

Agricultural Moisture Situation Update

June 16, 2022

Synopsis

June has indeed brought the province the moisture most of Alberta had been hoping for (**Map 5**). Significant rainfall began June 12 and systems continue to be active over most of the province. We also expect to see more rainfall into this weekend.

Precipitation over the past 7-days

The recent precipitation has brought some much-needed relief to many areas of the province (**Map 1**). Northern areas of the Peace have not seen the same precipitation influx from the past 7 days of rainfall as the North West, North East, and Central have. Greater amounts of precipitation were concentrated in the mountain and foothills, with the majority hitting the Clearwater, Ranchland, Willow Creek, and Kananaskis regions.

Growing season precipitation relative to long term normal as of June 16, 2022

Some areas of moisture deficit (**Map 2**) have been enriched with the recent precipitation in the south-western portions of the Southern Region, the Special Areas and through parts of the North East. Not much improvement to the deficits has been seen in the most Southern regions surrounding Lethbridge reaching to the southern border.

Clearhills, Northern Lights, and Saddle Hills regions have seen some of the wettest conditions this growing season so far. The majority of the province is now in near normal precipitation accumulation, which is good news for those areas previously experiencing drought like conditions in the earlier months of this 2022 growing season.

Soil Moisture Reserves Relative to Normal

Soil Moisture reserves have benefited greatly from the recent precipitation (**Map 3**). The North East, Central and South regions have returned to near normal. The North West, particularly Yellowhead County remains dry although areas further south in the County of Wetaskiwin are now quite wet.

Considering that the recent rainfall generally missed the far Southern region of the province, the soil moisture reserves are still low for most of Cardston County.

