

British Columbia Drought Monitoring Summary

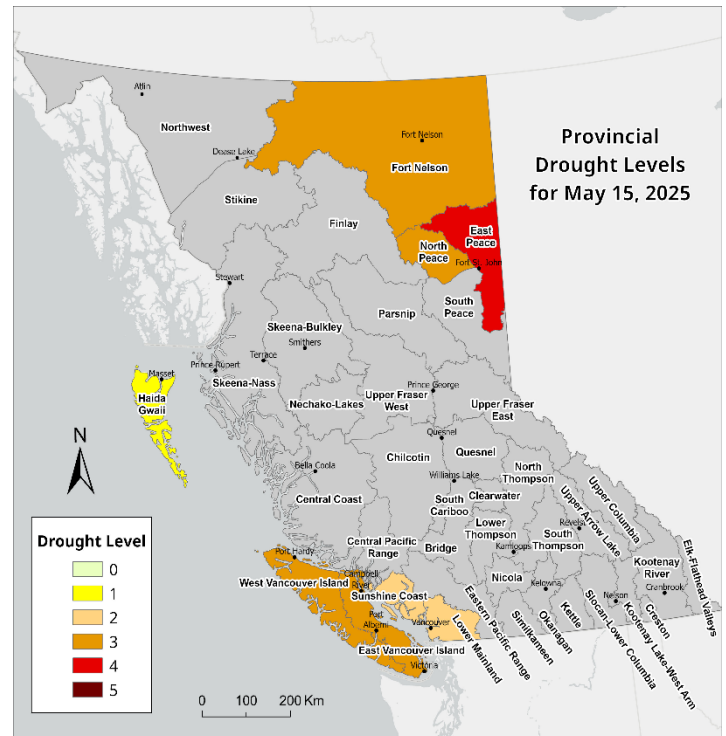
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Key Messages

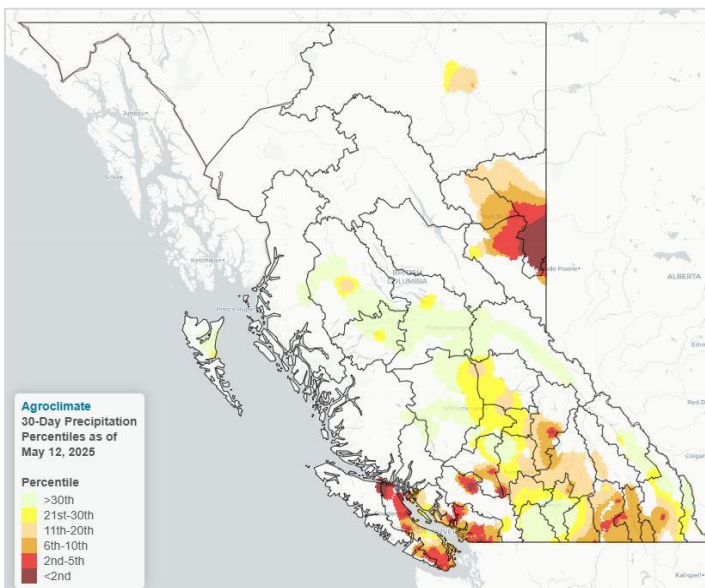
- Significant 30-day precipitation deficits in the northeast and southern coastal areas.
- Streamflows declining in snow-dominated systems where seasonal snowpack has melted.
- Many rainfall-dominated systems experiencing rapid decline in streamflows due to sustained precipitation deficits.
- Continued high streamflow in snowmelt-fed systems where seasonal snowpack remains.

Risk Profile

- No high stream temperature concerns in the [West Coast](#) region.
- Reports of low dugout levels and lowest on record streamflow for Kiskatinaw River in northeast.



Provincial drought levels for May 15, 2025. Visit the [B.C. Drought Information Portal](#) to view the full map and additional data layers.



30-day precipitation percentiles as of May 12, 2025.

Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Looking Ahead

- No heavy, widespread precipitation or extended hot/dry periods expected in the upcoming week.
- Drought conditions may intensify in northeast and southern coastal areas.
- Sustained precipitation deficits, low snowpack, and early start to snowmelt in southern interior, upper Fraser and Nechako-Lakes indicate risk for drought to emerge as seasonal snowpack is depleted.

Product Description and Explanation

British Columbia Drought Assessment Summary

Product Description

The British Columbia Drought Monitoring Summary is published by the Water Management Branch. It is a one-page summary document issued when provincial drought levels are updated.

Purpose

The Drought Monitoring Summary provides additional context to current drought levels published on the [B.C. Drought Information Portal](#), including on conditions, local impacts, potential risks and short-term outlook. Its intended users include the general public, media and staff who are involved in water management and drought hazard response/planning in First Nations, local, provincial and federal government. Information contained in the Drought Monitoring Summary may differ from local conditions.

Distribution and Timing

The Drought Monitoring Summary is published on the B.C. Drought Information Portal. The Water Management Branch maintains an e-mail distribution list for issue of the Drought Monitoring Summary. To be added to the list, please send a request to DroughtOps@gov.bc.ca. The Drought Monitoring Summary is typically published on Thursday mornings and is based on information valid as of Tuesday morning of the same week. This means that the Drought Monitoring Summary (and the published drought levels) may not reflect conditions, observations and assessments at the time of publication. Users should be aware that conditions may change substantially from one issue date to the next.

Technical Details

Drought levels measure the severity of dryness relative to the historical record across broad spatial scales, primarily using meteorological and hydrological indicators (see the [B.C. Drought and Water Scarcity Response Plan](#) for more details). Drought levels do not consider forecasted conditions and are not intended to measure the severity or risk of drought impacts. The risk profile described in this Drought Monitoring Summary may include available information on ecological or socio-economic impacts and potential risks factors and is not intended to guide specific actions.

Further Information

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

Drought Operations

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