

# Agricultural Moisture Situation Update December 4<sup>th</sup> 2019

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## Snow pack accumulations relative to normal (Map 1 and Map 2)

So far this winter, snow pack development across the reporting area has been highly variable, ranging from at least 1 in 6 year lows through the southern parts of the North East and the extreme northern Peace Region, to near 1 in 50 year highs through the Southern Peace Region.

In terms of absolute water content contained in snow pack, there is less than 10 mm of water equivalent (if you were to melt the snow), across a wide area south of the Yellowhead Highway, and east of Highway 2 between Edmonton and the USA border.

Notably, there is estimated to be upwards of 100 mm of water contained in the snow packs across the southern Peace Country, which is more than double the average for this time of year.

## 180-day precipitation accumulations relative to normal (Map 3)

Weather patterns over the past 6 months have been favoring wetter than normal conditions across a wide swath of the province. This includes most of the North West, North East and Peace Regions. In addition most areas along the foot hills have seen above average moisture conditions.

Across other parts of the province, only a few areas that have trended below normal exist. This includes the extreme northern Peace region, centered near La Crete, and a few areas located in the Central and Southern Regions.

Currently there are few, if any parts of the province, suffering from acute lack of moisture in recent months. One exception may be the extreme northern Peace region were several

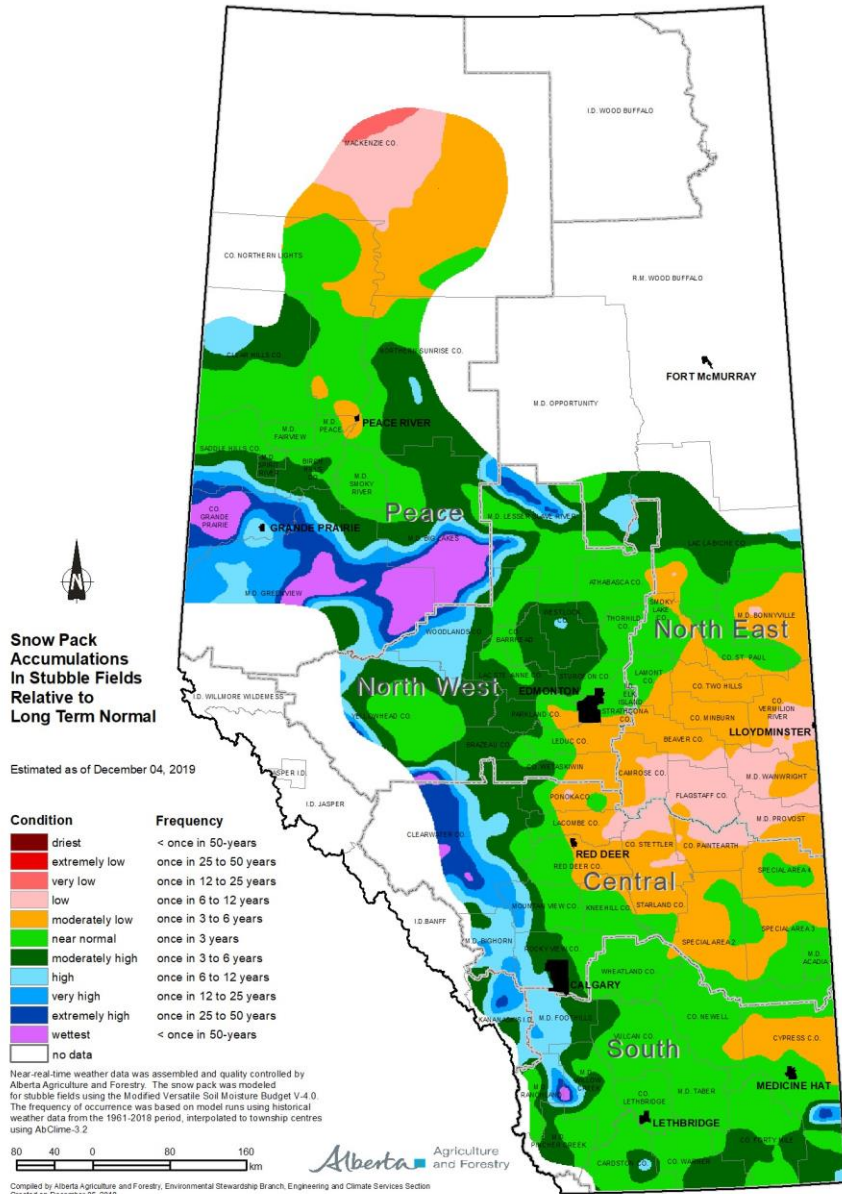
years of below normal precipitation patterns have resulted long term moisture deficits.

## Soil moisture reserves relative to normal (Map 4)

Current soil moisture reserves are variable across the reporting area with about 85% of the lands estimated to have at least near normal soil moisture. This is typically a desirable condition heading into early winter as this moisture will be stored until it's needed in the spring.