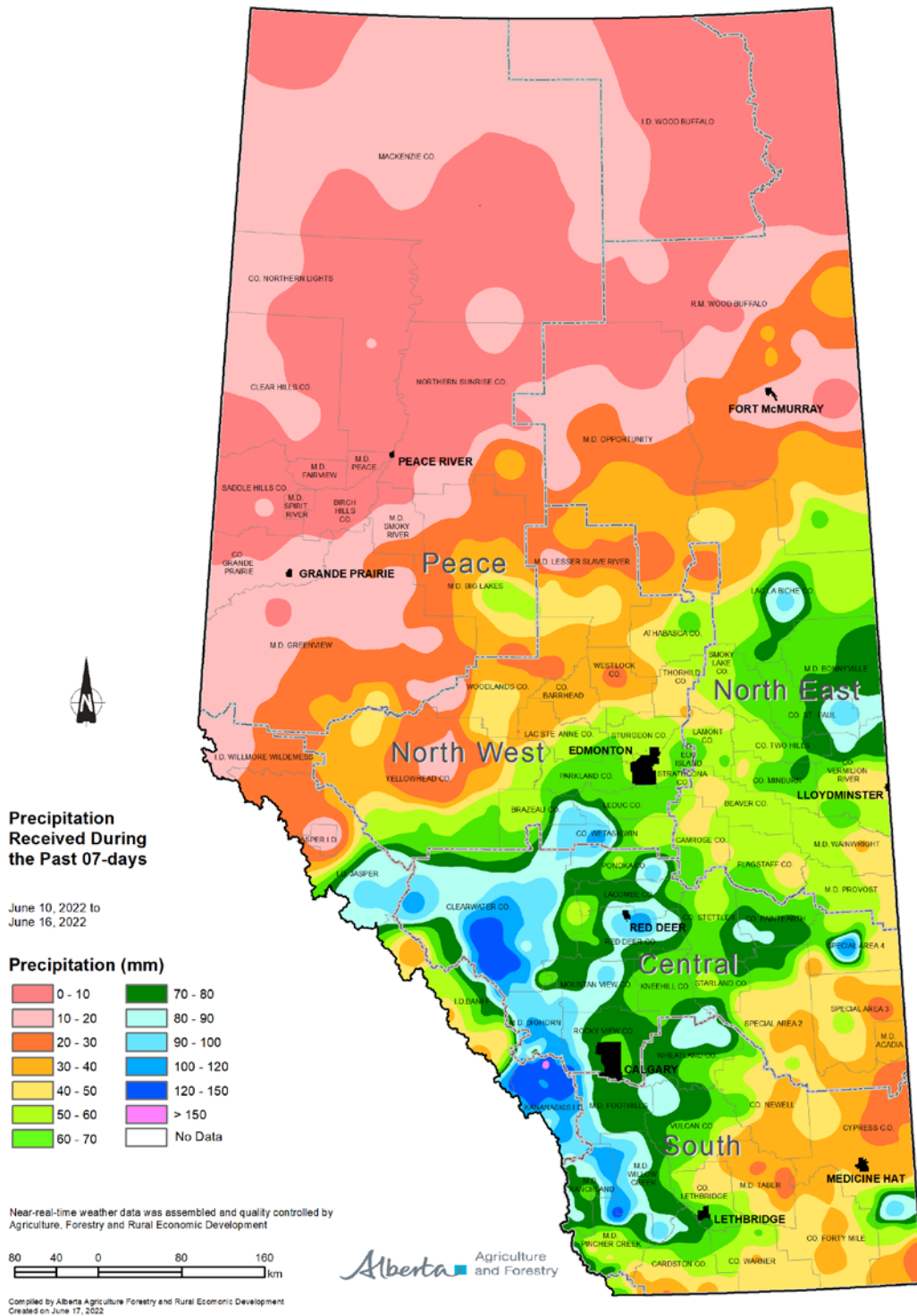
Growing season to date

Alberta has received on average between 75 mm and 100 mm of precipitation since the beginning of the 2022 growing season (**Map 4**). Pockets in the South, Special areas, and North East have missed out on the greater amounts of precipitation and remain below 30 mm recorded since April.

Perspective

