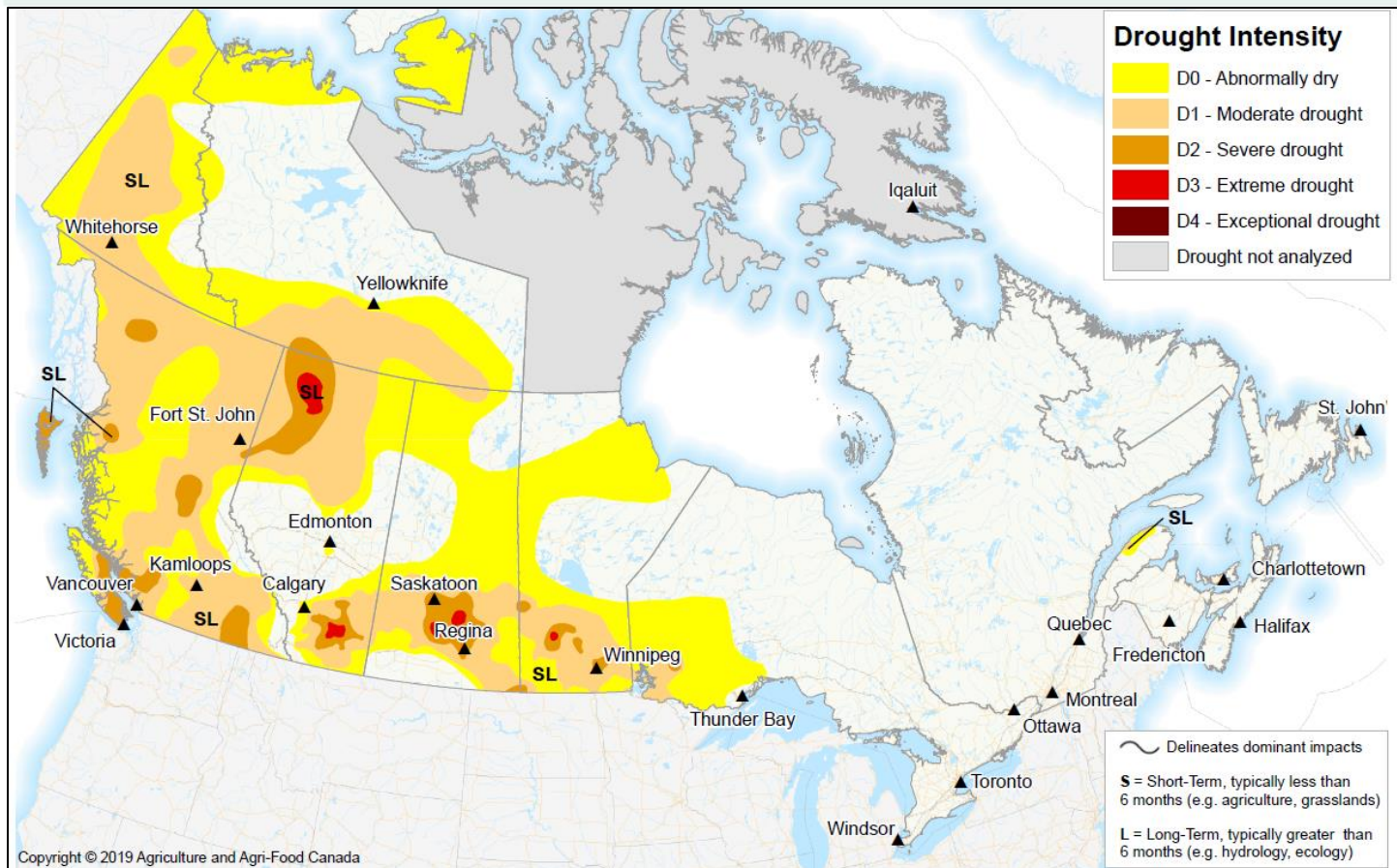


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of June 30, 2019



Drought remained a significant concern in western Canada despite significant rainfall in the second half of the month. As drought conditions prevailed in western Canada, central and eastern Canada continued to receive substantial precipitation and continued to be cooler than normal, with little concern for drought. Very dry conditions continued through the first half of June, worsening drought throughout much of Western Canada. However, the weather pattern changed during the last two weeks of June, resulting in heavy and frequent rainfall in some of the driest regions of the Prairies. Despite improved moisture conditions through the back half of the month, due to warmer than average temperatures and significant long-term precipitation deficits, the impacts of the early season drought remain. Agricultural producers have stated that although these rainfall events have helped greatly, consistent rainfall is needed to improve long-term impacts and accelerate recovery. Drought conditions worsened in British Columbia as the province continued to experience precipitation deficits in the month of



June. In Central Canada, dry conditions in Northwestern Ontario developed as short term precipitation deficits grew and poor soil moisture emerged as a concern. Dry conditions also persisted in Yukon and southern parts of Northwest Territories as continued deterioration of soil moisture conditions and below average long term precipitation. At the end of June 2019, moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) affected 20.1 percent of the land area in Canada. The most significant drought conditions persisted in northwestern Alberta, southeastern Alberta, and south-central Saskatchewan.

Pacific Region (BC)

Conditions in British Columbia worsened due to below average precipitation, poor streamflow and soil moisture deficit during the month of June. At the end of the month, drought conditions existed in the southern interior, north and the coastal regions. Most of the province received below 30mm of precipitation during the month of June, and Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions continued. Poor streamflow and precipitation deficits led to enlargement of D1 pockets across the province. Severe Drought (D2) developed along Vancouver Island extending west to Whistler, Haida Gwaii Islands and a small part of the southeast as a result of continued precipitation deficits and poor soil moisture. D2 around Dease Lake and Terrace remained relatively unchanged due to below average precipitation. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 64.4 percent of the area and 95.1 percent of the population of British Columbia.