

Meeting Record

International Kootenay Lake Board of Control Public Meeting

Prestige Lakeside Resort
701 Lakeside Drive
Nelson, British Columbia

October 4, 2001
7:30 to 9:00 PM

Attendance

	Canada	United States
Chair	Kirk Johnstone (host)	Col. Ralph Graves
Members	James Mattison	Steve Lipscomb for Derrill Cowing
Secretary	Daniel Millar	Larry Merkle
Guests	Chris Oakley (WKP), Commissioner Nominee Dennis Schornack, Commissioner Robert Gourd, Gerry Galloway (Secretary, US Section, IJC), Tom McAuley (IJC), Lisa Bourget (IJC) Al Zakodnik (Nelson - BCSRM), Ted Mannings (Nelson), Norman Simmons (Wynndel), Gerry Bond (Creston), Dan Egolf (Trail), Harvey Andrusak (Nelson), Dwain Boyer (Nelson - BCWLAP), Ray Johnson (Nelson)	

Agenda

- 1. Welcome and introductions** Kirk Johnstone
Kirk Johnstone introduced himself as Canadian Chair of the Board. Other members and IJC staff introduced themselves.
- 2. Review of the agenda** Kirk Johnstone
Guests were invited to comment on the agenda. No changes were requested.
- 3. Kootenay presentation** Larry Merkle
Larry Merkle described the IJC, the Board, and the history and current status of the Order of Approval governing levels on Kootenay Lake.
- 4. WKP management of Kootenay Lake levels in 2001** Chris Oakley
Chris Oakley described the management of lake levels this year by West Kootenay Power. Particularly notable were the conditions of drought experienced this year, as well as the delayed onset of freshet. The basin, this year, apparently delivered about 54% of average runoff.
- 5. Questions and comments from the public**
Ray Johnston asked why, relevant to the 1949 Order, current water levels were higher than allowed. He was advised that the 1949 Order was a temporary Order, and that the 1938 Order was current.

Harvey Andrusak asked what investigations the IJC undertakes. He noted that upstream impoundments cause nutrient problems in the lake. Gerry Galloway noted the Reference mechanism under the Treaty. Jim Mattison advised that neither Canadian government had

brought the issue to the IJC.

Mr. Andrusak noted the delayed rate of fill caused by the presence of Libby, and the effect of that delay on fish. Kirk Johnstone advised that the Board is concerned with actual levels rather than rate of inflow. Chris Oakley described the very difficult challenge of balancing the Columbia River Treaty, the Order, and fisheries flow regimes.

Mr. Andrusak pointed out that the 1938 Order is clearly out of date especially considering the construction of Libby. He asked, "Has the Board considered updating the Order?" Kirk Johnstone replied that the Board had discussed revisiting the Order, and would provide advice to the IJC on the matter. Gerry Galloway noted that the IJC has begun reviewing Orders across the country.

Norman Simmons commented that Duck Lake was too low this year. He wanted it to have a stable water level to protect the last good bass fishing in the province. Particularly difficult is the depletion of the lake during the period January to April when the Kootenay rule curve applies. Mr. Simmons was pleased to receive a copy of the relevant Duck Lake Orders for his reference.

6. Adjourn

Kirk Johnstone thanked guests and wished them a safe journey home.