We are expecting continued rainfall throughout the province over the next few days. The increase in soil moisture in many areas is of great benefit as crops continue to mature. Forecasts of sunny days and warmer weather in the coming weeks will set the majority of the province back on track.

Map 1



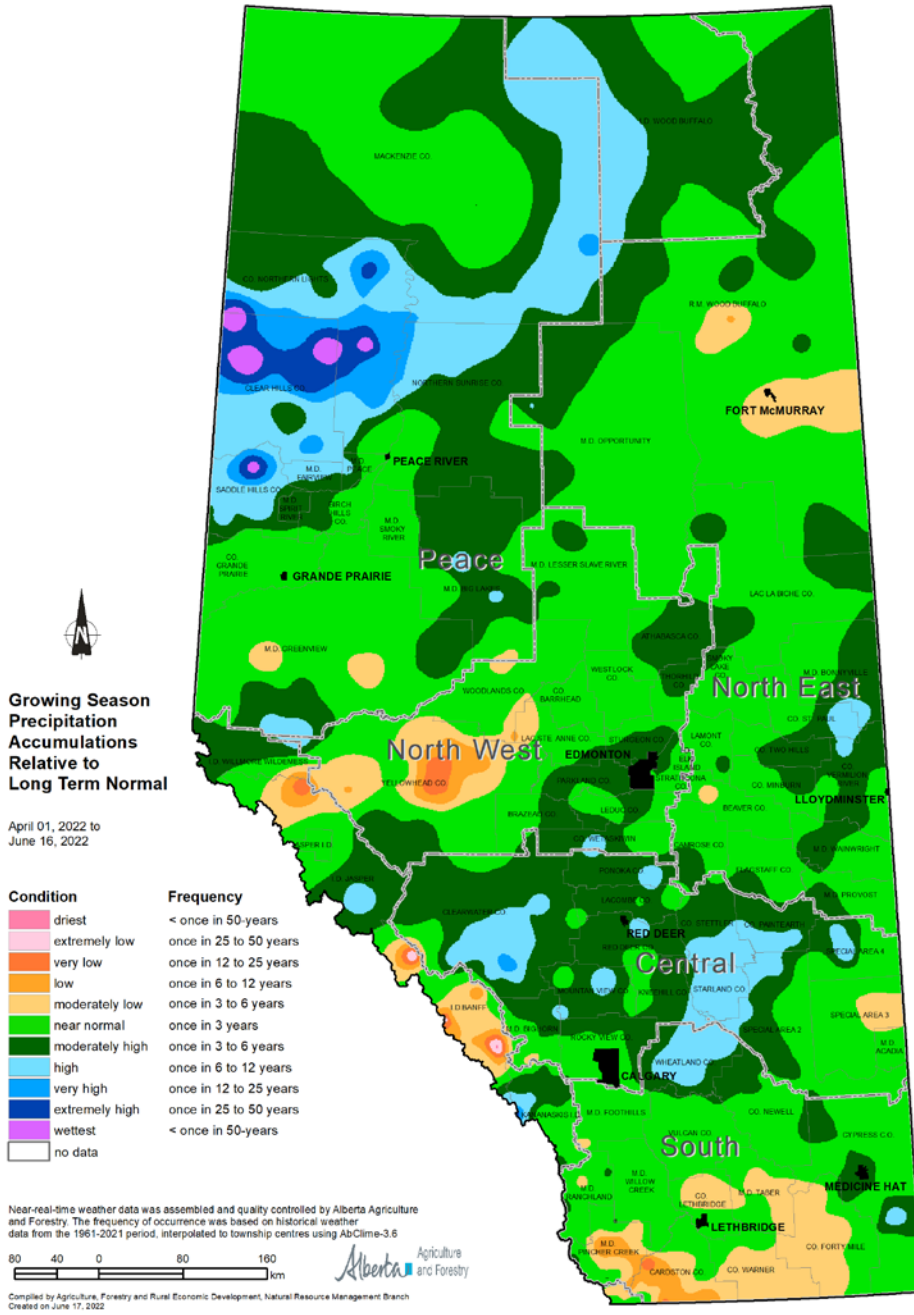
Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/moisture-situation-update>

