

Moisture Situation Update – June 25, 2019

Synopsis

Following an unusually dry spring (**Map 1**), most of the province has now entered into a much wetter weather pattern. Since the start of June, a large area lying south of line drawn through Grande Prairie, and north of a line drawn between Calgary and Lloydminster, has received more than 80 mm of rainfall (Map 2). Several areas within this region have seen well over 125 mm with the greatest amounts recorded at the South Esk (208 mm) and Luscar Creek (207 mm), in the high country, around Cadomin south of Hinton.

In recent days, unstable weather conditions have given rise to widespread thunderstorm activity across most of the province. These cells are numerous and relatively small and many areas are getting short but intense bursts of rainfall and in some cases hail. As a result, some lands may have seen significantly more rain than what is reported here. Many of these areas are now trending to the wet side of the spectrum and some warm and drier weather would be very helpful to insure optimal crop growth.

In sharp contrast, parts of southern Alberta remain dry with several stations recording less than 15 mm since the beginning of June (**Map 2**); however, most of this rain has fallen during the past several days. Rain is needed now in these areas.

The previously dry lands located throughout the Special Areas and the northern half of the Peace Region have been faring better over the past two weeks, with rainfall totals ranging from 20 to 50 mm across the Northern Peace Region and from 25 to 50 mm across the Special Areas (**Map 3**). While this was not the “soaking rains” they needed, it is sufficient to help alleviate moisture stress in the short term. More rain will be needed through these areas soon, as we approach a time of plant peak water demand.

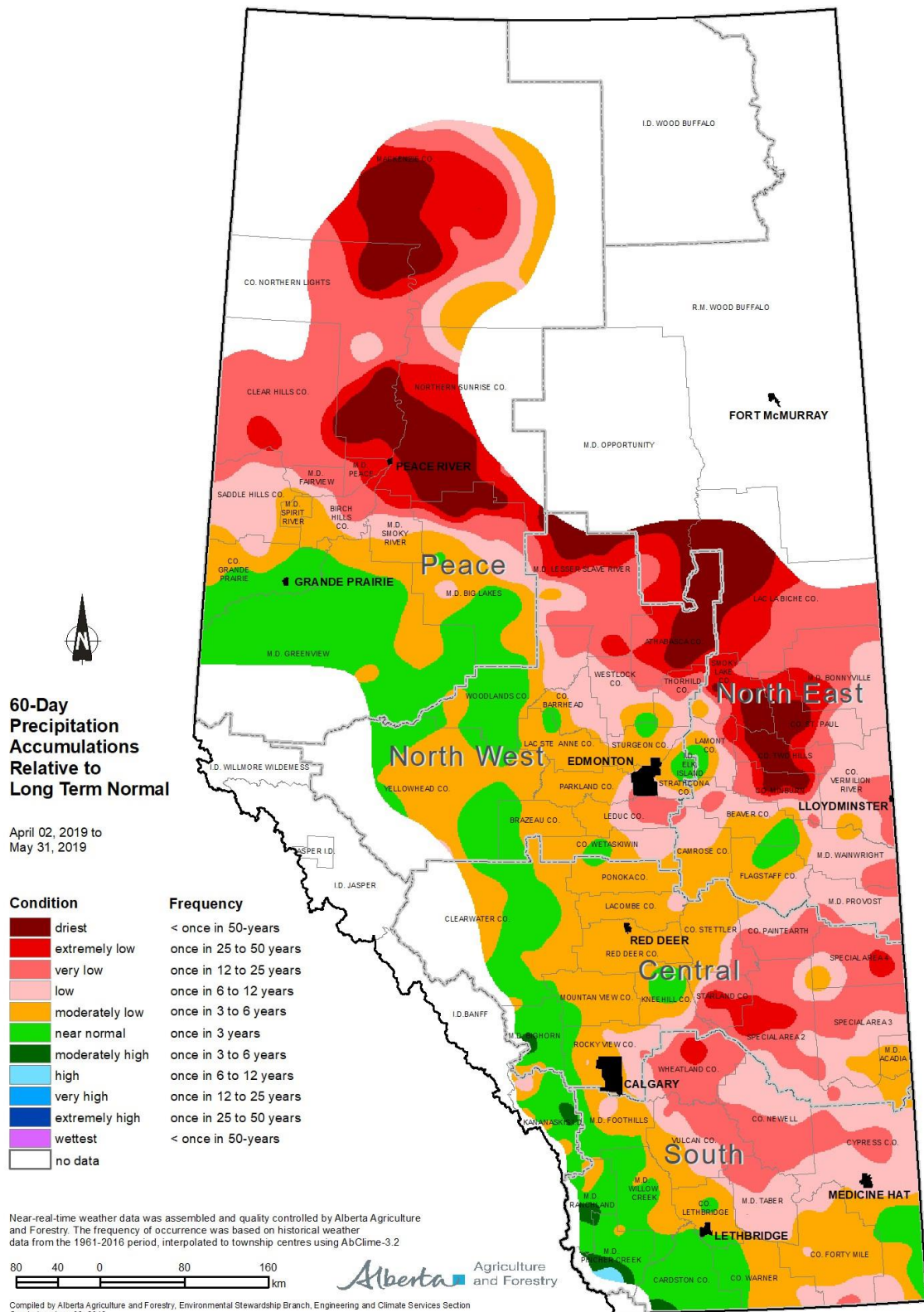
Near-real-time hourly station data can be viewed/downloaded at
www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations

