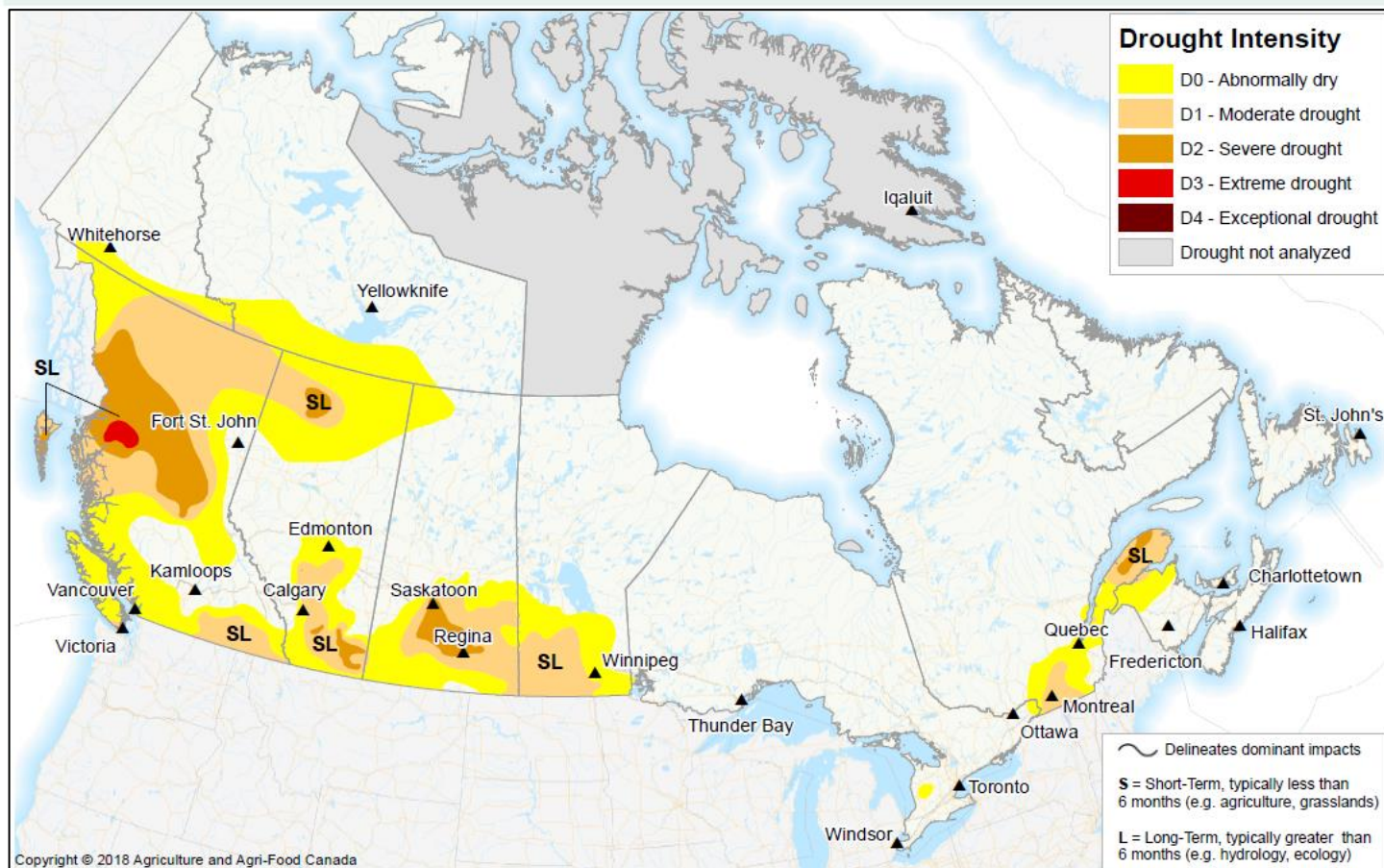


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of October 31st, 2018



Drought conditions across Canada generally improved throughout October. Increased precipitation in previously dry regions of southern British Columbia and the southern prairies led to improvement across these areas. Worsening precipitation deficits in northern British Columbia and northwestern Alberta led to persisting drought in these regions. Conditions in Central Canada remained relatively unchanged throughout October, as limited precipitation was inadequate to relieve long-term moisture deficits. Substantial precipitation in Atlantic Canada led to the alleviation of nearly all dryness concerns. Northern Canada continued to experience normal conditions, prompting no concerns for dryness. By the end of the month, harvest was nearly complete across the country. Despite recent rains, concerns regarding soil moisture going into the winter persisted across in the hardest-hit drought areas of the country.

Pacific Region (BC)

Dry conditions persisted in northern British Columbia throughout October, but the southern regions of the province continued to benefit from precipitation that helped alleviate drought conditions and recharge soil moisture and streamflow. A small Moderate Drought (D1) pocket persisted near the southern shore of Vancouver Island due to continued precipitation and groundwater deficits. The southern Interior region also benefited from above average precipitation, especially in the Okanagan area, and the Severe Drought (D2) pocket along the US border was removed. D1 and D2 pockets persisted in the north, where precipitation was below normal throughout October. Extreme Drought (D3) persisted in a region that had been experiencing substantial precipitation deficits both short- and long-term. Overall, long-term deficits were amplified in much of the northern half of the province with portions of the northwest having received less than 60 percent of average precipitation throughout October.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

October continued to bring much-needed moisture to the Prairie region, replenishing topsoil moisture across much of the region following months of Moderate (D1) to Severe (D2) drought conditions. During the first two weeks of October, central Alberta and southern Saskatchewan experienced cold temperatures and substantial precipitation in the form of rain and snow, halting or significantly stalling agricultural operations. Warm and dry temperatures towards the end of the month brought favorable conditions for producers, who were able to return to their fields to complete harvest. Northern Alberta missed this precipitation, and D2 conditions worsened in the Peace region. Several D2 pockets persisted in the southern half of the province where precipitation throughout October was inadequate to fully replenish