©2022 Government of Alberta | June 17, 2022 | Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Economic Development

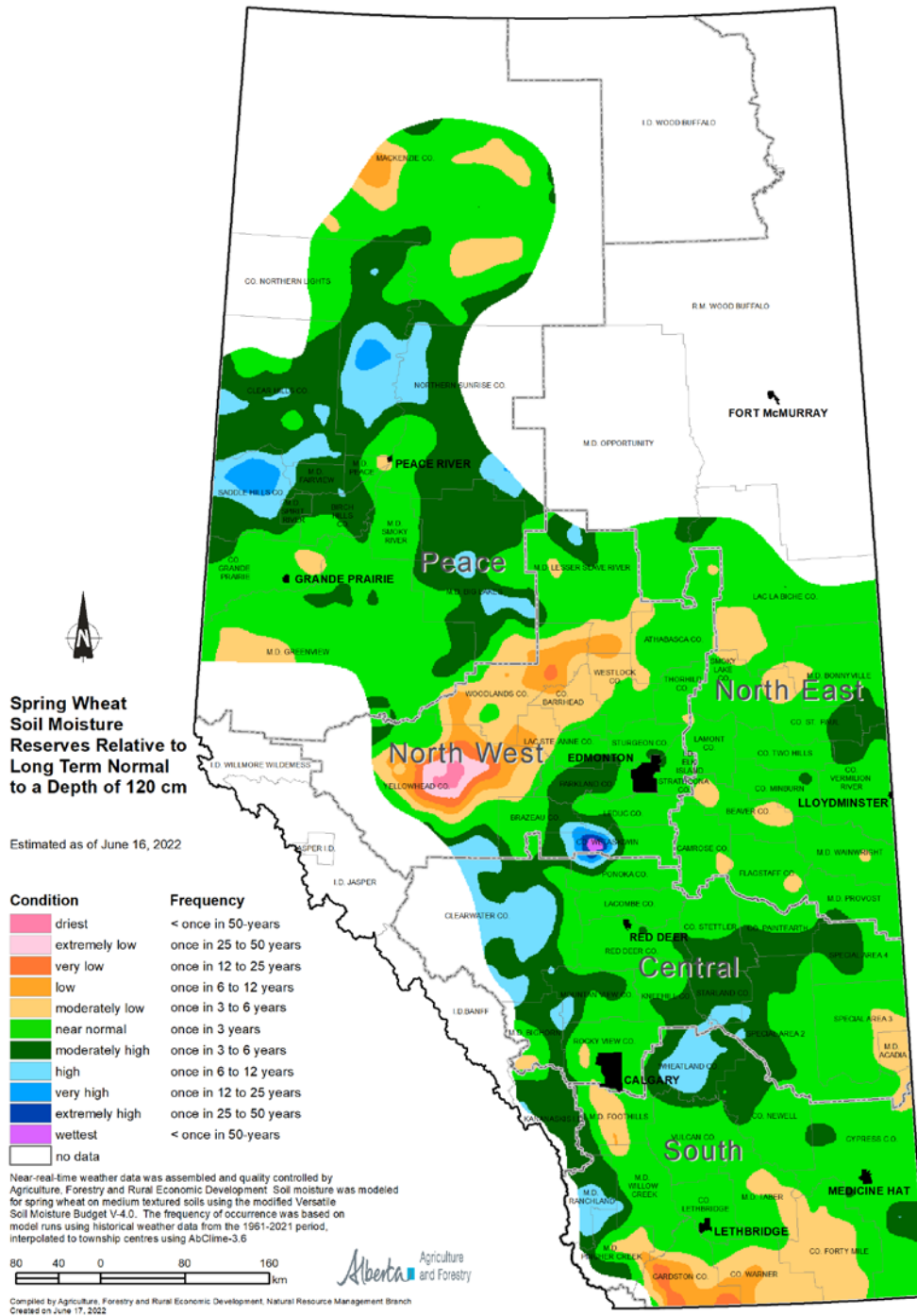


Map 2



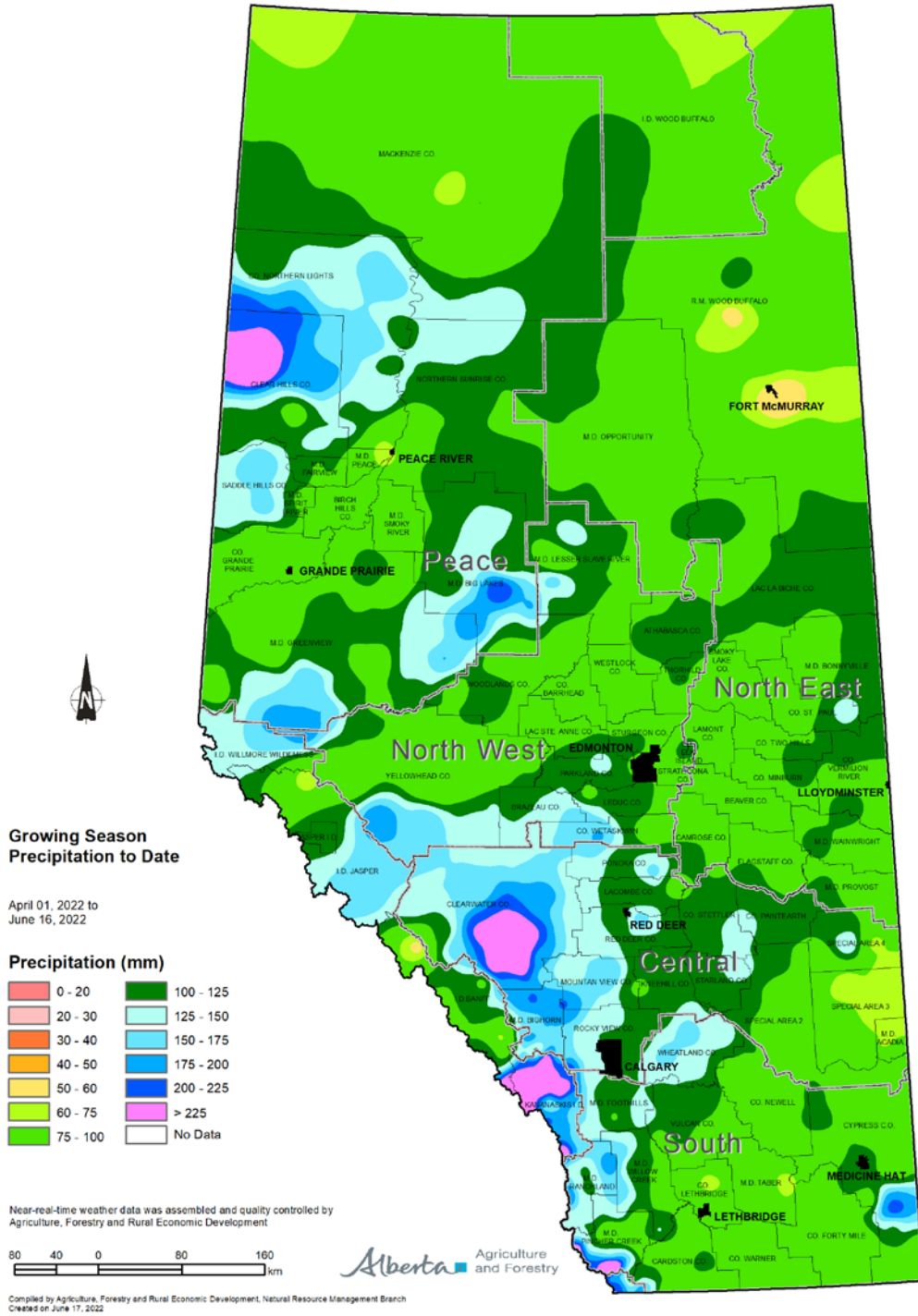
Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Map 3



