

International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board (IRLWWB) Basin Event
Summary of Discussion
August 19-22, 2013
International Falls, MN and Kenora, ON

MONDAY, AUGUST 19th, 14:00-17:30 CDT, (International Falls) and THURSDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 8:00-12:00 EDT, (Kenora) – BOARD MEETING

Canadian Member Participants

Mike Goffin (Co-Chair)	Environment Canada
Gail Faveri	Environment Canada
Mark Lee	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (absent Thursday)
Kiley Hanson	Fort Frances, local member
Dennis Brown	Atikokan, local member
Todd Sellers	Minaki, local member
Karen Cederwall	Kenora, local member

Canadian Member Absentees

Greg Chapman	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
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U.S. Member Participants

Col. Daniel Koprowski	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Suzanne Hanson	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (absent Thursday)
Jeffrey Stoner	U.S. Geological Survey
Mike Hirst	Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District
Leland Grim	Rainy Lake, local member
Charlene Mason	Ely, local member
Jenny Moorman	Baudette, local member

Commissioners

Rich Moy	U.S. Commissioner
Gordon Walker	Canadian Commissioner

Invited Participants

Kelli Saunders	Watershed Coordinator, Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation
Pat Carey	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Observers

Joel Wessman	Consulate General of Canada
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Commission Liaisons

Mark Colosimo	U.S. Section
Michael Laitta	U.S. Section
Jean-François Cantin	Canadian Section
Nick Heisler	Canadian Section

Secretariat/Engineering Advisors

Kari Hauck (U.S. Secretary and Engineering Advisor)	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matt DeWolfe (Canadian Engineering Advisor)	Lake of the Woods Secretariat
Diane de Beaumont (Canadian Secretary)	Environment Canada

1. Welcome and Introductions (Co-Chairs)

The Co-Chairs welcomed everyone to the 1st basin meeting of the Board. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda (Co-Chairs)

The agenda was reviewed and approved as is.

3. Status of Action Items from April 2014 Board Meeting (Secretariat)

The Board Secretariat provided the status of three actions items from the Board's April 2014 meeting:

1. Board to establish the Community Advisory Group and Industry Advisory Group. Status: underway
2. Board to hold annual basin meeting. Status: currently being held
3. Subcommittee to develop proposed Terms of Reference and recommendations for the Water Quality Plan of Study. Status: Terms of Reference and recommendations have been developed and will be discussed during the second half of this meeting on Thursday.

4. Orientation Session for New Members (International Joint Commission and Kelli Saunders)

Nick Heisler provided an introduction to the IJC and the history of IJC's actions on the Lake of the Woods, Rainy River and Rainy and Namakan Lakes. Jean-François Cantin summarized the mandate, structure and functions of the IRLWWB. Kelli Saunders, Water shed Coordinator, provided a brief overview of the International Watershed Coordination program.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. IRLWWB to store IRLWWB-related documentation in appropriate folders. 2. IRLWWB to keep a meeting record of decisions (i.e. meeting summary).

5. Board Draft Work Plan (Michael Goffin)

August 20th Meeting Summary of Discussion:

Michael Goffin explained that the work plan template matches proposed Board activities to mandated responsibilities. Members discussed the proposed activities. During the discussion, it was pointed out that the IRLWWB would likely address Directive 4.a related to the recommendation of water quality objectives through the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Water Quality Plan of Study and that it would be best to undertake a trend analysis and identify gaps as soon as possible, as part of the Plan of Study. It was also pointed out that it will be important for the IRLWWB to look at the full array of objectives not just the most stringent. For a definition of Alert Levels, the IJC referred the Board to the Rainy Lake Pollution Board documentation. The IJC indicated that alert levels can be established by consensus by Board but objectives are decided by the IJC. Dennis Brown (Canadian Co-Chair of the Industry Advisory Group) recommended that the Board take the economy into consideration in discussions on recommended actions. The Watershed Coordinator indicated that the International Multi-Agency Arrangement has started considering the economy in their discussions and the Industry Advisory Group and the Community Advisory Group were encouraged to attend the next meeting of the International Multi-Agency Arrangement.

