

**Adopted Supplementary Regulation Strategy  
Lake of the Woods Control Board  
January 12, 2016**

The Lake of the Woods Control Board held a Regulation Consultation by teleconference on January 12, 2016 and adopted a supplementary regulation strategy for the winter period. The supplementary strategy builds upon the regulation strategy set in October 2015, and was formulated considering basin conditions, hydrological and meteorological forecasts, and the input of the various interests concerned with basin management. Input was provided in written and verbal reports as well as from the Board's Regulation Guide: (<http://www.lwcb.ca/reg-guide/index.html>).

For an update on current conditions, please refer to the Basin Data section of the Board's web site at <http://www.lwcb.ca/waterflowdata.html>. For regulation actions and directives taken under the strategy please see the Regulation Actions at <http://www.lwcb.ca/regulation/index.html>.

## **Lac Seul**

### ***A) Seasonal Considerations***

Under normal conditions, the Board takes into account a number of different interests and sets a strategy that seeks to balance those interests to the greatest extent practicable. These interests were laid out in the Regulation Strategy set in October 2015. However, given the wet conditions during November and December 2015, the regulation of Lac Seul should be conducted with the goal of reaching an appropriate end-of-winter level while attempting to limit concerns downstream due to higher than normal flows.

Should a return to normal conditions occur before the end of winter, the different interests laid out in the October 2015 Regulation Strategy should be taken into consideration when evaluating flow changes from Lac Seul.

### ***B) Adopted Supplementary Strategy***

The regulation of Lac Seul over the winter should focus on drawing down the lake level to provide storage for snow melt and spring and summer rainfall. To that end, the end-of-winter target level range should be lowered by 10 cm (4 in) from that set in the October 2015 strategy in order to accommodate what is anticipated to be a higher than normal spring baseflow. The target range is 354.5 to 354.6 m (1163.1 to 1163.4 ft). This target range will be re-evaluated at the March 2016 Regulation meeting based on actual inflow and snowpack conditions at that time.

While inflow to Lac Seul remains at or above the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile for this time of year, the outflow should be set as high as 550 m<sup>3</sup>/s prior to considering a partial or full closure of the Lake St. Joseph diversion. The outflow should be reduced to 500 m<sup>3</sup>/s or lower as soon as conditions suggest a reasonable certainty of reaching the end-of-winter target range at the lower flow rate.

The over-winter drawdown for the revised target level range would be between 1.62 and 1.72 m based on a level of 356.22m on November 1, 2015. Although the lake level rose after this date, it declined to approximately the same point prior to freeze-up during the last week of December.

The considerations laid out in the October 2015 Strategy remain applicable and if inflow conditions return to normal those target levels and flow should be followed, with the exception of the revised end-of-winter target stipulated above.

## **Lake of the Woods**

### ***A) Seasonal Considerations***

Under normal conditions, the Board takes into account a number of different interests and sets a strategy that seeks to balance those interests to the greatest extent practicable. These interests were laid out in the Regulation Strategy set in October 2015. However, given the wet conditions during November and December 2015, the regulation of Lake of the Woods should be conducted with the goal of reaching an appropriate end-of-winter level while attempting to limit concerns downstream due to higher than normal flows.

Should a return to normal conditions occur before the end of winter, the different interests laid out in the October 2015 Regulation Strategy should be taken into consideration when evaluating flow changes from Lake of the Woods.

### ***B) Adopted Supplementary Strategy***

The regulation of Lake of the Woods over the winter should focus on drawing down the lake level to provide storage for snow melt and spring and summer rainfall. To that end, the end-of-winter target level should be lowered by 4 cm (2 in) from that set in the October 2015 strategy in order to accommodate what is anticipated to be a higher than normal spring baseflow. The target level is 322.38 m (1057.7 ft), or lower quartile. This target level will be re-evaluated at the March 2016 Regulation meeting based on actual inflow and snowpack conditions at that time. The outflow should be reduced to 700 m<sup>3</sup>/s or lower as soon as conditions suggest a reasonable certainty of reaching the end-of-winter target level at the lower flow rate.

The over-winter drawdown for the revised target level would be 0.42 m based on a level of 322.80 m on November 1, 2015. It should be noted that freeze-up didn't occur until about December 27 when the level was 322.89 m. The projected drawdown post freeze-up would therefore be 51 cm (20 in).

The considerations laid out in the October 2015 Strategy remain applicable and if inflow conditions return to normal those target levels and flow should be followed, with the exception of the revised end-of-winter target stipulated above.