

Moisture Situation Update – September 26, 2017

Synopsis:

Last week a large system brought a few days of wide spread rain to a large area of the province ranging from Calgary, up as far north as Manning in the Peace Region (**see map 1**). Amounts were variable, with upwards of 120 mm recorded in and around Whitecourt. Most lands situated in a large area ranging from about Grande Prairie, down to Rocky Mountain House and as far east as Edmonton received at least 40 mm of rain.

Cold air associated with this event brought frost to many areas of the province, with most lands south of Olds and north of Grande Prairie seeing temperatures dip below -2°C (**see map 2**). Central areas were less affected. The coldest temperatures were recorded during the early morning hours of Sunday, September 24th when parts of southern Alberta, saw temperatures drop as low as -8°C.

Discussions with AF fire weather meteorologists.

A large mass of Arctic air is set to arrive in the northwest late on Sunday (September 30th), pushing into the entire province over the next few days. At the time of writing this system was very complex, making accurate predictions into next week difficult; however, it's very likely that most areas of the province will experience cool, wet weather. This should be similar in magnitude to the system we saw move though last week (**see map 1**), with the hardest hit areas falling somewhere in a large area lying between the southern Peace Region, Rocky Mountain House and Lac La Biche. Furthermore, it's looking likely that many agricultural areas, at least as far south as Red Deer may see a rain/snow mix. Wide spread frost is also very likely. Again, please be aware, that a prediction this far out is difficult to make accurately. Watch your local weather forecast for more up to date information.

Looking out even further, the weather picture is potentially looking similar to what we experienced last fall. Early indications suggest that Alberta is in the path of at least a few more unseasonably cool and wet weather events as we move through the next several weeks.

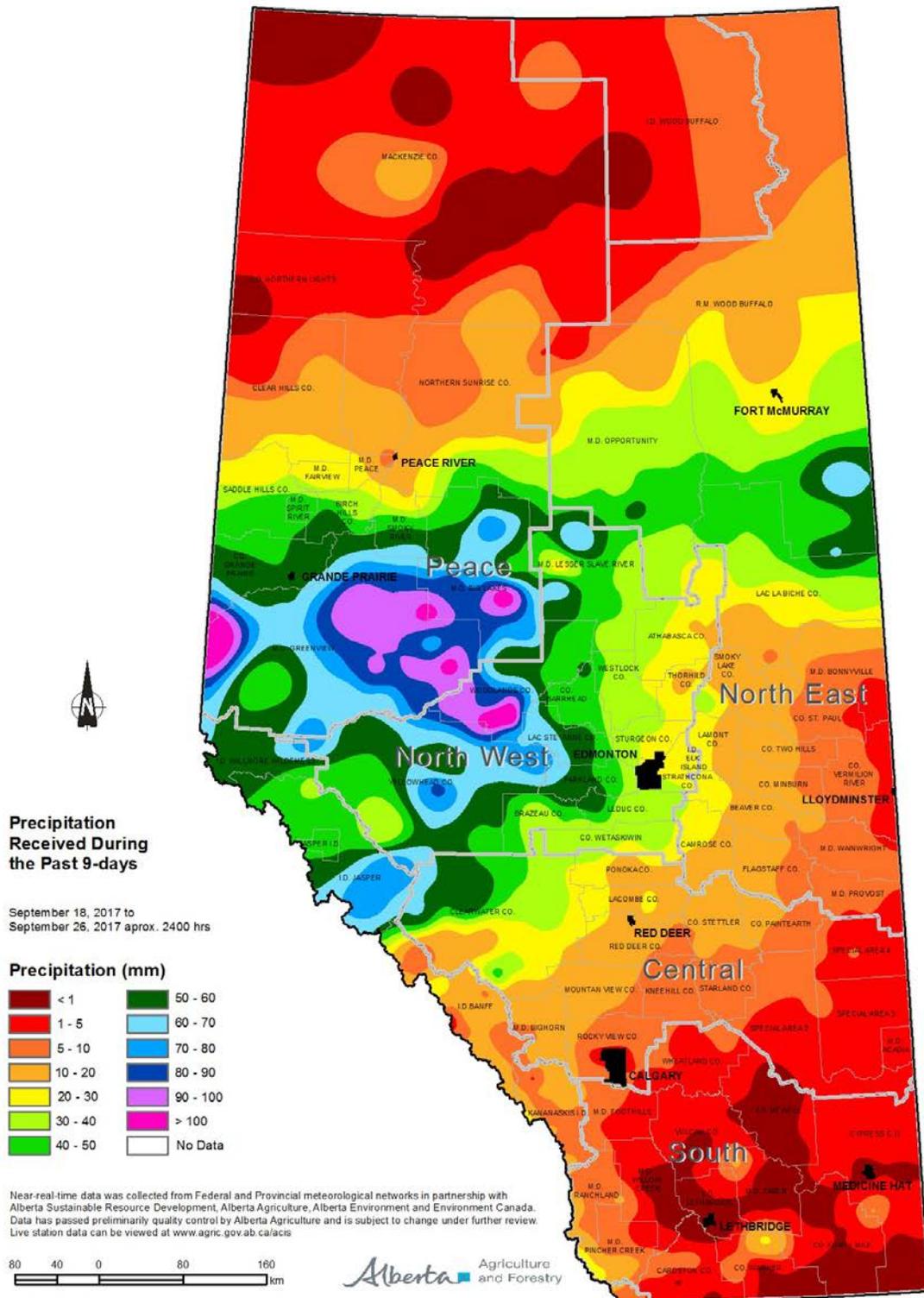
Near-real-time hourly station data can be viewed/downloaded at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations

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 2