August 22nd Meeting Summary of Discussion:

The IRLWWB agreed to expand the scope of the State of the Basin Report Update to provide an assembly of existing water quality objectives, alert levels, and in the absence of either, how the responsible jurisdictions approach waters quality parameters etc., as well as identifying exceedences of relevant objectives, in support of the IRLWWB activities under its Directive 4a,b. The Water Levels Committee was instructed to develop their activities for insertion on the draft work plan. It was noted that Kelli Saunders (Watershed Coordinator) would assist with work plan activities related to Directive 4d, e and f. The IRLWWB discussed the frequency and nature of future IAG and CAG meetings and requested the addition of the mention “CAG and IAG to meet as appropriate” in the work plan. Karen Cederwall requested that the Board consider holding private meetings with First Nations, Métis and Tribal representatives to obtain their feedback on IRLWWB activities. The IRLWWB resolved to draft a recommendation on how to best engage First Nations, Métis and Tribal representatives.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Todd Sellers to include additional information, as discussed, in the revised State of the Basin Report Update proposal. 2. Matt DeWolfe and Kari Hauck to insert activities related to the Water Levels Committee (Directive 4c) in the draft work plan by August 29, 2013. 3. Members to provide further work plan input to the Secretariat by August 29, 2013. 4. Secretariat to collate input and provide revised work plan to members by September 13, 2013. 5. Secretariat to draft recommendation on how to best engage First Nations, Métis and Tribal representatives. 6. Watershed Coordinator to invite the IAG and CAG to the next meeting of the International Multi-Agency Arrangement.

6. Review of August 2013 Dam Operators Meeting and Resource Management Agencies Meeting Agendas (Colonel Koprowski)

Colonel Koprowski led the review of both agendas which were approved “as is”.

7. Public Meeting Presentation (All)

Colonel Koprowski led the discussion on the finalization of the public presentation. Board members provided input which was considered in the updating of the presentation.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Kari Hauck to finalize presentation based on members’ input. 2. Secretariat to provide final presentation to the International Joint Commission for posting on the IRLWWB’s website.

8. Update on International Watershed Initiative (IWI) Projects (Gail Faveri)

Gail Faveri gave an update on a number of International Watershed Initiative projects. Their titles and status are as follows:

- Rainy River Temperature Spawning Correlation – Project Number 2009.01, OMNR report due 2013: funded.
- Rainy River HECRAS Report – Project Number 2010.01, USACE and EC in-kind contribution: funding over, but awaiting time to complete documentation.
- Seine River Sturgeon Study – Project Number 2011.01, SRFN annual report of 5 year project to 2015: funded
- Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Water Quality Forum annual support funding - Project Number 2010.02, LWWQSF 5 years to 2015: funded
- Pinch Point modeling - Project Number 2012.01, EC, completed.
- Acoustic Doppler Velocity Gauge d/s of I Falls dam - Project Number 2011.02, USGS
- Wild Rice Study - Project Number 2011.05, SRFN 2 year project. Found not to meet mandate of Board; too closely linked to Rule Curve : resubmit revised proposal with focus on water quality link

(wild rice as a bio indicator of ecosystem health) and its economic and cultural importance to First Nations/Métis.

- Satellite Imagery for Land Use - Project Number 2011.07, IMA-TAC: not received by International Joint Commission; resubmit proposal
- State of the Basin Report, new, LWWQSF: to be discussed under next agenda item.
- Consolidated vertical datum survey study, new USACE, USGS, EC: USGS providing Statement of Work for a survey of Namakan Chain of Lakes temporary and permanent gauges
- Wheeler's Point Gauge – not suitable for IWI funding. IRLWWB to recommend to International Joint Commission for funding.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Lee Grim to lead the revision of the Wild Rice Study proposal; Secretariat to submit revised proposal to the International Joint Commission by October. 2. Secretariat to resubmit Satellite Imagery for Land Use project proposal to the International Joint Commission. 3. IRLWWB to rank IWI projects in project proposals.

