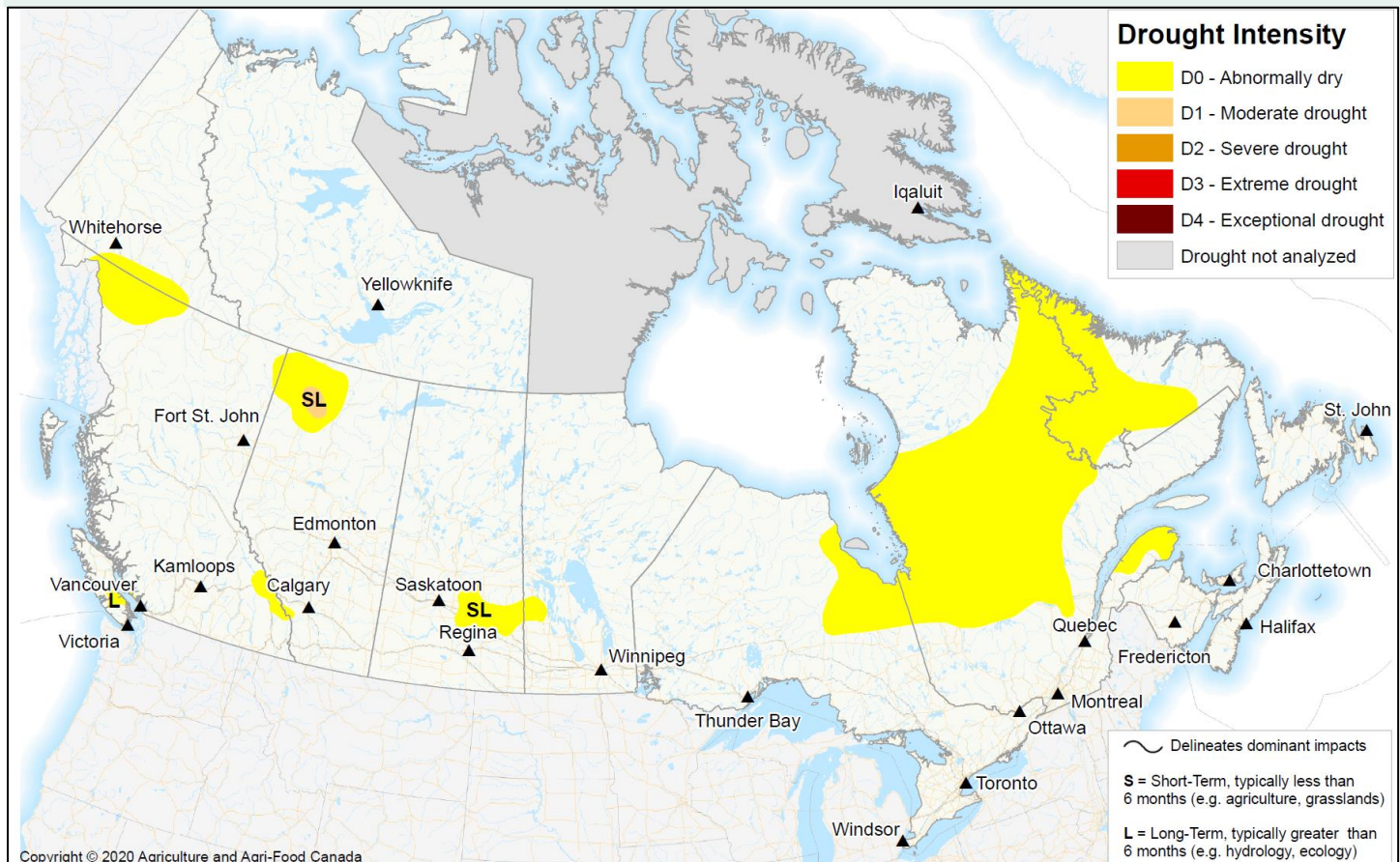


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of February 29, 2020



In February, drought continued to be a minimal concern across Canada. Coastal British Columbia in particular benefited from well above normal precipitation, leading to improvement in long-term dry conditions. Below normal precipitation continued to affect the Prairies; however, there is minimal concern for spring drought as substantial fall precipitation contributed to good freeze-up conditions. Temperatures fluctuated throughout February but most of Canada experienced near-normal temperatures for the month, except for Alberta where conditions were warmer than average. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions expanded across the northern region of Central Canada into Labrador. Conditions in much of Atlantic Canada remained relatively unchanged as precipitation was near normal. D0 conditions were alleviated in Northern Canada as streamflow and winter precipitation returned to normal.



Pacific Region (BC)

Pacific Canada experienced above normal precipitation, particularly along the west coast, resulting in improved drought conditions in February. Precipitation at or near 150 percent of normal contributed sufficient moisture to alleviate most Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions on Vancouver Island and along Sunshine Coast. Although long-term precipitation deficits exist in some areas of Vancouver Island, short-term precipitation has been substantial and alleviated all drought concerns. In northern British Columbia, improved streamflow and above normal snow accumulation improved D0 conditions. D0 pockets on Louise Island along Haida Gwaii coast and near Princeton were alleviated due to above average precipitation.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

Despite minimal precipitation received in central Saskatchewan and Manitoba, drought conditions in the Prairies remained relatively unchanged throughout February. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions improved in northern Alberta while Moderate Drought (D1) persisted around High Level as a result of both short- and long-term moisture deficits. abnormally low precipitation continued across southern Saskatchewan and agricultural regions of Manitoba where only 30mm of precipitation was received over the past three months. Excessive fall precipitation and saturated soils at freeze-up prevented the development of drought in the region, and there is minimal concern for spring drought. D0 conditions continue to affect the Yorkton region in Saskatchewan both short and long term.

Central Region (ON, QC)

Dry conditions in the northern regions of Central Canada worsened throughout February. Below normal precipitation over the past 90 days led to the expansion of the Abnormally Dry (D0) pocket in northeastern Ontario and northern Quebec.. D0 conditions continued to affect the Gaspé region in eastern Quebec as a result of below normal precipitation over the last month, and increased average temperature from normal in that area.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

Drought conditions slightly deteriorated in Atlantic Canada as normal to below normal precipitation was received over the past three months. Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions affected most of Labrador due to a significant precipitation deficit throughout February where dry conditions have persisted since summer.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Northern Canada received above normal precipitation throughout February. Satellite-derived data indicated that southern Yukon and the eastern border of Northwest Territories received above average precipitation. Near-normal precipitation and excellent streamflow alleviated Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions north of Fort Simpson in the Northwest Territories.