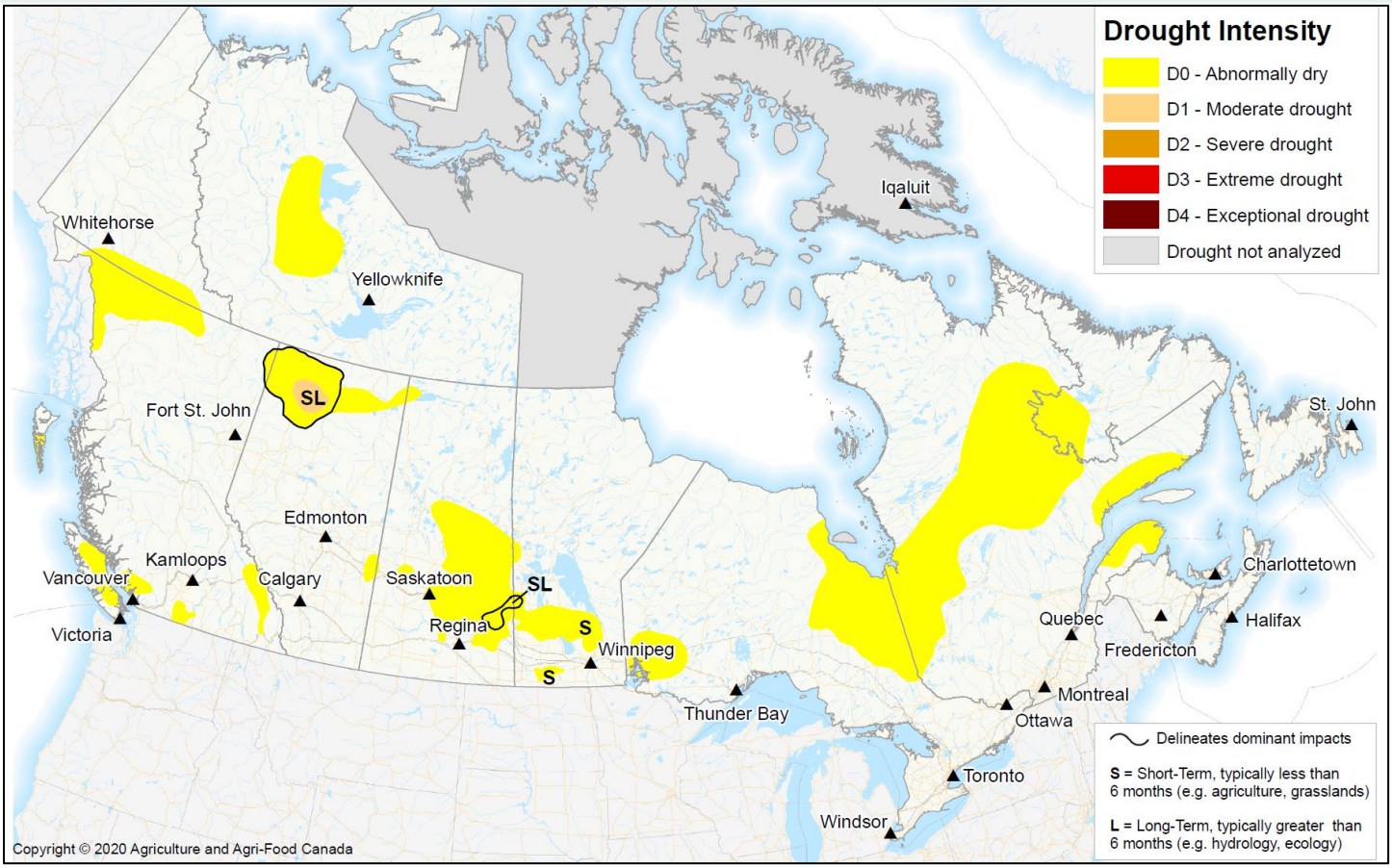
Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of January 31, 2020



In January, drought conditions improved in most regions across Canada. Above normal precipitation was received throughout British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec with below normal precipitation throughout the Prairie Region. While January temperatures fluctuated considerably throughout the month in many regions, monthly departures from normal show generally warmer than normal temperatures throughout eastern Canada and near normal for much of western Canada. Alberta is the obvious exception to this trend where the majority of the province was below normal. These conditions resulted in the shrinking of drought regions in British Columbia and the central and northern Prairies. Large pockets of Abnormally Dry (D0) remained in the northern region of Central Canada. Conditions in Atlantic Canada remained relatively unchanged as precipitation was near normal. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions subsided in Northern Canada.

Pacific Region (BC)

Substantial precipitation along the west coast and above normal precipitation through most of British Columbia considerably improved drought conditions. Precipitation at or near 200 percent of normal provided sufficient moisture for improvement from dryness in the early winter on Vancouver Island and along the Sunshine Coast; Moderate Drought (D1) conditions throughout this region were alleviated as a result. Abnormally Dry (D0) areas are still present in southwestern British Columbia both short and long term, however these areas have improved and continue to shrink in size. Drought pockets subsided in northwestern British Columbia as a result of above normal snow accumulation. D0 conditions still remain in northern British Columbia.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Despite a slight improvement in drought conditions in Northern Alberta and Manitoba, Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) conditions continue to persist across the Prairies. D1 conditions persisted around High Level, as indices continue to show moisture deficits both short and long term. D0 conditions are seen across southeastern Saskatchewan and agricultural regions of Manitoba. Despite minimal precipitation through January and December throughout southern regions of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, excessive fall precipitation and saturated soils at freeze-up prevented the development of drought in the region.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Drought conditions in Central Canada remained relatively unchanged from December, as much of the region experienced near normal precipitation in Fall. Northeastern Ontario continued to experience Abnormally dry (D0) conditions, but improvement of D0 is seen in Southern Ontario due to above normal precipitation in January. Conditions in the Gaspé region in eastern Quebec deteriorated forming a D0 pocket as a result of below normal precipitation over the last month and previous dry conditions throughout the summer in that area.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Atlantic Canada experienced little to no change, as normal to below normal precipitation was received over the past month and streamflow was healthy across the region. Western Labrador continued to experience Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions as this region has below average precipitation since summer.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions were seen in Northern Canada throughout January. Satellite derived data indicated that the Northern half of Yukon and Northwest Territories received above average precipitation resulting in deterioration of D0 conditions. Streamflow across the region has been high but has not alleviated D0 pockets on the southern border of Yukon and north of Fort Simpson in the Northwest Territories.

For more information reach us at www.agr.gc.ca or call us toll-free 1-855-773-0241.