Note: Data has about a two-hour lag and is displayed in MST.

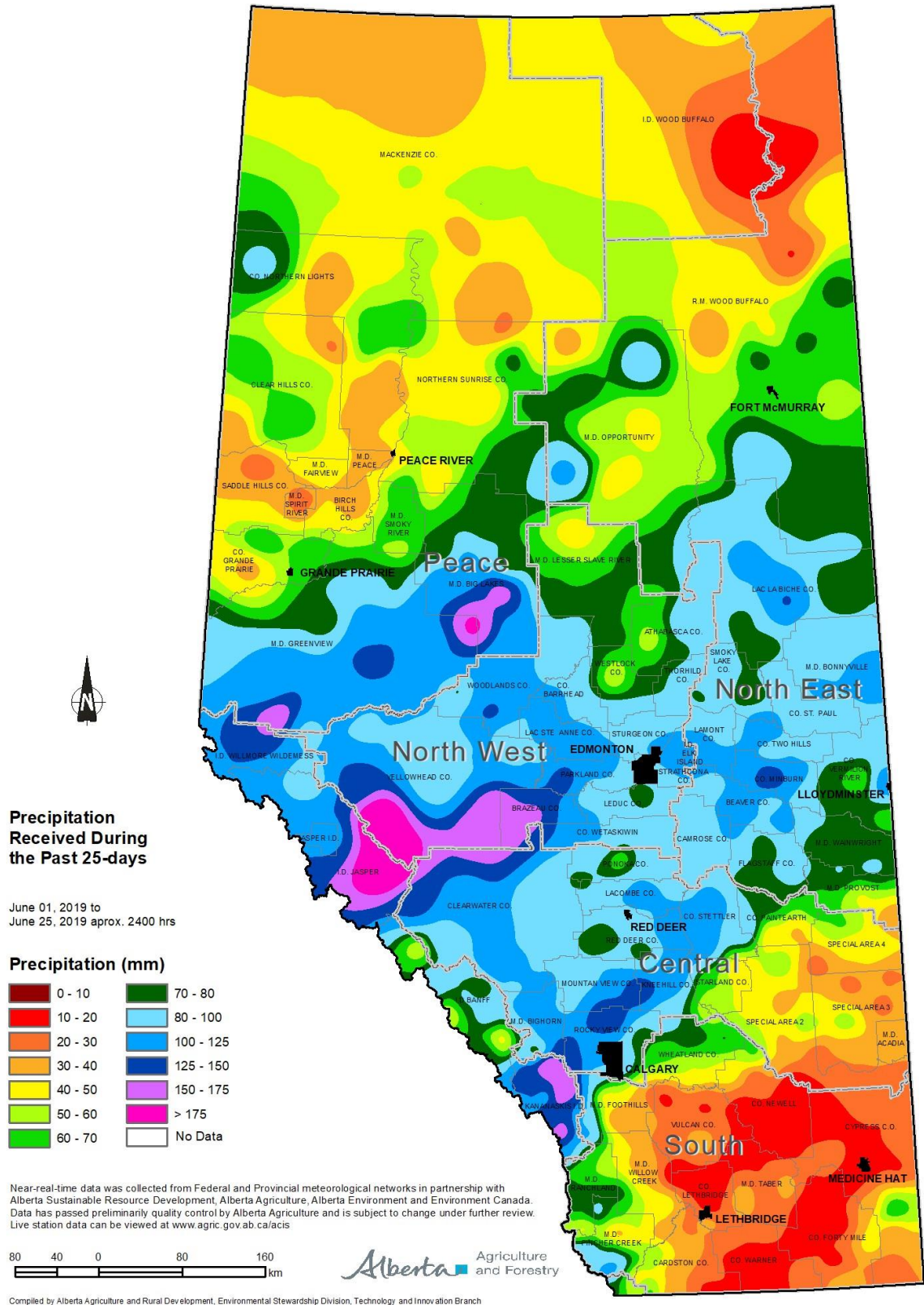
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Map 1

