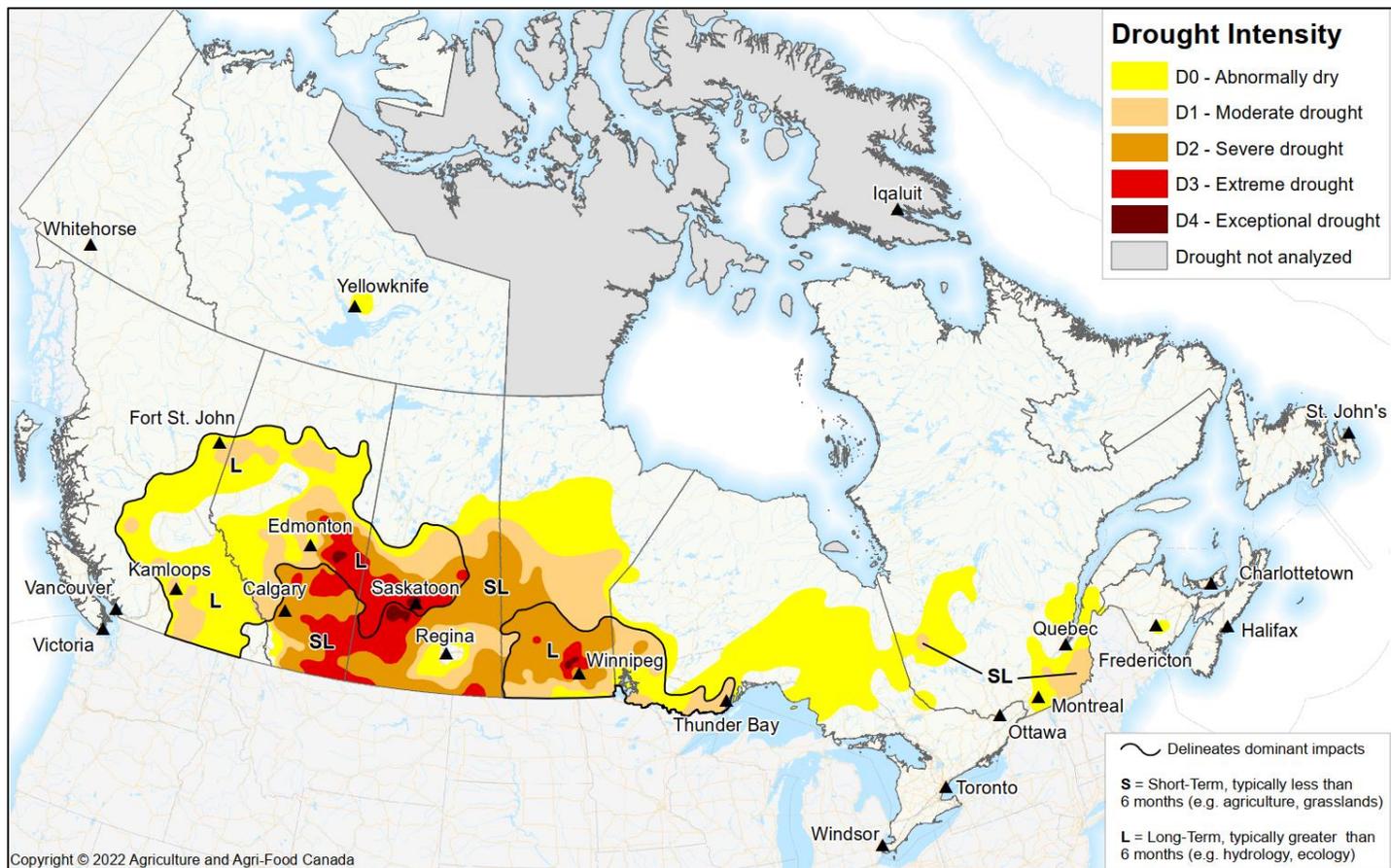


Canadian Drought Monitor

Conditions as of January 31, 2022



Variable precipitation throughout January resulted in an overall improvement of drought in many regions of Canada, while conditions degraded in only a few areas. The Pacific Region received near- to above-normal precipitation, leading to continued drought improvement in the area. The Prairie Region received a mixture of above-normal and below-normal precipitation; with drier conditions experienced in southern and western parts of the region. As of January 31st, drought continued to be rated as Severe (D2) or worse through a significant portion of the Prairies, with long-term deficits lingering in the northern and eastern portions, and both short- and long-term moisture deficits are present in southern and western areas. Drought in Central Canada remained relatively stable, though January was significantly colder than normal. Both



Atlantic and Northern Regions were drought-free in January, with only minimal areas of Abnormally Dry (D0) present.

At the end of the month, 25 percent of the country was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0) or in Moderate to Exceptional Drought (D1 to D4), including 72 percent of the country's agricultural landscape.

