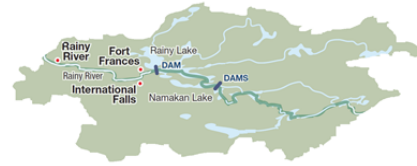




International Rainy and Namakan Lakes Rule Curves Study Board



Media Advisory

IJC's Rainy – Namakan Lakes Rule Curves Study Board meeting with local organizations and officials

September 17, 2015 - In preparing to conduct its review of the 2000 rule curves for Rainy and Namakan Lakes, the [Study Board](#) has invited local organizations and officials, along with First Nations, Métis and Tribes to discuss its [terms of reference](#) and provide local input on the evaluation methodology provided by the International Joint Commission during its meetings in International Falls, MN on September 29 and in Fort Francis, Ontario on September 30, 2015. It will also host a webinar on September 25 for those unable to attend the meetings.

This is the first of several outreach activities the Study Board will be hosting as it makes scientifically-supported recommendations to the IJC for modifying or retaining the 2000 Rainy and Namakan Lakes rule curves.

The Rainy and Namakan Lakes rule curves provide upper and lower target elevations for those lakes, and are used in managing water levels and flows.

The rule curves will be evaluated using socio-economic performance indicators, such as emergency high and low water levels, flooding damage to structures and cultural resources, hydropower production and tourism, as well as environmental indicators, such as wetland health (cattails, wild rice and submerged plants), loon nesting, and fish spawning.

The IJC has directed the Board to engage with the public throughout the duration of the evaluation.

In addition, the IJC will establish a Rule Curve Public Advisory Group, (RCPAG) to include representation from: lake/property owners associations; navigation interests; environmental organizations; First Nations, Métis and Tribes; tourism and recreation interests; hydropower companies or organizations; and other interested groups identified by the Board that would be affected by the Rainy and Namakan Lakes rule curves evaluation. Initial membership of the RCPAG will be announced later this fall.

Individuals or organizations interested in participating in the RCPAG can contact the IJC directly at Commission@washington.ijc.org or Commission@ottawa.ijc.org.