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Okanagan begins annual drought watch at Level 2, very dry



By Doyle Potenteau · Global News Posted May 17, 2024 12:05 pm · Updated May 17, 2024 7:46 pm · 2 min read



means very dry and the outlook for the coming months is not promising, As Klaudia Van Emmerik reports, residents are urged to do their part to prepare for what's shaping up to be an extremely dry summer season. - May 17, 2024

Concerns growing tonight over drought conditions across the Okanagan. The region is now at a level 2 drought rating which

WATCH HERE: https://globalnews.ca/news/10503532/okanagan-drought-level-2-very-dry/ For a third week in a row, with the unofficial start to summer underway, the

Okanagan remains at Drought Level 2, which is very dry.

and jumping into Drought Level 2.

Provincial officials began their annual drought-monitoring process on May 2, and the **Southern Interior** began the season by skipping Drought Level 1 (dry)

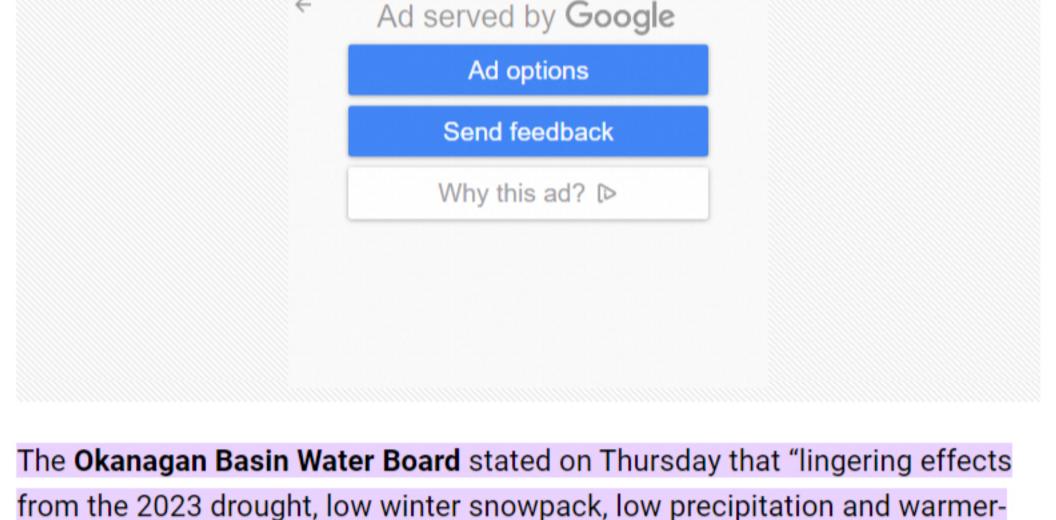
In B.C., there are six drought levels: 0 (non-drought) to 5 (exceptionally dry), with 5 featuring "adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are almost certain."



conservation actions that include local water restrictions where appropriate. STORY CONTINUES BELOW ADVERTISEMENT

At Level 2, the province says "adverse impacts to socio-economic or

ecosystem values are unlikely," but response measures should include



than-normal temperatures causing an early freshet, have prompted the Government of B.C. to move the Okanagan to a Level 2 drought rating." The daily email you need for Okanagan's top news stories.

The OBWB continued, saying "while recent localized rains have helped,

the next few weeks."

At Level 3 (severely dry), the province says "adverse impacts to socioeconomic or ecosystem values are possible," while Level 4, extremely dry, has likely adverse impacts.

drought conditions will persist into 2024 unless we have prolonged rain within



this drought is persisting into 2024," said the OBWB. "The below-normal snowpack this winter means, despite some rain in April, the Okanagan hasn't seen significant recovery from last year's drought."

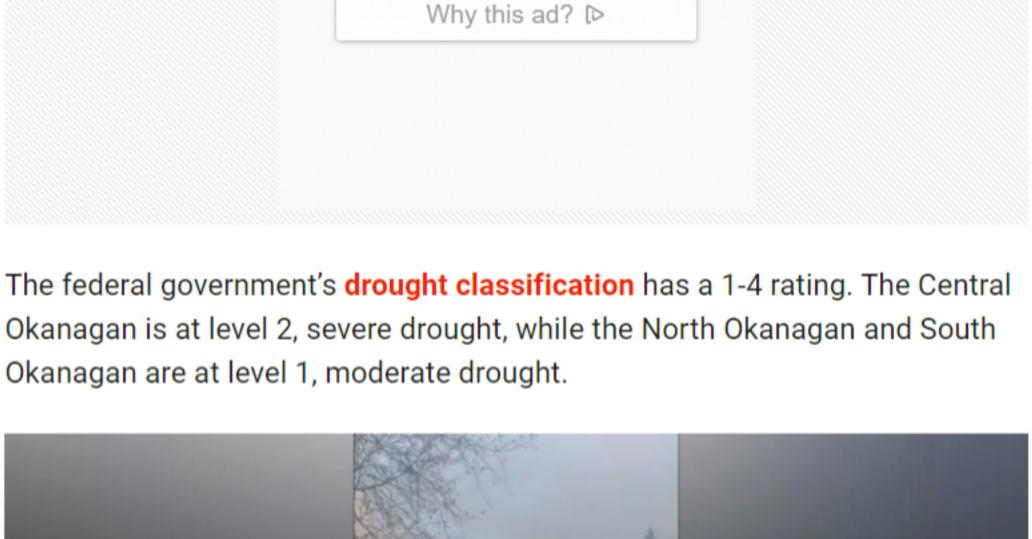
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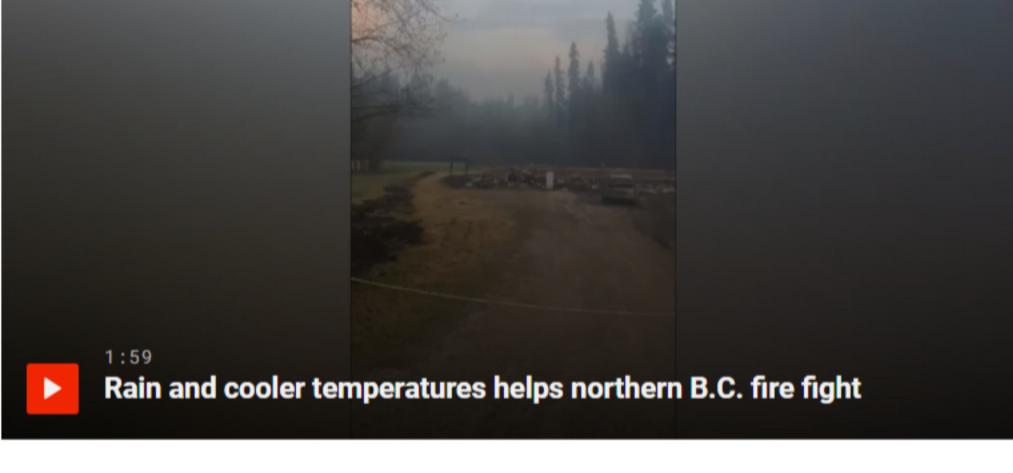
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"The Okanagan spent more than half of 2023 in drought, starting in June and





Across the Southern Interior, several communities have implemented water restrictions, such as Kelowna, which is under Stage 1 restrictions (lawn watering three times a week).

Check your local jurisdiction for watering restrictions.

one to three weeks.

In related news, provincial officials also released their weekly freshet and flood status on Thursday.

According to the province, normal to above-normal seasonal flows are

present, but stable river conditions are expected through next week. It also said the peak of seasonal snowmelt runoff is anticipated over the next