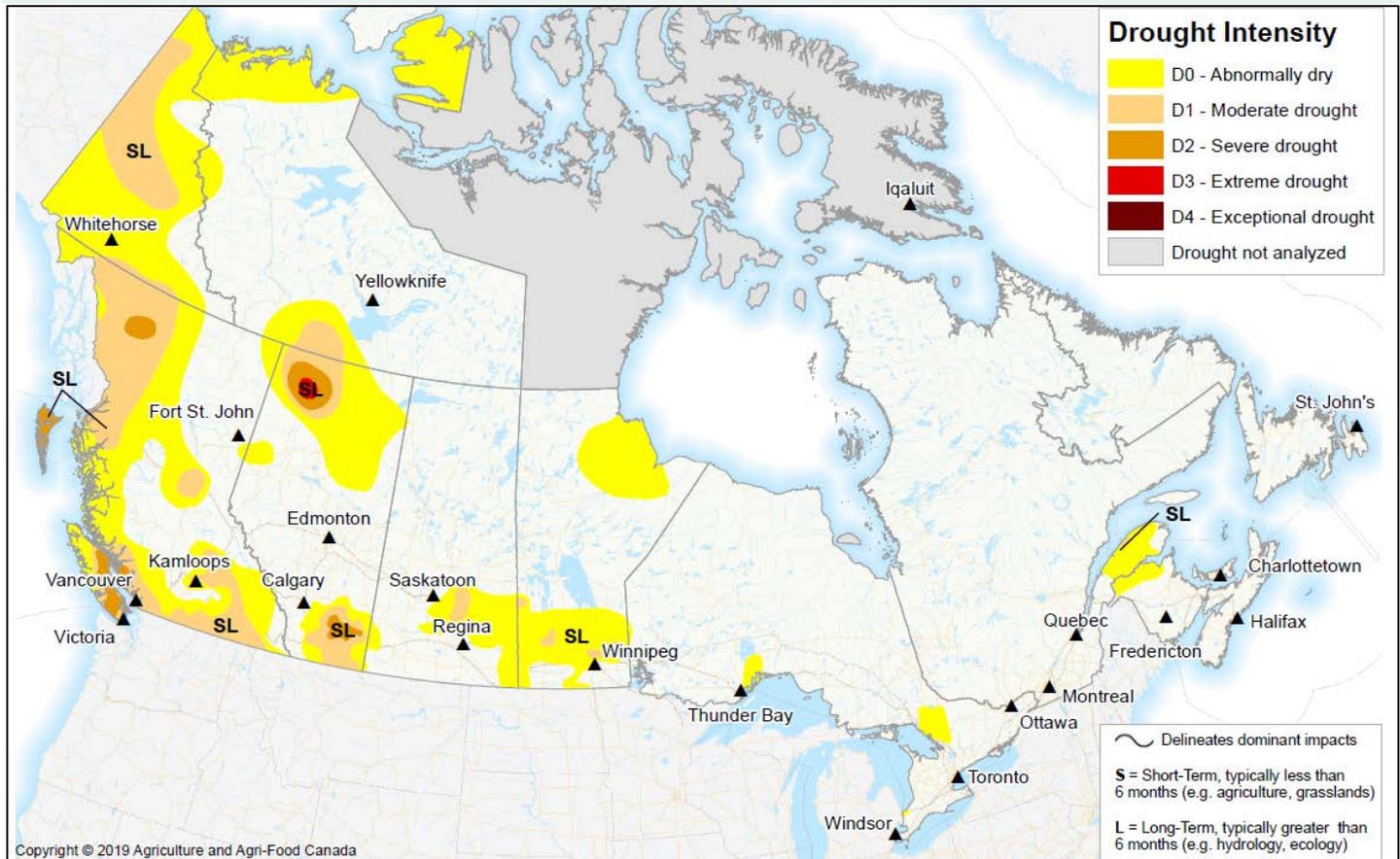


# Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of July 31, 2019



Drought Conditions improved in western Canada as continued precipitation led to improved soil moisture, stream flow and water supplies during the month of July. Despite significant improvement throughout the Prairies, moderate and severe drought remains in southern Alberta and moderate drought remains in small regions of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Hay yields have been reported to be below normal and pasture quality is poor as a result of the severe and extreme drought conditions earlier in the growing season. Drought remained a concern in British Columbia although parts of the province received a reasonable amount of rainfall during the month that led to minimal improvements. As drought conditions improved in western Canada, high temperatures and dry weather helped improve excess moisture concerns in most parts of Central and Atlantic Canada. In Central Canada, high temperatures encouraged dry weather, which was much needed, as it helped improve excess moisture conditions. Drought conditions improved in Northern Canada as a result of precipitation and improved soil



moisture conditions. At the end of July 2019, moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) affected 7.4 percent of the land area in Canada. The most significant drought conditions persisted in parts of British Columbia, northwestern Alberta, and southeastern Alberta.

## **Pacific Region (BC)**

Drought remained a concern in most of British Columbia throughout July. Parts of the province received above normal precipitation during the month, but the many of the areas of greatest concern remained unchanged due to lack of sufficient precipitation to reverse long term deficits. At the end of the month, drought conditions persisted in the southern interior, northwest and coastal regions. Although much of the province received average to above average precipitation throughout July, many areas continued to experience Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. Severe Drought pockets (D2) along Vancouver Island, Haida Gwaii Islands, and Dease Lake remained unchanged due to continued precipitation deficits and poor streamflow in these areas. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 30.0 percent of the area and 85.6 percent of the population of British Columbia.

