

## **Moisture Situation Update – January 6, 2019**

### **Winter precipitation accumulations relative to normal (map 1)**

Since the onset of winter (November 1, 2018) most of the province's agricultural areas lying north of Calgary have experienced at least near normal precipitation accumulations. In contrast, throughout much of southern Alberta accumulations have been below average, ranging from about one in 3 to 6-year lows for those areas east of Highway 2, and falling to at least one in 6 to 12 year lows throughout many of the foothill areas.

### **Temperature trends relative to normal over the past 60-days (map 2)**

So far, the winter has been milder than normal, which stands in sharp contrast to the cold and wet weather that dominated most of September and the first half of October.

Looking back over the past 60-days, most of the plains areas stretching all the way from High Level in the north, down to the US boarder are estimated to see temperatures this warm on average less than once in 6-years. Warmer yet, is a large area that lies west of Highway 2 between High Prairie and down at least as far as Calgary that has seen temperatures this mild on average, less than once in 12-years.

### **Snow packs relative to normal (see map 3)**

As of January 6<sup>th</sup>, snowpack's for this time of year are generally near normal across most of the north-half of the province, with above average snows found across a wide area lying generally south of Slave Lake, stretching south down to the Yellowhead highway, roughly between Edson and Vegreville.

### **Snow water equivalent in snow packs (map 4)**

Most areas north of Edmonton currently contain at least 50 mm of water in the snow packs. The deepest snowpack's are found throughout much of the extreme southern portions and western portions of the Peace region, with many areas having over 70 mm of water contained within the snow packs. For perspective, on average May precipitation accumulations generally range from 50 to 70 mm throughout these areas. South of the Yellowhead highway, snow packs gradually thin out, with most of Southern Alberta now being largely snow free.

**Near-real-time hourly station** data can be viewed/downloaded at

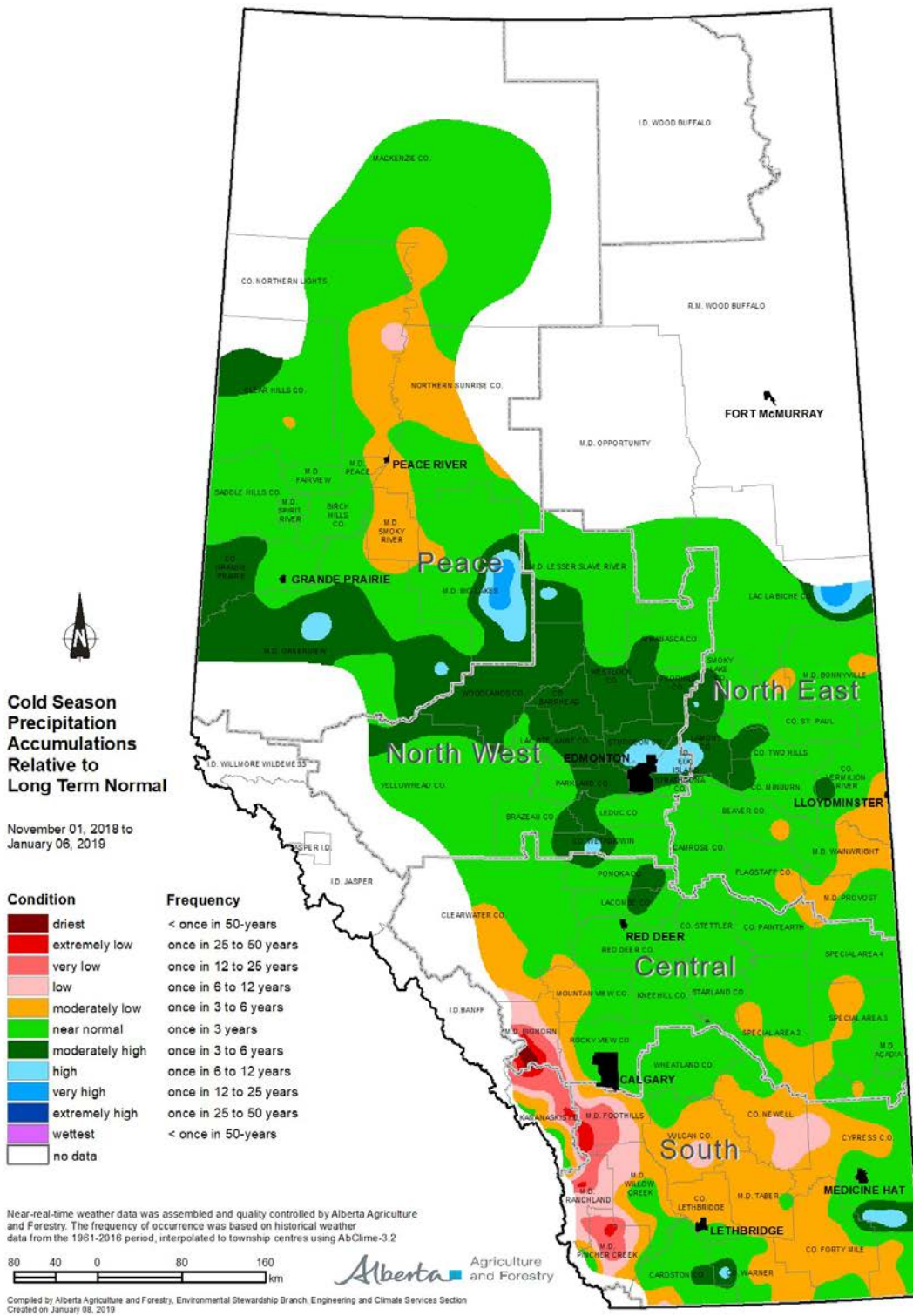
[www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations)

