

Houle, Brian (Crofton)

From: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 1:35 PM
To: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Subject: Watershed update: Sept 27

Good day everyone,

What a great River Day celebration co-hosted by Cowichan Tribes and Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable.

The weather could not have been better for this celebration and the setting alongside the river was perfect.

Watching the large Chinook brood stock being captured by Cowichan Tribes hatchery staff was a bonus for those that arrived early enough to see it.

The river day celebration included many Cowichan Tribes activities (dancing/singing/food sharing) and many booths sharing information and activities related to the river.

Well done to all that presented or helped presentations and appreciation to the many who visited the site and participated in the day of celebration of our amazing Cowichan River.

With the wet weather predicted and then arriving on Sunday, the lake has risen to even higher levels and enough water in the lake today to now pull out the pumps.

With current volume of water in Cowichan Lake, Catalyst is beginning the process to now remove the pumps from the lake.

On Tuesday last week, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) issued to Catalyst the authorization for the use of pumps to sustain Cowichan River with a base flow of 4.5 cms.

While we had the forecasts showing significant rainfall, the time needed to install and commission the pumps required the work begin before the predicted rainfall could prevent that work from being needed.

It is more likely at this time of year that predicted rainfall will arrive but we are never assured of these predictions and must always prepare for the worst possible outcome.

After I issue this email update I will then alert DFO that Catalyst is now cancelling the pumping authorization as it is no longer needed this year.

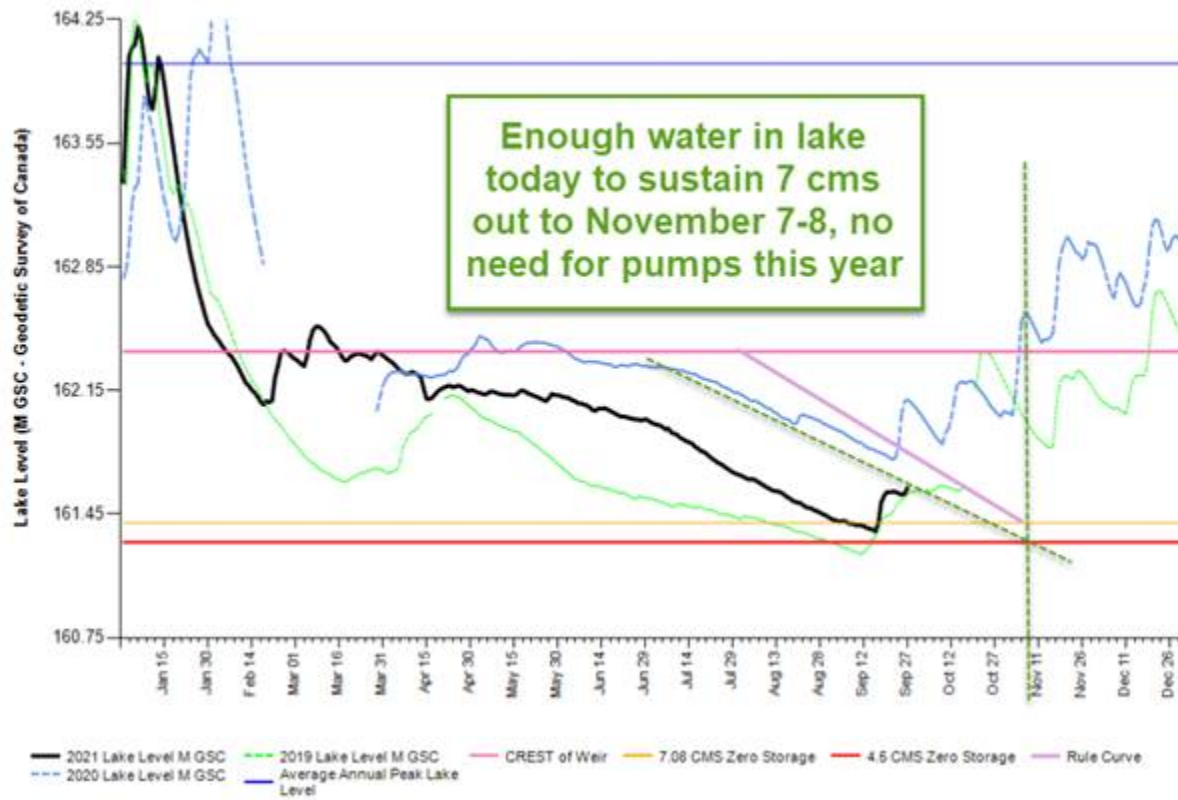
Weather prediction shows another system arriving tonight and into Wednesday and it is possible river flows will rise in coming days.