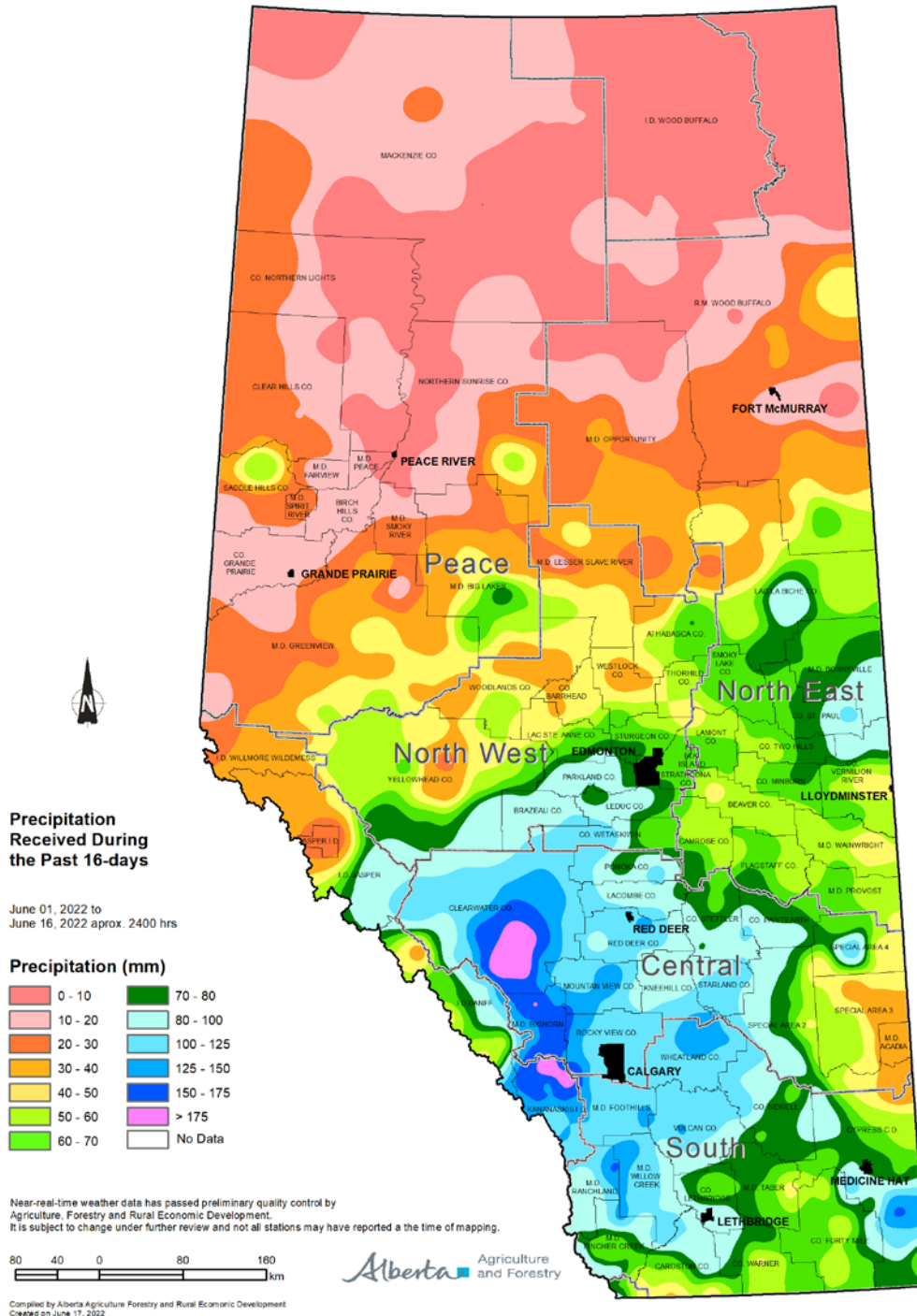
Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Map 4



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

Map 5



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data