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

Ralph Wright  
Manager, Agro-meteorological Applications and Modelling Section  
Alberta Agriculture and Forestry  
Phone: 780-446-6831

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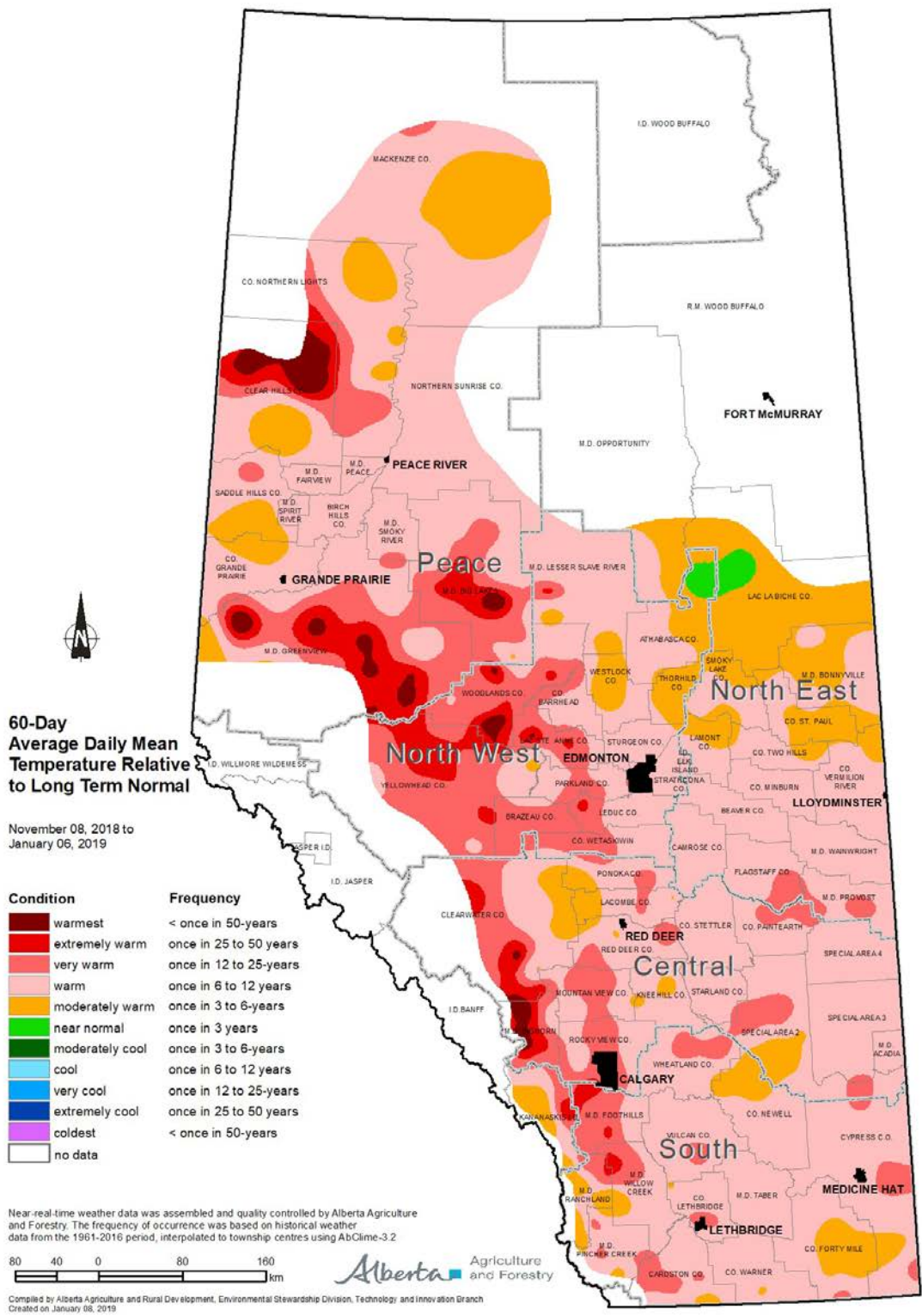
## Map 1



