

Moisture Situation Update – May 15 2017

Synopsis

May started out quite warm and relatively dry, after an unusually cool and wet April prevailed across most of the province (see map 1). However, towards the end of last week another major system swept across the province bringing more moisture (10-50 mm) to many of the provinces agricultural lands (see map 2).

A very large area running from Provost in the east, all the way up to Manning in the Peace country received more than 30 mm of moisture. As a result, soil moisture reserves have increased notably, with about 70% of the agricultural lands across this wide area seeing reserves this high on average less than once in 50-years (see map 3). Fortunately areas across the northern Peace Region that have been experiencing below average precipitation for several years, received upwards of 15 mm. While this is not a significant amount of moisture, it should help to get pastures going and add some moisture to the seed bed.

Additional maps can be found at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/maps

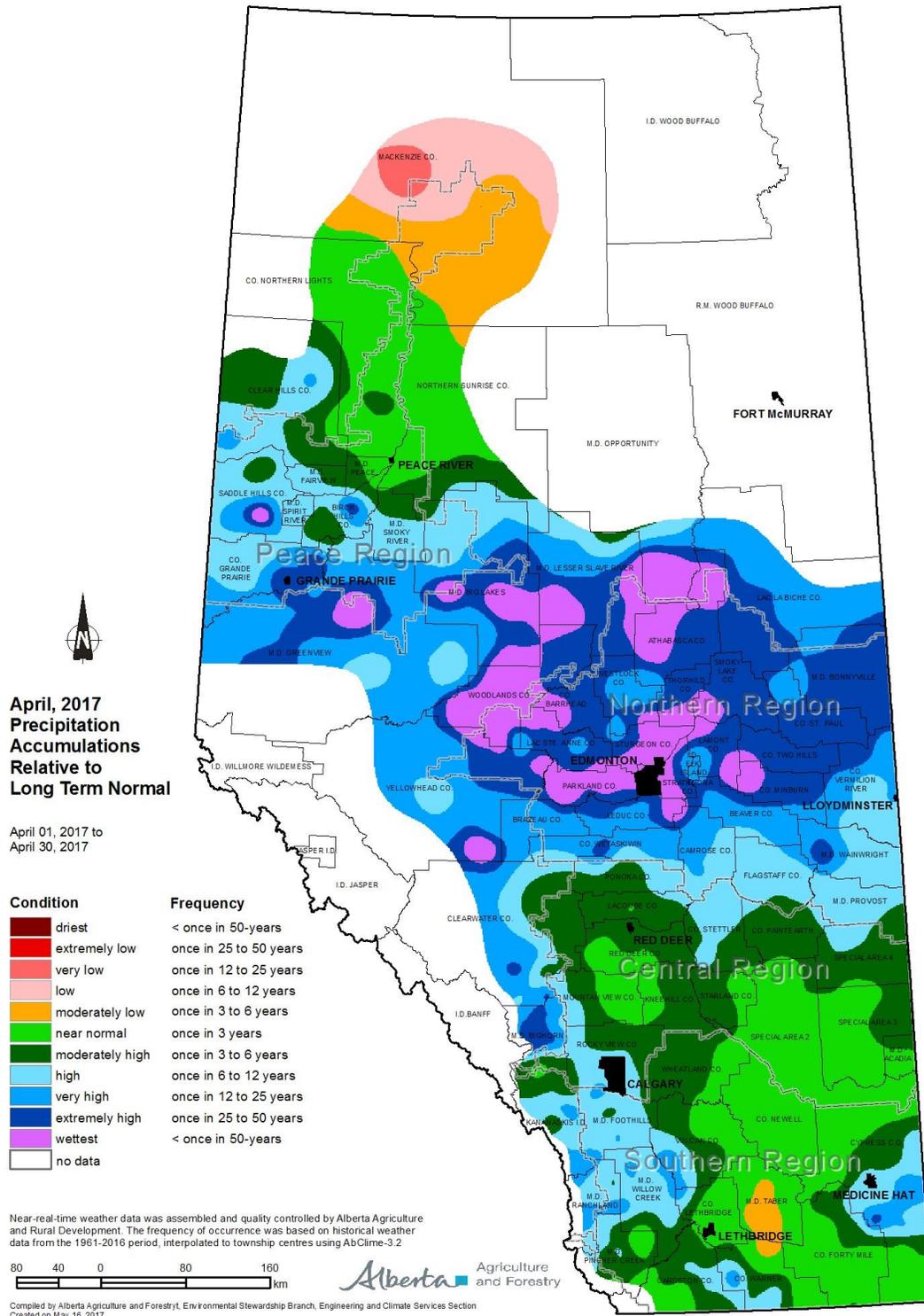
Near-real-time hourly station data can be viewed/downloaded at www.agriculture.alberta.ca/stations