Pacific Region (BC)

Nearly the entire Pacific region experienced near- to above-normal precipitation in the month of January. Given the significant precipitation of up to 200 percent of normal received in the last 3 months, drought conditions were reduced from the Canada-U.S. border, north towards the Peace River region. Despite experiencing significant drought throughout the 2021 growing season, only minimal Moderate Drought (D1) remained across the Okanagan region in southcentral British Columbia due to substantial winter precipitation to date. Drought improvements over last month include a reduction in Moderate Drought (D1) as well as the removal of a small Severe Drought (D2) pocket due to Above Normal to Exceptionally High precipitation values in the last 6 months, in central and eastern regions. Further north, precipitation remained near- to above-normal in the last 2 to 3 months, leading to the removal of Moderate Drought (D1) in the area. However, Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions remained due to longer-term dryness. A similar trend occurred in the Peace River region, along the northeastern border to Alberta, where Severe Drought (D2) was removed and Moderate Drought (D1) and Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions remained, but were reduced in size.

At the end of the month, 24 percent of the Pacific region was considered Abnormally Dry (D0) or in Moderate Drought (D1), including 56 percent of the region's agricultural landscape.

Prairie Region (AB, SK, MB)

The month of January brought a mixed-bag of both precipitation and temperatures across the Prairie Region. There was a north-south divide for precipitation, where central and northern portions of the Prairies continued to see above-normal moisture, but extreme southern Manitoba and Saskatchewan as well as central and southern parts of Alberta received Extremely Low precipitation. In regard to the temperature, Manitoba and western Saskatchewan were colder than normal, while much of Alberta was warmer than normal, up to 3 to 4 degrees above-normal near the Rockies.

Drought improved throughout the region barring southern Alberta, where Extreme Drought (D3) was slightly expanded towards Calgary and Red Deer. Not only has this area been fairly dry in the last 3 months, but a significant amount of southern Alberta only received 300 mm of moisture in the last year, a departure of approximately 110 to 180 mm less than normal. Moderate to Severe Drought (D1 to D2) in this area remained similar to last month.

In contrast, remaining portions of the Prairies saw overall improvement to Drought. Since the start of the winter season, a large swath of northern Alberta towards southcentral Saskatchewan saw Exceptionally High precipitation. In all other parts of the Prairies except southern Alberta near-normal to above-normal precipitation has been received this winter season. Although this precipitation will not fully recover the long-term deficits, it has allowed for slight improvement across the region. Exceptional Drought (D4) remained near Saskatoon in central Saskatchewan given long-term impacts, though the area was slightly reduced. Extreme to Exceptional Drought (D3 to D4) in Manitoba, was significantly reduced due to both Very High precipitation in the last 6 months as well as improved long-term conditions.

At the end of the month, 61 percent of the Prairie Region was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0) or in Moderate to Exceptional Drought (D1 to D4), including 95 percent of the region's agricultural landscape.

Central Region (ON, QC)

While nearly the entire Central Region saw a lack of moisture in January, minimal changes were made to Drought given ample moisture received over the last 6 months. Southern Ontario received less than 40 percent of normal precipitation this month, but still reported Moderately to Very High precipitation values since August. However, southern Quebec continued to report Moderately Low precipitation in the same timeframe; this, coupled with shorter-term deficits, led to the expansion of both Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions and Moderate Drought (D1) in the area.

Conditions across the rest of the region generally improved in January. Above-normal moisture over the last 6 months and near-normal long-term moisture levels led to the removal of Severe Drought (D2) around Thunder Bay, as well as a reduction in Moderate Drought (D1) in the surrounding area. Parts of northwestern Ontario, however, remained in Moderate to Severe Drought (D1 to D2) due to long-term dryness.

By the end of the month, 19 percent of the Central Region was considered Abnormally Dry (D0) or in Moderate to Severe Drought (D1 to D2), including 30 percent of the agricultural landscape.

By the end of the month, nineteen percent of the Central Region was considered Abnormally Dry (D0) or in Moderate to Severe Drought (D1 to D2), including twenty-two percent of the agricultural landscape.

Atlantic Region (NS, NB, PE, NL)

The Atlantic Region received the most precipitation this month compared to other parts of the country. A fairly large area, from Cape Breton towards Newfoundland, received Exceptionally High precipitation in the last 30 days, while other parts of the region saw near- to above-normal precipitation. This equated to roughly 115 to 200 percent of normal precipitation in the last 3 months. Only a small pocket of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions was reported in New Brunswick, based on low precipitation over the last 6 months, while the rest of the region remained completely drought-free.

By the end of the month, only 1 percent of the Atlantic Region was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0), including 3 percent of the agricultural landscape.

Northern Region (YT, NT)

Conditions across the Northern Region in January were generally stable in January. Near- to above-normal precipitation fell across nearly the entire region this month, except for a small portion of eastern Northwest Territories including Yellowknife. Winter precipitation for much of the Yukon Territory has been above-normal, with Whitehorse reporting 170 percent of normal since November 1st, 2021. In addition, Old Crow is now reporting near-normal conditions of 110 percent in the last 3 months; this led to the removal of Abnormally Dry (D0) conditions. Only a small pocket of D0 remained near Yellowknife.

Less than 1 percent of the Northern Region was classified as Abnormally Dry (D0).

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