Lake is currently 25% full and it will need multiple rainfall events to refill lake in coming weeks/months.

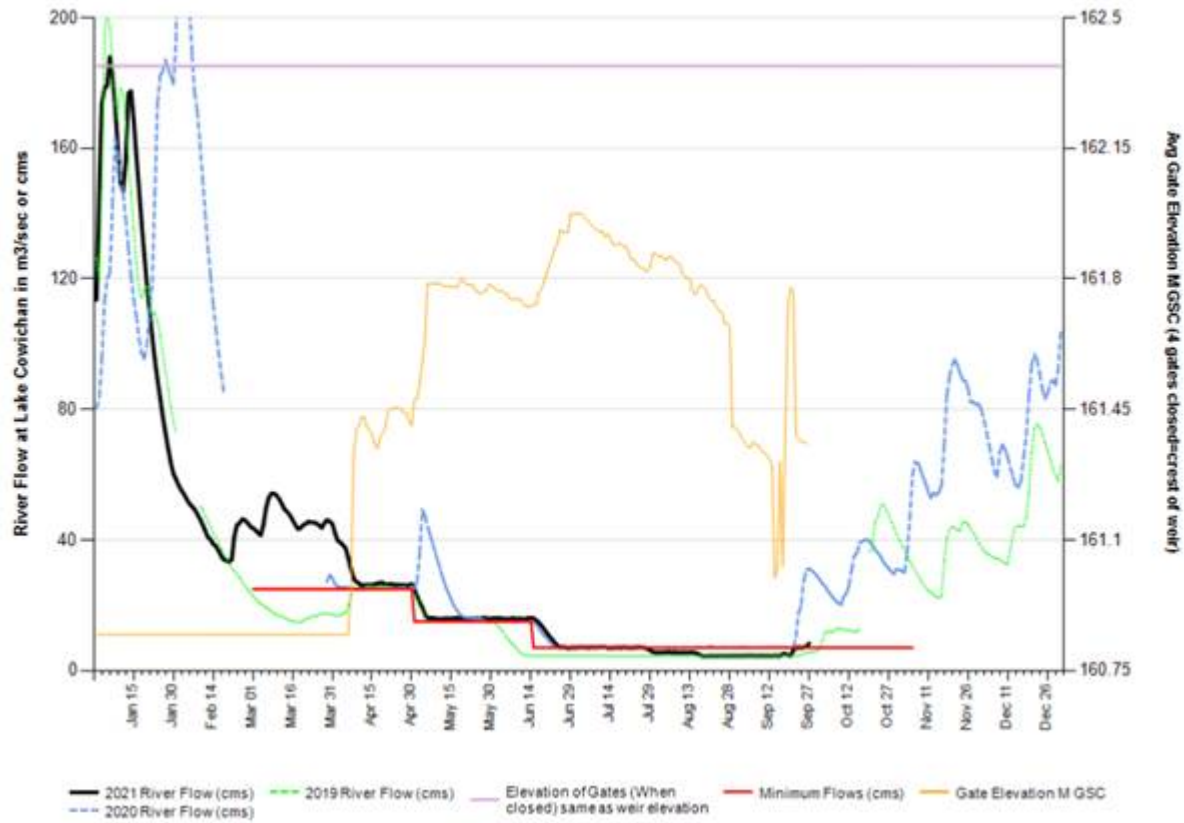
I have included the new flow guide chart below and from this guide, flows were increased to 7 cms last week, as guided.