9. Update on Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study and Next Steps (Kelli Saunders)

Kelli Saunders, member of the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study Subcommittee, presented the draft recommendations of the IRLWWB and proposed Terms of Reference for the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study. It was agreed that the Board, through the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study Subcommittee, would refine the proposal by amalgamating the recommendations and the Terms of Reference into one document which would include the following information: a reasonable project timeframe (would identify that the Plan of Study and the State of the Basin Report Update would be conducted in parallel process), clearer definition of the strategy for the project, the need to identify and secure agency commitment before start of project, dates in flow diagram (including the start date of the State of the Basin Report Update), a description of the level of engagement required (and the involvement from the CAG and IAG), resource requirements and timeline, and a more streamlined Board role in diagram. The IRLWWB agreed to submit its revised Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study proposal to the IJC by September 23, 2013 and to present it at the October 2013 IJC Semi-Annual meeting.

Kelli Saunders also stated that the proposed State of the Basin Report Update is an essential and integral element of the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study and would address the first three steps in the proposed plan of study. Nick Heisler indicated that the funds for the State of the Basin Report Update have been reserved and that the IRLWWB needed to revise the proposal and re-submit it to the IJC. As advised by Nick Heisler, the IRLWWB agreed to revise the State of the Basin Report Update as follows: 1) more explicitly indicate how the study update integrates and supports the WQPOS process; 2) adjust the timeline to reflect that the project did not get started last June-July as originally expected; and 3) noting that we have a lead author-research waiting in the wings and available to start the first week of September in order to meet the adjusted timeline.

ACTION ITEMS: Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study Subcommittee to revise the IRLWWB proposal for the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study as discussed and forward to the Secretariat who will obtain IRLWWB Co-Chairs approval and then submit to the International Joint Commission by September 23, 2013. 2. Todd Sellers to revise the State of the Basin Report Update proposal as per discussion and forward to Board Secretariat for Co-Chairs approval and submission to the International Joint Commission.

10. Update on Water Levels Committee Activities (Gail Faveri)

Matt DeWolfe and Kari Hauck were officially named engineering advisors to the IRLWWB. With regards to spring regulation, Gail Faveri indicated that late spring thaw eventually filled empty reservoirs; then late May rains brought inflows so high Rainy Lake went above the Rule Curve, and that gates, despite public perception and malfunctions, were opened on time. With regards to the sturgeon spawning protocol, Gail informed the IRLWWB that wet conditions this year during spawn didn't test the protocol, but that quicker response from fisheries experts will be required if the protocol is to work in dryer springs. Gail indicated that the Water Levels Committee would like to create a distribution list of those who should be notified downstream of flow fluctuations when river levels are going to change drastically. The IRLWWB discussed the various possible means of communications and decided that the communications protocol should include email distribution from LWS to tourism directors, EMO and sheriffs with a phone call to Birchdale General Store. Gail also provided a summary of the Water Levels Committee meeting with dam companies which took place on August 20, 2013.

ACTION ITEM: LWS to obtain email addresses from Mike Hurst and others and phone number of Birchdale General Store.

11. Update on Industry Advisory Group and Community Advisory Group Activities and Next Steps (Dennis Brown, Mike Hirst, Kiley Hanson and Charlene Mason)

The Industry Advisory Group (IAG) and the Community Advisory Group (CAG) Co-Chairs provided partial lists of proposed nominees for Industry Advisory Group and Community Advisory Group membership, which were approved by the IRLWWB. Co-Chairs of both groups also described their plans for bringing membership to full capacity. The International Joint Commission (IJC) indicated that it is the role of the IAG and CAG Co-Chairs to communicate directly with proposed IAG and CAG nominees and members given that both groups report directly to the CAG and IAG Co-Chairs. The IJC also explained that IRLWWB secretaries can help with such details as meeting room booking and ad purchasing but meeting notes would be taken by the IAG and CAG. The IJC added that the IRLWWB requires a "Communications Committee" (further discussed under "other Business"). The IRLWWB discussed the possibility of inviting CAG members to attend the next Lake of the Woods Water Quality Forum. The IRLWWB agreed to recommend that the IJC pay for forum registration costs for CAG members.

