

NEWS RELEASE

May 31, 2005

Lake of the Woods & Lac Seul Outflows Increasing

Heavy rainfall on May 25th and 26th throughout much of the Winnipeg River drainage basin has caused inflows to both Lake of the Woods and Lac Seul to rise dramatically. Inflow to Lac Seul has increased about 50% while inflow to Lake of the Woods has more than doubled.

Lake of the Woods authorized outflow was increased on Thursday, May 26th from 575 to 700 m³/s, to 800 m³/s on May 30th and will be increased further to 900 m³/s on Tuesday, May 31st. The Winnipeg River immediately below the Norman Dam has risen about 55 cm (22 in) over the past week and will rise an additional 60-70cm (24-28 in) with the increase to 900 m³/s. Winnipeg River levels at Minaki are expected to rise 35-40 cm (14-16 in).

Lake of the Woods level is currently 323.13 m (1060.1 ft) and has risen 15 cm (6 in) in the past week. The lake is expected to rise 10-15 cm (4 to 6 in) over the next week.

On Nutimik Lake in the Whiteshell in Manitoba, water levels will rise at least 30 cm (12 in), and possibly more, as tributary flows along the English River are also rising.

Lac Seul outflows will be increased from 300 to 400 m³/s on Wednesday, June 1. The current level of Lac Seul is 356.18 m (1168.6 ft) and has risen 28 cm (11 in) over the past week. It is expected to rise 20-25 cm (8-10 in) over the next week.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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