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

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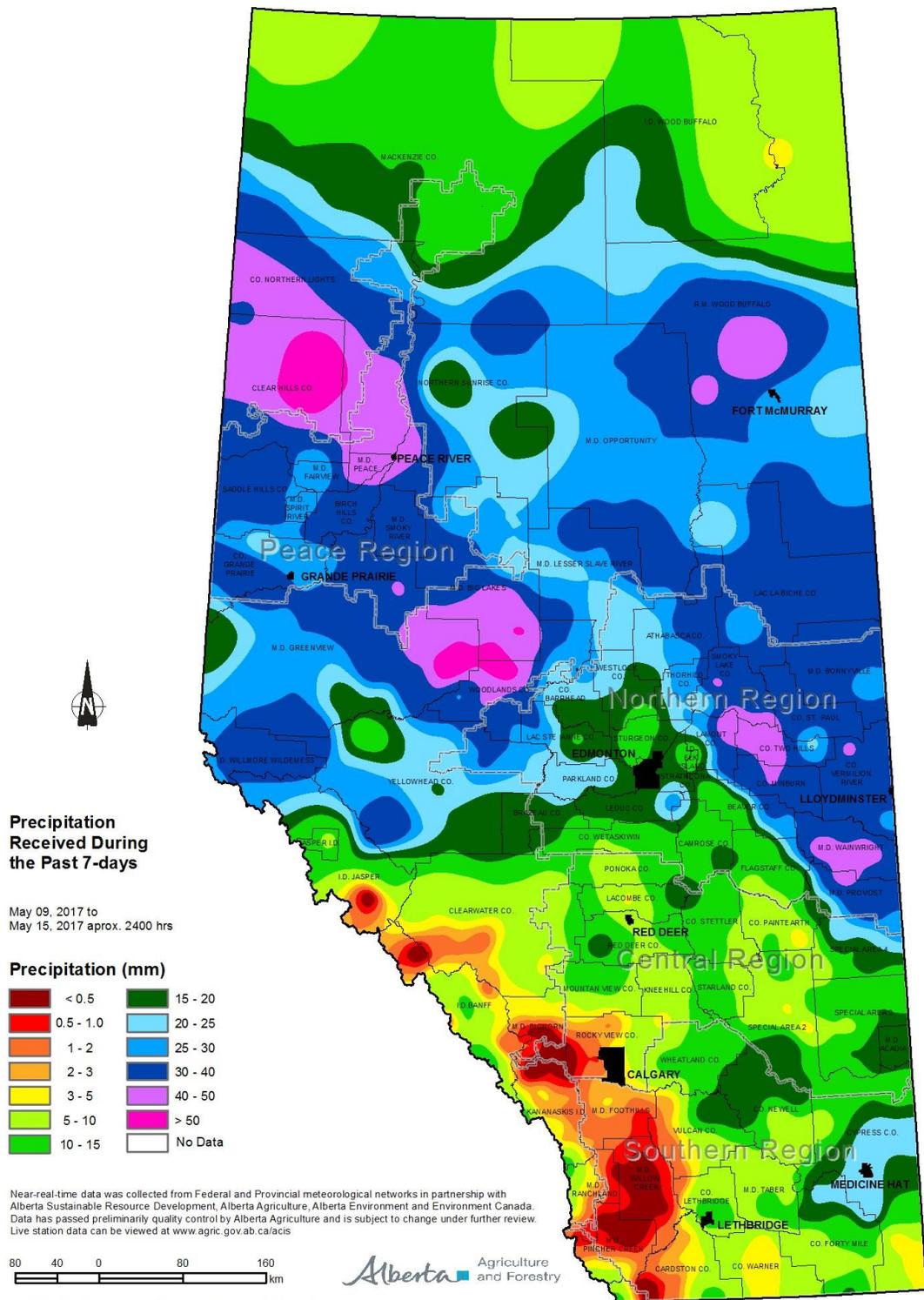
Map 1