ACTION ITEM: Secretariat to draft a note to the IJC, for IRLWWB Co-Chairs approval, recommending that the IJC pay for March 2014 Lake of the Woods Water Quality Forum registration costs for CAG members.

12. Board's Fall Semi-Annual Appearance (All)

IRLWWB members discussed the content of the Board presentation for its appearance before the Commission during the October 2013 IJC Semi-Annual meeting. The International Joint Commission stated that the meeting is likely to be 45 minutes to 1 hour long. The IRLWWB decided to include the following items in the presentation: actions to-date, work plan, Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study, International Watershed Initiative projects update, and Rule Curve Studies update.

ACTION ITEM: Secretariat to develop draft IRLWWB presentation for semi-annual meeting with input from members.

13. Other Business (All)

The Board discussed a letter, addressed to the IRLWWB Co-Chairs, from the Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness (NMW) which requests that the IRLWWB examine and report on the water-related impacts of sulfide-ore mining exploration and development within the Rainy River basin and that the IRLWWB and the International Joint Commission make recommendations that would assist

governmental bodies in Canada and the U.S. in ensuring that the provisions of Article IV of the 1909 Boundary Waters Treaty are honoured. The IRLWWB agreed to raise their concerns with the International Joint Commission at its Semi-Annual fall meeting, noting that some of the issues raised in the NMW letter would require appropriate response from the IJC, which had received its own letter. At the same time, there was significant discussion by the IRLWWB that a meaningful response from the IRLWWB was required as well. It was discussed that consideration of the issue of sulphide and heavy metal contamination was within the purview of the IRLWWB both under its Directives and under the Water Quality Plan of Study. It was also decided to consider this topic in future Board discussions on the Rainy-Lake of the Woods Water Quality Plan of Study.

The IRLWWB also discussed the need to establish a list of discussion items ahead of the next Board meeting and develop a schedule of Board meetings covering the next 12 months as soon as possible. The International Joint Commission indicated that the expectation was that the Board would not meet in person at the IJC Semi-Annual meeting in October 2013.

The IRLWWB appointed the following members as media spokespeople: Matt DeWolfe and Lee Grim for media requests related to water levels, and Todd Sellers and Lee Grim for media requests related to water quality.

Kiley Hanson requested the removal of her address from the IRLWWB website.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Secretariat to draft letter to the Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness for Board Co-Chairs approval. 2. Secretariat to draft list of discussion items ahead of the next Board meeting for Board comments. 3. Secretariat to draft a schedule of Board meetings for Board comments as soon as possible. 4. Secretariat to contact the IJC and request the removal of Kiley Hanson's address from the Board website.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20th, 8:00-10:00 CDT, (International Falls) – RULE CURVE STUDY UPDATE

Canadian Member Participants

Mike Goffin (Co-Chair)
Gail Faveri

Environment Canada
Environment Canada

Mark Lee
Kiley Hanson
Dennis Brown
Todd Sellers
Karen Cederwall

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Fort Frances, local member
Atikokan, local member
Minaki, local member
Kenora, local member

Canadian Member Absentees

Greg Chapman

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

US Member Participants

Col. Daniel Koprowski
Suzanne Hanson
Jeffrey Stoner
Mike Hirst

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
U.S. Geological Survey
Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation
District
Rainy Lake, local member
Ely, local member
Baudette, local member

Leland Grim
Charlene Mason
Jenny Moorman

Commissioners

Rich Moy
Gordon Walker

U.S. Commissioner
Canadian Commissioner

Invited Participants

Kelli Saunders

Watershed Coordinator, Lake of the Woods Water
Sustainability Foundation
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Pat Carey

Study Managers

Ryan Maki
Geoff Smith

U.S. National Park Service
U.S. National Park Service

Rule Curve Study Researchers

Aaron Thompson
Steve Windels
Anne Timm
Len Ferrington
Mike Shantz
Adrienne Smith

Environment Canada
National Park Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
Environment Canada
University of Waterloo

Commission Liaisons

Mark Colosimo
Michael Laitta

U.S. Section
U.S. Section

Jean-François Cantin
Nick Heisler

Canadian Section
Canadian Section

Secretariat/Engineering Advisors

Kari Hauck (Secretary and Engineering Advisor)
Matt DeWolfe (Engineering Advisor)
Diane de Beaumont (Secretary)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake of the Woods Secretariat Environment Canada

1. Rule Curve Study Update (Ryan Maki)

Ryan led this session where principle investigators gave presentations on seven Rule Curve studies.

