

## **Moisture Situation Update – September 16, 2018**

### **Synopsis:**

Over the past several days, moist arctic air has flooded into the province bringing hard frosts across much of the Peace Region with some areas seeing overnight lows colder than  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Throughout the north-west and north-east, most areas saw significant accumulations of rain mixed with wet snow with upwards of 50 mm of precipitation recorded at several stations.

Across southern Alberta, the weather was more moderate, but still cool for this time of year, with day time highs struggling into the low teens and overnight lows hovering near the freezing mark. Much of this area remained relatively dry with accumulations only approaching 15 mm in the extreme west, along the foothills.

### **6-day precipitation accumulations as of September 16 2018 (see map 1):**

The bulk of recent moisture fell across a wide east to west band, lying roughly between Grande Prairie and Red Deer. Here, precipitation totals ranged from 15-20 mm, to well over 35 mm across a large area stretching more or less on either side of the Yellowhead Highway, from Hinton to Lloydminster. Day time highs hovered just a few degrees above freezing, with persistent rains giving way to periods of wet snow. Snow did accumulate at times in many areas, but only lingered for short periods of time as it slowly melted off during the “warmer” parts of the day.

Across the Peace Region, rain and snow fell on many areas between Grande Prairie and the town of Peace River, with the greatest accumulations occurring across the south, where 10-15 mm was common.

South of Red Deer, accumulations generally ranged from 10-15 mm, down to less than 5 mm throughout the central parts of Southern Alberta.

### **Frost over the past 6-days (see map 2):**

While this last event was not the first episode of late summer frost this year, it was extensive with only a small portion of the Southern Region managing to stay above the freezing mark. Generally frosts were lighter across the east-half of the province with most areas staying above the  $-2^{\circ}\text{C}$  mark. West of Highway 2 from Olds all the way up to Grande Prairie, overnight lows dipped to  $-5^{\circ}\text{C}$  in many locations. Between the town of Peace River and Fort Vermillion some areas saw overnight lows near the  $-8^{\circ}\text{C}$  mark at least four nights in a row (September 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>).

### **Weather forecast compiled from a variety of sources:**

Looking out over the next 10 days, unsettled conditions are expected to continue bringing more cool wet weather, with a strong chance of precipitation falling as a rain snow mix.

- The greatest accumulations are expected along the foothills between the US boarder and Red Deer with 20 – 40 mm possible.
- Most agricultural areas in the province south of the Yellowhead highway are expected to receive 5 to 20 mm of further moisture.
- Generally north of the Yellowhead highway, through the North East, along with most areas of the Peace Region, accumulations will be less than 10 mm.
- Through agricultural areas of the north west from Slave Lake down to Rocky Mountain House 10-20 mm is likely.

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Note that often long range forecasts are not reliable. Generally weather predictions are most reliable about 3-days out. Please keep an eye on local conditions to see if conditions are changing.

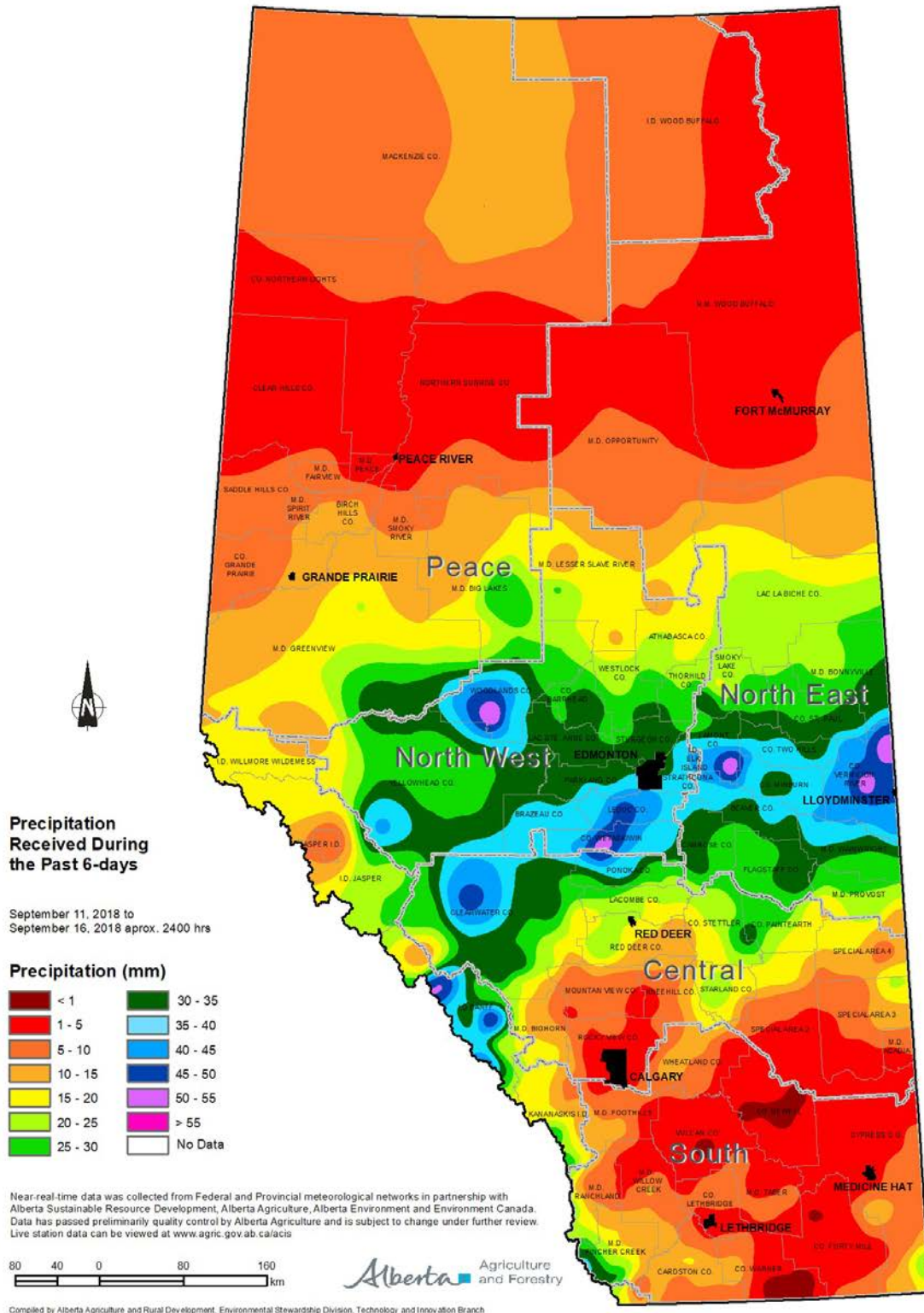
**Near-real-time hourly station** data can be viewed/downloaded at [www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations](http://www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations)

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

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## Map 1



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

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## Map 2