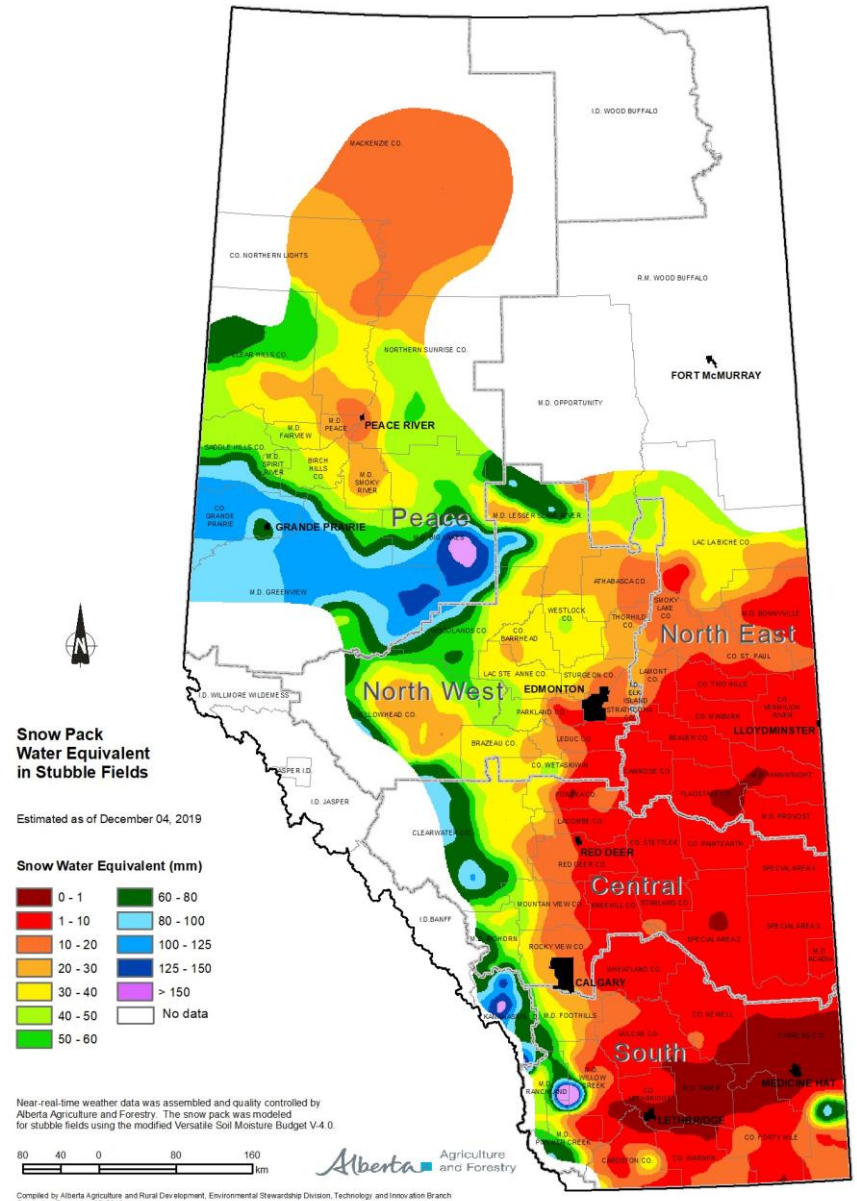
Lower than average moisture conditions exist through parts of Central Alberta and the Peace Region, and there is yet ample time to receive adequate moisture ahead of the spring melt. For those areas north of Grande Prairie that appear drier than normal, bear in mind that these areas are under an above average snowpack.