- Aaron Thompson gave a presentation titled: “Develop a hydrologic reservoir routing model for Rainy Lake and the Namakan Reservoir to assess the hydrodynamic changes due to the 2000 Rule Curves”.
- Steve Windels gave a presentation titled: “Assess effects of water-level fluctuation on bio indicators using analytical models (common loon reproductive success)”.
- Anne Timm gave a presentation titled: “Determine if northern pike spawning habitat and reproductive success have changed due to the 2000 Rule Curves”.
- Len Ferrington gave a presentation titled: “Measure changes in Rainy Lake and Namakan Reservoir benthic macro invertebrate communities in relation to 2000 rule curve changes”.
- Ryan Maki gave a presentation titled: “Develop detailed bathymetric maps of the littoral zone for selected locations to assist other monitoring studies designed to assess the effect of the 2000 Rule Curves on aquatic vegetation, benthos, northern pike, and walleye (reservoirs)”.
- Ryan indicated that the final delivery date has been revised to March 2014. Mike Shantz gave a presentation titled: “Assessment of the impacts of the IJC 2000 Rule Curves for Rainy and Namakan lakes on property damages due to flooding and ice”. Mike requested support from Board members with finding shoreline property owners that are willing to take part in a short survey and allow elevation measurements to be taken on their property.
- Adrienne Smith gave a presentation titled: “Measure upper Rainy River critical fish spawning and nursery habitats to determine how they have been affected by the 2000 Rule Curves”.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. IRLWWB members to provide information to Mike Shantz on potential shoreline property owners that would be willing to take part in a short survey and allow elevation measurements to be taken on their property. 2. Secretariat to post the presentations on Rule Curve studies presented today on the IRLWWB SharePoint site.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20th, 10:00-12:00 CDT, (International Falls) – RESOURCE AGENCIES MEETING

Canadian Member Participants

Mike Goffin (Co-Chair)
Gail Faveri

Environment Canada
Environment Canada

Mark Lee
Kiley Hanson
Dennis Brown
Todd Sellers
Karen Cederwall

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Fort Frances, local member
Atikokan, local member
Minaki, local member
Kenora, local member

Canadian Member Absentees

Greg Chapman

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

US Member Participants

Col. Daniel Koprowski
Suzanne Hanson
Jeffrey Stoner
Mike Hirst

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
U.S. Geological Survey
Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation
District
Rainy Lake, local member
Ely, local member
Baudette, local member

Leland Grim
Charlene Mason
Jenny Moorman

Commissioners

Rich Moy
Gordon Walker

U.S. Commissioner
Canadian Commissioner

Invited Participants

Kelli Saunders

Watershed Coordinator, Lake of the Woods Water
Sustainability Foundation
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
U.S. National Park Service
U.S. National Park Service
National Park Service
University of Minnesota

Pat Carey
Ryan Maki
Geoff Smith
Steve Windels
Len Ferrington

**Observers (Many representatives from agencies
and the Salt River First Nation attended the
meeting. Too many to have recorded the names.)**

Commission Liaisons

Mark Colosimo
Michael Laitta
Jean-François Cantin
Nick Heisler

U.S. Section
U.S. Section
Canadian Section
Canadian Section

Secretariat/Engineering Advisors

Kari Hauck (Secretary and Engineering Advisor)
Matt DeWolfe (Engineering Advisor)
Diane de Beaumont (Secretary)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake of the Woods Secretariat
Environment Canada

1. Welcome and Introductions (Co-Chairs)

The Co-Chairs welcomed everyone to this session. Attendees introduced themselves.