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Drought continued to dominate the landscape of the Prairies, despite large areas receiving high amounts of precipitation during the last two weeks of June. Although these precipitation events were certainly welcome and helped, the rain was not enough to significantly improve long-term drought conditions over much of region. By the end of the month, drought conditions had improved in much of the Prairie Region however, significant regions of Moderate (D1) and Severe Drought (D2) remained and in some cases expanded. The area of the largest improvement was central Alberta, while southern Alberta was the area of greatest drought deterioration. Extreme Drought (D3) pockets persisted in northwestern Alberta and central Saskatchewan. In addition, a D3 pocket developed in southeastern Alberta as drought conditions continued to intensify. Precipitation helped improve topsoil moisture throughout much of the prairies, however more precipitation will be needed to recharge subsoil moisture and ensure continued improvements. Precipitation in late June came too late to help many early seeded crops and hay lands, which are unlikely to recover from the extremely dry spring conditions. Agricultural producers have stated that there will be significant yield loss for seeded crops and many producers have reported very poor first cut of hay. Forage availability and feed supply is also of great concern across the region. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 30.6 percent of the area and 34.9 percent of the population of the Prairie Region.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Central Canada continued to receive above normal precipitation throughout the month of June. Excess soil moisture conditions remain a concern throughout the region with the exception of portions of northwestern Ontario and eastern Quebec. Above normal precipitation coupled with cool temperature and high soil moisture levels continue to contribute to agricultural delays. There are two areas of this vast region that are however in either Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. A large D0 pocket developed in northwestern Ontario and in eastern Quebec, the small D0 from last month has been expanded and now includes an area of D1.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Most of Atlantic Canada received adequate precipitation and soil moisture conditions remained optimal. At the end of the month, streamflow across the region was reported as above average.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Conditions in Northern Canada worsened throughout the month. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions expanded into the Northwest Territories and Yukon. A large Moderate Drought (D1) pocket also formed in these regions as a result of poor soil moisture conditions and precipitation deficits. Precipitation in these regions appear to be near normal and streamflow also appears to be poor in the eastern part of the Northwest Territories, Yukon. At the end of June, fire danger in the parts of Yukon ranged from High to Extreme. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 20.7 percent of the area and 51.7 percent of the population of the Northern Region.