Visit weatherdata.ca for additional maps and meteorological data

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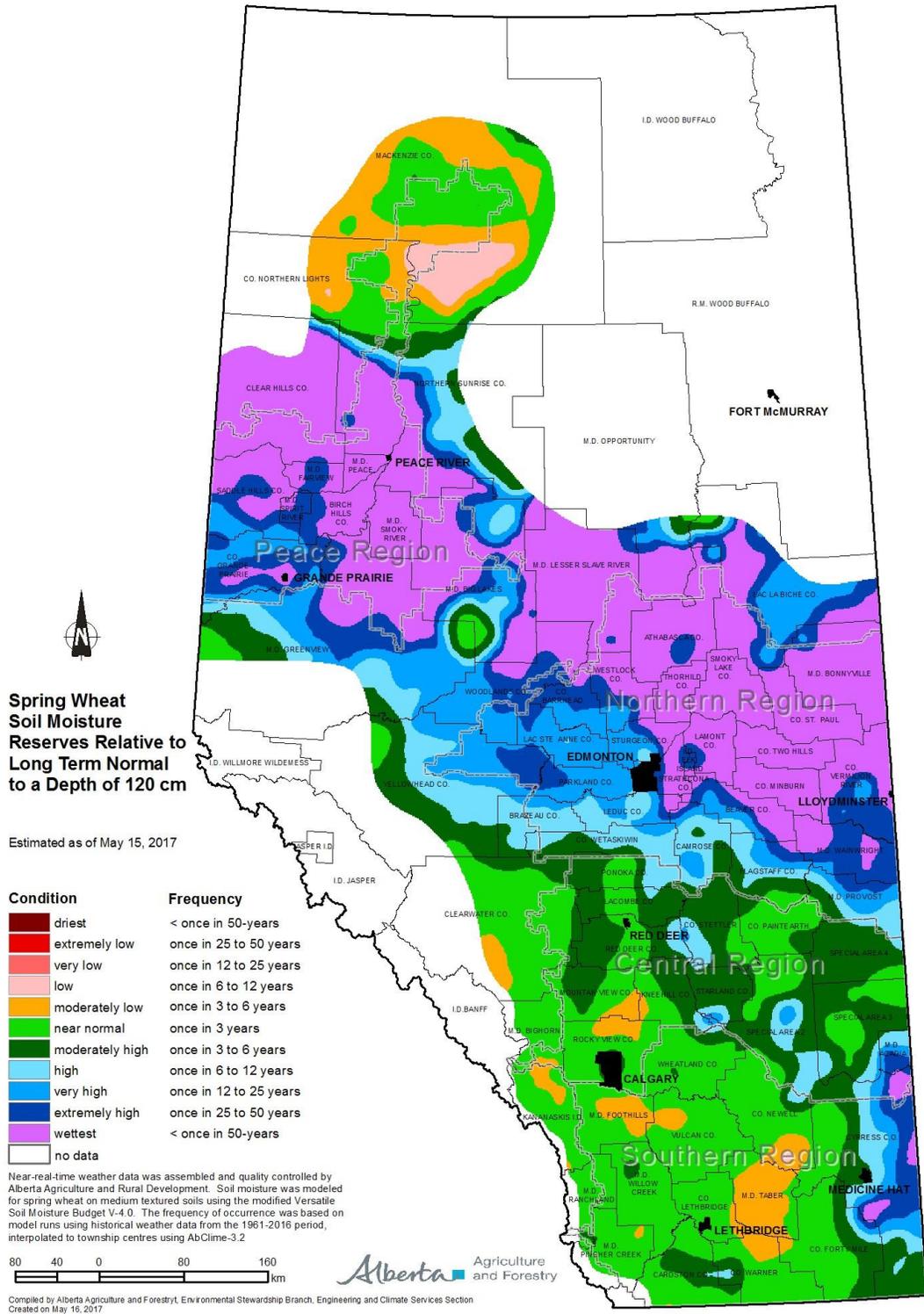
Map 2



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Map 3



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