2. Presentations

Colonel Koprowski summarized the main points of the Board's mandate. Nolan Baratono provided an update on the Total Maximum Daily Load and Greater International Lake of the Woods Nutrient Reduction Project. During his presentation, Nolan pointed out that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency would be funding the Wheeler's Point Gauge for one more year only. Ryan Haines gave a presentation on the Lake Sturgeon IWI project on the Seine River. Trina Rawn gave an overview of the International Multi-Agency Arrangement. Ryan Maki gave an update on the 2013 Voyageurs National Park Lake Levels Research and Monitoring.

ACTION ITEM: Secretariat to post list of publications related to Voyageurs National Park Lake Levels Research and Monitoring on the IRLWWB SharePoint site.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20th, 13:00-14:00 CDT (International Falls) – RULE CURVE EVALUATION PROJECT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Canadian Member Participants

Mike Goffin (Co-Chair)	Environment Canada
Gail Favari	Environment Canada
Mark Lee	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship
Kiley Hanson	Fort Frances, local member
Dennis Brown	Atikokan, local member
Todd Sellers	Minaki, local member
Karen Cederwall	Kenora, local member

Canadian Member Absentees

Greg Chapman	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
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US Member Participants

Col. Daniel Koprowski	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Suzanne Hanson	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Jeffrey Stoner	U.S. Geological Survey
Mike Hirst	Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District
Leland Grim	Rainy Lake, local member
Charlene Mason	Ely, local member
Jenny Moorman	Baudette, local member

Commissioners

Rich Moy	U.S. Commissioner
Gordon Walker	Canadian Commissioner

Invited Participants

Kelli Saunders	Watershed Coordinator, Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation
Ryan Maki	Voyageurs National Park
Mary Graves	Voyageurs National Park

Commission Liaisons

Mark Colosimo	U.S. Section
Michael Laitta	U.S. Section
Jean-François Cantin	Canadian Section
Nick Heisler	Canadian Section

Secretariat/Engineering Advisors

Kari Hauck (Secretary and Engineering Advisor)	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matt DeWolfe (Engineering Advisor)	Lake of the Woods Secretariat
Diane de Beaumont (Secretary)	Environment Canada

1. Rule Curve Evaluation Project Management Update (Ryan Maki)

Ryan Maki provided a progress report on project implementation and upcoming studies. The Board learned that of the 19 studies, two are complete, three are in peer review, eight are underway, and six will be initiated in fiscal year 2014. The IRLWWB approved the U.S. FY 2014 project management budget requested by project managers Ryan Maki and Geof Smith for the 2009 IJC Plan of Study projects. The budget request was for \$109,923 and includes a portion of Ryan Maki and Geof Smith's National Park Service salary, one salary period for a biological technician to support the Plan of Study projects, travel costs and 15% overhead.

Ryan also provided a brief update on proposed changes to the Rainy Lake/Namakan Reservoir Bathymetric LiDAR Project and the need to re-acquire the entire dataset in October 2013 which will delay the delivery of final products by six months but won't affect project management budget and will result in an impact on the following four studies:

1. Northern Pike Spawning Habitat (Anne Timm) - final products to be delayed by six months
2. Integrated Habitat Model Rainy Lake/Namakan Reservoir (Jean Morin) - final products to be delayed by six months
3. Walleye Spawning Habitat (Paul Venturelli) - final products to be delayed by six months
4. Property Damages - Flooding and Ice (Mike Shantz) - impact on interim deadlines only

The International Joint Commission is required to approve these changes and Ryan was asked to submit this information to the International Joint Commission for approval.

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Ryan Maki to submit information in an email on the change of schedule for the Bathymetric LiDAR Project to Mark Colosimo. 2. Voyageurs National Park to provide an update on Rule Curve studies at the Semi-Annual meeting in October 2013. 3. IRLWWB to start planning how to evaluate the 2000 Rule Curve upon completion of the remaining 19 studies.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20th, 15:30-17:00 CDT (International Falls) – WATER LEVELS COMMITTEE MEETING WITH DAM COMPANIES

Canadian Member Participants

Gail Faveri Environment Canada

US Member Participants

Col. Daniel Koprowski U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Leland Grim Rainy Lake, local member

Commissioners

Rich Moy U.S. Commissioner
Gordon Walker Canadian Commissioner

Invited Participants

Marc Mantha H2OPower
Lori Lyman Boise Paper Inc.
Michael Krueger Resolute Forest Products
Kurt