## **Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)**

Drought conditions greatly improved in the Prairies as the region continued to receive high amounts of precipitation during the last week in June and throughout July. The precipitation received since June has significantly improved long term drought conditions, although the impacts of the earlier season drought are still being reported. Despite greatly improved conditions, parts of the region continued to experience Abnormally Dry (D0) or Moderate Drought (D1) conditions. The areas of largest improvement were southern Saskatchewan, parts of northern and central Alberta, and southern Manitoba, where soil moisture and streamflow substantially improved throughout July. Severe Drought (D2) pockets in northern and southeastern Alberta reduced in size but are still of concern due to continued precipitation deficits. Extreme Drought (D3) persisted in High Level as a result of long term precipitation deficits and poor soil moisture conditions. Agricultural reporters across the region have reported hay yields are significantly below average as a result of past season drought conditions. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 6.0 percent of the area and 5.3 percent of the population of the Prairie Region.

## **Central Region (ON, QC)**

Central Canada received near normal to below normal precipitation during the month of July. High temperatures helped improve excess moisture conditions across the region. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions developed around North Bay in Ontario due to a dry and abnormally warm month. D0 in northwestern Ontario improved as that area received substantial precipitation

this month. D0 in eastern Quebec expanded as a result of continued precipitation deficit and poor streamflow. Moderate Drought (D1) conditions remained in eastern Quebec.

## **Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)**

Most of Atlantic Canada received adequate precipitation and soil moisture conditions remained optimal. Northern New Brunswick experienced a dry month, which resulted in rapid streamflow deterioration; thus, an Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket developed. At the end of the month, streamflow across the remainder of the region was recorded as average to above average.

## **Northern Region (YT, NT)**

Conditions in Northern Canada improved throughout the month of July. The Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) pockets in the Northwest Territories reduced towards the southeast due to adequate precipitation around Yellowknife. Yukon Territory continued to experience D0 conditions due to below normal precipitation. Old Crow and Mayo received less than 25 percent of normal precipitation throughout July; thus, the D1 in these areas persisted. A sliver of D1 persisted along the southern-most Yukon border due to poor streamflow and inadequate precipitation. At the end of the month, streamflow across the region was highly variable. Moderate to exceptional drought (D1-D4) conditions affected 8.9 percent of the area and 6.1 percent of the population of the Northern Region.