MAP 1



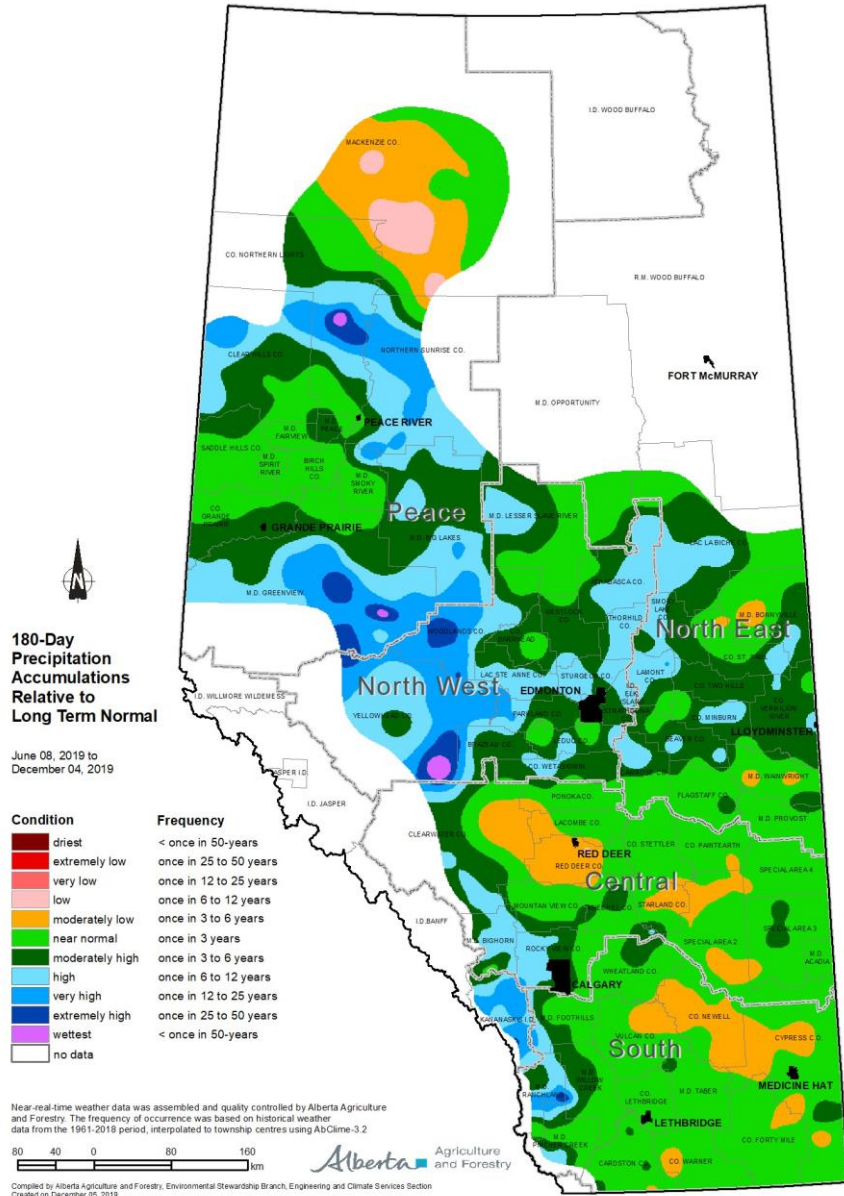
Visit [weatherdata.ca](http://weatherdata.ca) for additional maps and meteorological data

MAP 2



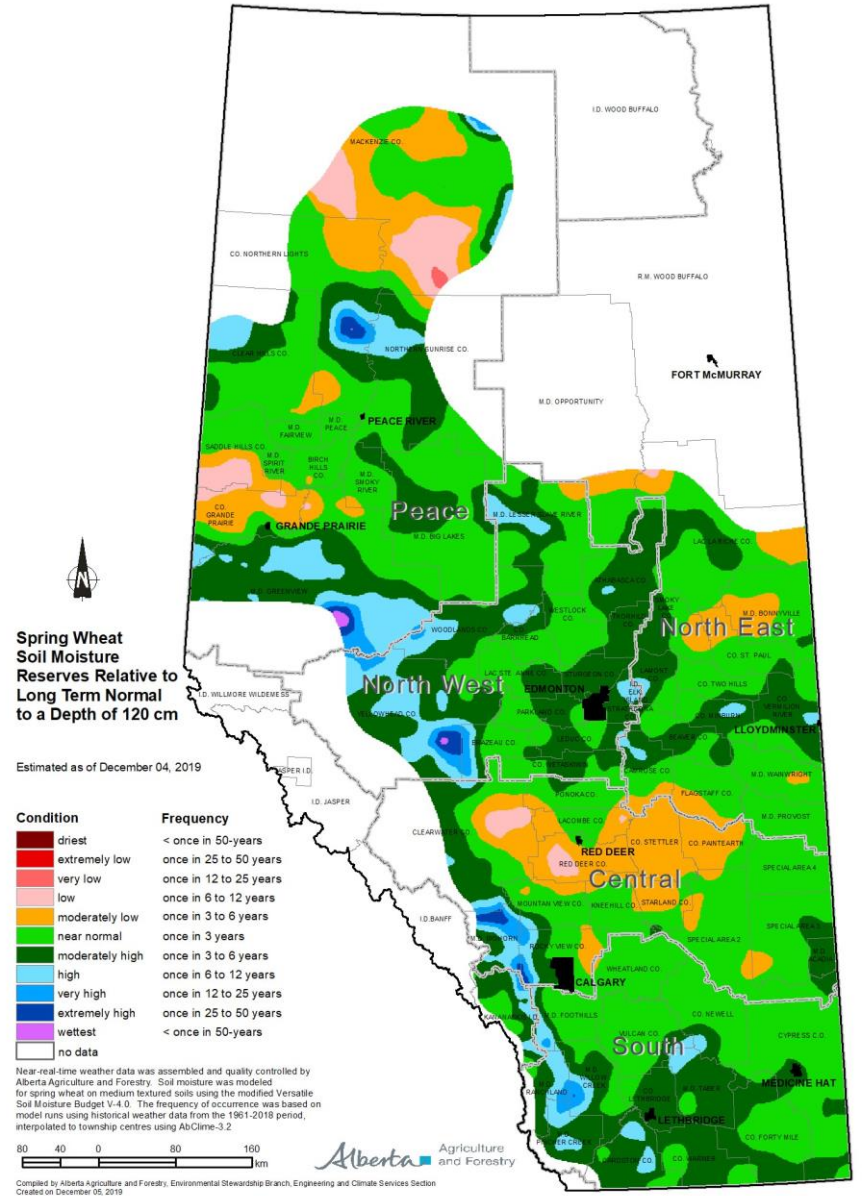
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# MAP 3



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# Map 4



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