Commission Liaisons

Mark Colosimo U.S. Section
Jean-François Cantin Canadian Section

Secretariat/Engineering Advisors

Kari Hauck (Secretary and Engineering Advisor) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matt DeWolfe (Engineering Advisor) Lake of the Woods Secretariat

1. Water Levels Committee Meeting with Dam Companies (Colonel Koprowski and Gail Koprowski)

The operators mentioned their concerns about scope of the water levels committee, which were allayed when told exact same mandate as before. The operators voiced good cooperation. H2OPower’s scheduled maintenance proceeding to fix leaking gates and replace 100 year old cast iron gates and convert mechanical to hydraulic operating which may be controlled out of Oshawa HQ. Boise completed inspections but unable to do repairs because of June high water this year, public notification radio announcements paid by Boise. IJC requires inspection and maintenance reports to ensure facilities are safe in our annual spring report and presentation.

1. Open House (IAG and CAG Co-Chairs)

Lee Grim provided an overview of the actions that led to the formation of the new IRLWWB. Charlene Mason (U.S. Co-Chair of the Community Advisory Group) provided an overview of the Community Advisory Group and encouraged nominations from interested public members. Mike Hirst (U.S. Co-Chair of the Industry Advisory Group) provided an overview of the Industry Advisory Group and encouraged nominations from interested industry members.

2. Public Meeting (Colonel Koprowski)

Colonel Koprowski welcomed the public to the first U.S. public meeting of the new IRLWWB. He provided a brief overview of the new IRLWWB. Matt DeWolfe gave a brief account of the state of water levels in the south end of the basin in the spring of 2013. Gail Faveri summarized IRLWWB water levels-related projects. Jeff Stoner gave a short summary of water quality monitoring activities in the basin. The handful of public members that attended the meeting voiced interest solely related to water levels. There was a question about availability of data on property damages due to high water levels. The public members in attendance unanimously thanked the IRLWWB for timely action and notice regarding high water levels in the spring of 2013. The IRLWWB response was deemed superior to previous years. Matt DeWolfe indicated that this was in part due to responsiveness and prompt actions from the dam companies. A member of the public recommended that the IRLWWB take fisheries and navigation a bit more into consideration in decisions related to water levels. Another member of the public recommended that the IRLWWB put together advice on how to build docks in the event of extreme level events. The public also showed appreciation to the IRLWWB for holding yearly public meeting. Colonel Koprowski thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 20:00 CDT.

1. Open House (IAG and CAG Co-Chairs)

Kelli Saunders provided an overview of the actions that led to the formation of the new IRLWWB. Kiley Hanson (Canadian Co-Chair of the Community Advisory Group) provided an overview of the Community Advisory Group and encouraged nominations from interested public members. Dennis Brown (Canadian Co-Chair of the Industry Advisory Group) provided an overview of the Industry Advisory Group and encouraged nominations from interested industry members.

2. Public Meeting (Michael Goffin)

Michael Goffin welcomed the public to the first Canadian public meeting of the new IRLWWB. He provided a brief overview of the new IRLWWB. Matt DeWolfe gave a brief account of the state of water levels in the south end of the basin in the spring of 2013. Gail Faveri summarized IRLWWB water levels-related projects. Jeff Stoner gave a short summary of water quality monitoring activities in the basin. The meeting was very well attended (over 100) and most of the questions and concerns were related to aquatic invasive species, more specifically zebra mussels. The public overwhelmingly voiced their concern over the presence of zebra mussels in the watershed and urged the IRLWWB to conduct the necessary science and act quickly to avoid the spread of this aquatic invasive species further out and especially to the Lake of the Woods. The IRLWWB was asked for advice on how to stop the spread of zebra mussels from boats and who to lobby to demand action on this issue. A public member asked if scientists were part of the IRLWWB. Another member of the public asked for clarification on the parameters used to define water quality. The Right Honourable John Turner urged the IRLWWB to take action on addressing water quality-related issues in Lake of the Woods. Michael Goffin thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting at 15:45 EDT.