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

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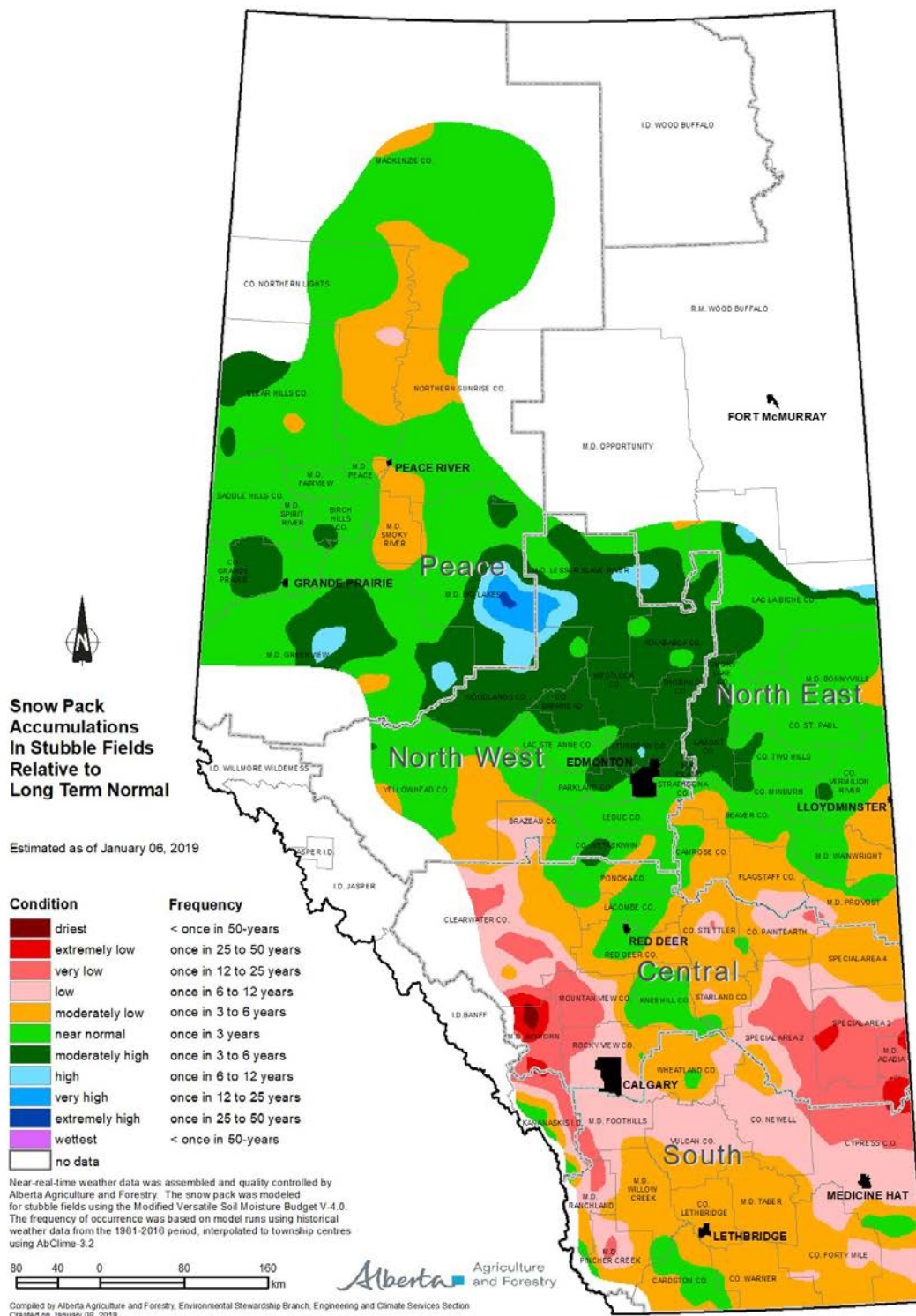
## Map 2