moisture deficits from the summer. Conditions in southern Saskatchewan improved throughout the month, and topsoil was reported to be adequate across most areas of the province by the end of the month. A small D2 persisted where the seasonal precipitation deficits were the greatest. Much of southern Manitoba benefitted from normal to above normal precipitation throughout October, improving soil moisture to adequate across most regions. D1 persisted along the southern Manitoba border, where long-term moisture deficits persisted. Dugouts and other natural water sources will still require normal snowfall and runoff to replenish the resource this winter. The late-season moisture improvements across the region will have minimal benefits for the current growing season, but may help improve pastures that experienced drought stress for the next season.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Conditions in Central Canada remained generally unchanged throughout October, as much of the region experienced near-normal to below-normal precipitation and cooler-than-normal temperatures. One area that did see considerable improvement was northern Ontario, where substantial precipitation led to continued improvement of streamflow and soil moisture, and all

dryness concerns were alleviated. A small Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket developed east of Lake Huron due to a small precipitation deficit throughout the growing season; however the impacts have been minimal. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions persisted in southern and eastern Quebec as a result of long-term moisture deficits that were not replenished by precipitation throughout October. Prolonged precipitation deficits led to persisting Severe Drought (D2) conditions along the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Most of Atlantic Canada experienced well above normal precipitation and cooler-than-normal temperatures throughout October. All remaining drought pockets improved, and Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions were limited to a small region of northern New Brunswick. This region had been experiencing small moisture deficits since the summer with minimal agricultural impacts. Soil moisture and streamflow across the region was extremely high by the end of the month.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Dryness concerns in Northern Canada remained unchanged throughout October. Along the southern Yukon and Northwest Territories' borders, continued precipitation deficits resulted in persisting Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) pockets extending up from the neighbouring provinces. Satellite-derived data indicated that the northern areas of the region experienced above average precipitation that alleviated all previous dryness concerns. Soil moisture for much of the region at the time of freezing was adequate.