Regards,
Brian Houle
Manager, Environment
Catalyst Crofton
250-246-6236

2021 Cowichan Lake Level - 2021 (Black) & 2020 (Blue) & 2019 (Green)



2021 Cowichan River Flow - 2021 (Black) & 2020 (Blue) & 2019 (Green)

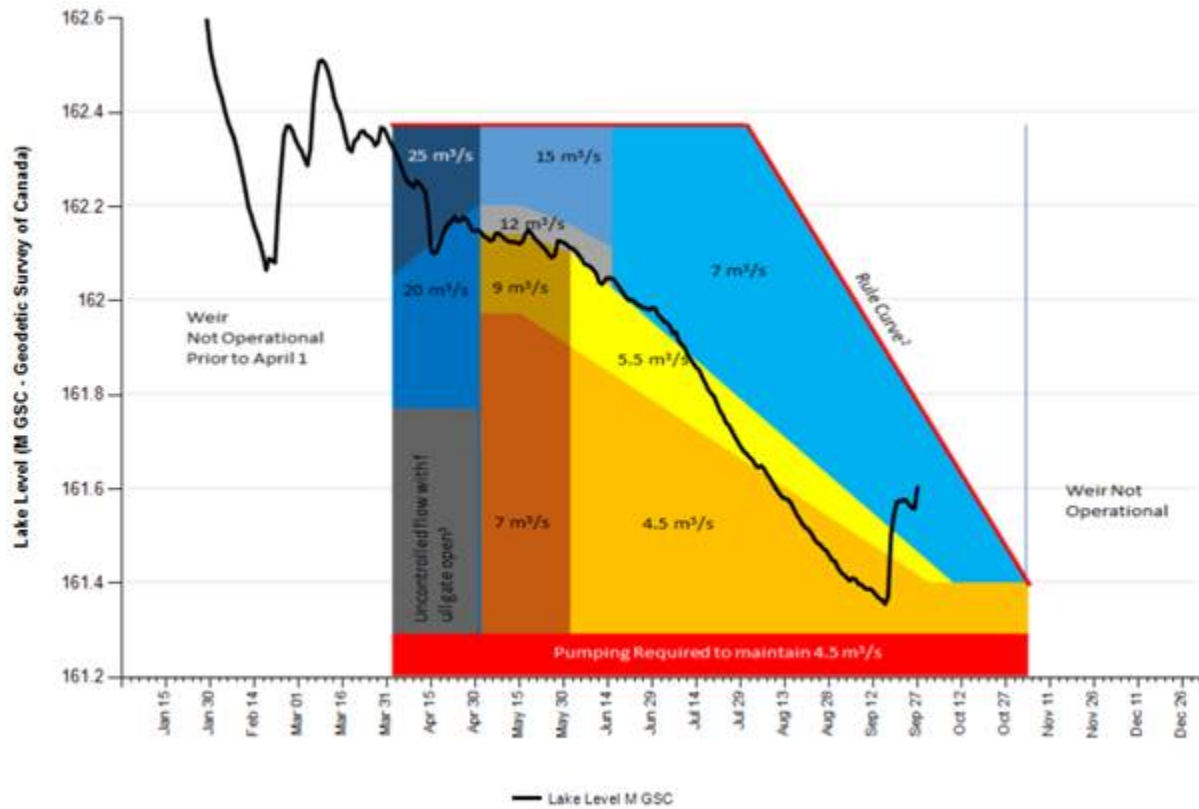


Next 7 Days



	Tue 09/28	Wed 09/29	Thu 09/30	Fri 10/01	Sat 10/02	Sun 10/03	Mon 10/04
	Chance of a shower	Rain	Cloudy with showers	Mainly sunny	A mix of sun and clouds	Mainly sunny	Mainly sunny
	13°	11°	14°	15°	17°	20°	19°
Feels like	12	9	13	15	17	20	19
Night	8°	10°	7°	7°	8°	9°	8°
POP	40 %	90 %	60 %	20 %	20 %	20 %	20 %
Wind (km/h)	13 SW	15 SE	13 SW	5 N	5 E	3 SE	4 W
Wind gust (km/h)	20	23	20	8	8	5	6
Hrs Of Sun	4 h	0 h	3 h	7 h	5 h	8 h	7 h
24 Hr Rain	~5 mm	30 - 40 mm	~1 mm	-	-	<1 mm	-

2021 Cowichan Lake Level and River Flow Guidance Chart - Above Average snow pack



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