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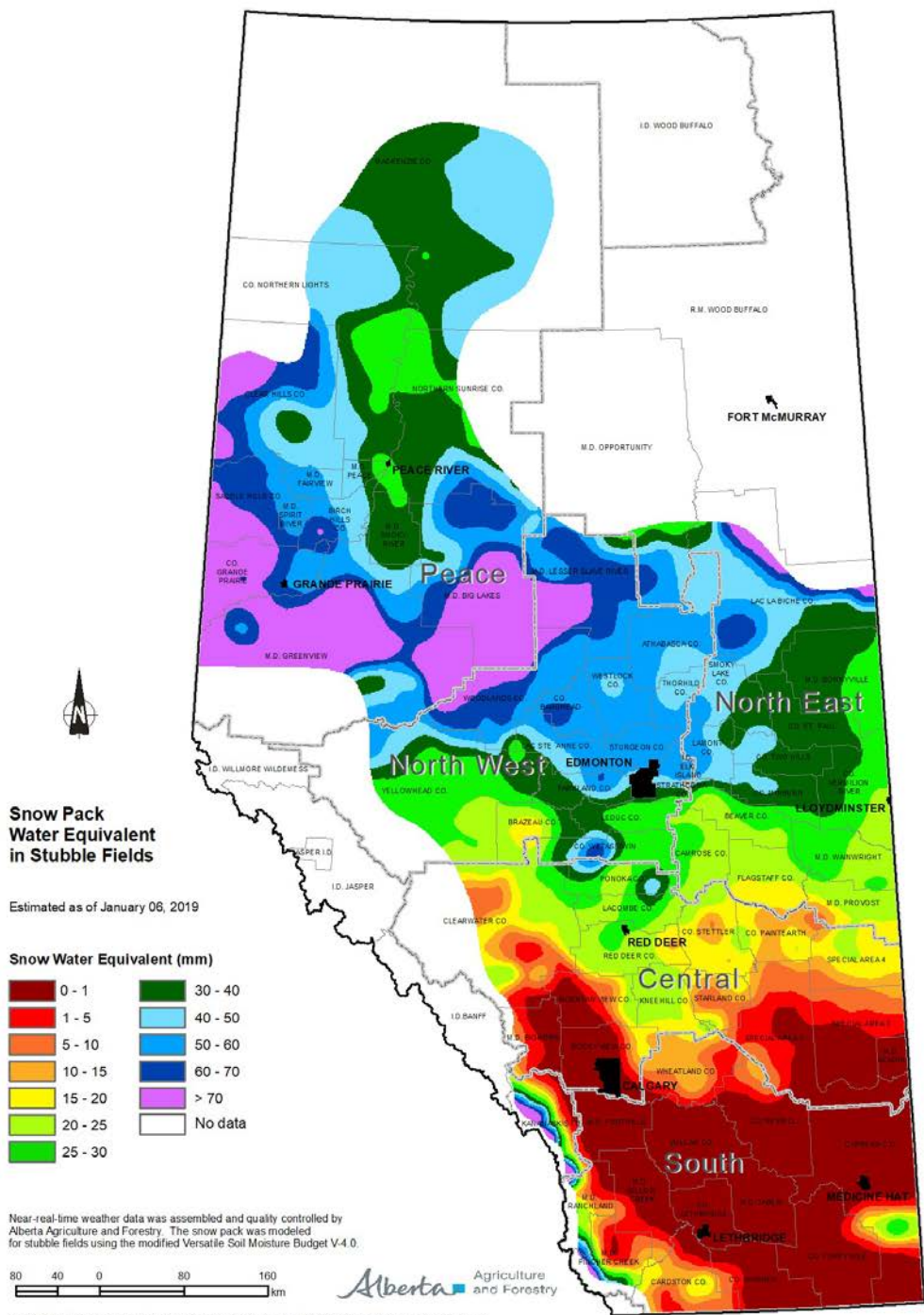
## Map 3



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## Map 4



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