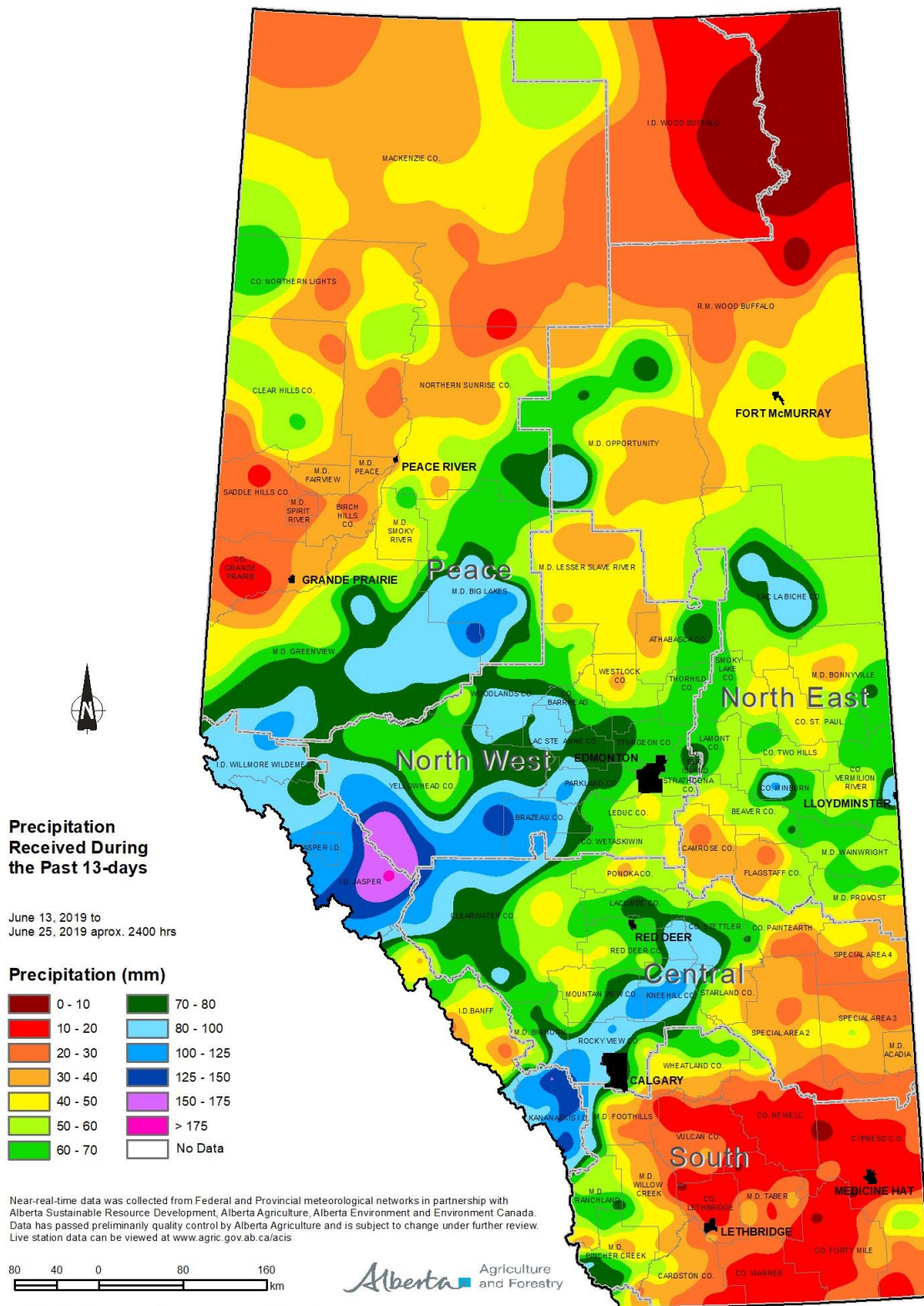


Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data



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Map 3



Compiled by Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Environmental Stewardship Division, Technology and Innovation Branch
Created on June 25, 2019

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