

Houle, Brian (Crofton)

From: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 3:31 PM
To: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Subject: watershed update: April 3, 2024

Good afternoon,

As per the water license, weir operations began on April 2, delayed by 1 day due to stat holiday.

Issues with equipment at weir prevented the boat lock gates from being lowered yesterday, and they were lowered this morning.

As per the guideline, on Friday, we will begin to ramp down the river flow by as much as 5 cms/day, to sustain the lake at 100% full.

Discussion this year, and specifically in response to the fish kill that was experienced in 2023, is to operate the weir differently this year.

There are still details to work out and with current release rate from lake at 40 cms, as we ramp down the flow towards 25 cms, it is likely lake will return to 100% full.

It is possible, that before the end of April, lake level could begin to drop from 100% full and if that happens, new guidance will be needed before end of April.

Weather is predicted to be somewhat wet with as much as 24 mm this coming 7 days and then as much as 42 mm rain in the following week.

Snow pack in Nanaimo, lower snow pillow, is showing melting while Heather Mtn snow pillow has not yet begun to melt.

There is 750 mm of snow water equivalent at Jump Creek, about 50% of our normal snow pack and much improved from earlier this year, but still very low.

The challenge this year is to manage inventory of water in a way that allows us to sustain 7.08 cms throughout the hot summer months.

Specifically July and August need 7 cms to reduce the likelihood of another fish kill in 2024.

To achieve 7 cms through July and August will likely require reduced spring time flows below 25 and 15 cms.

This issue is being reviewed currently.

Trends are provided below to illustrate current conditions.

Some of you are not able to view the snipped images from this email, but I can confirm you will see the images if you access this email from the Paperexcellence public website and from the following link

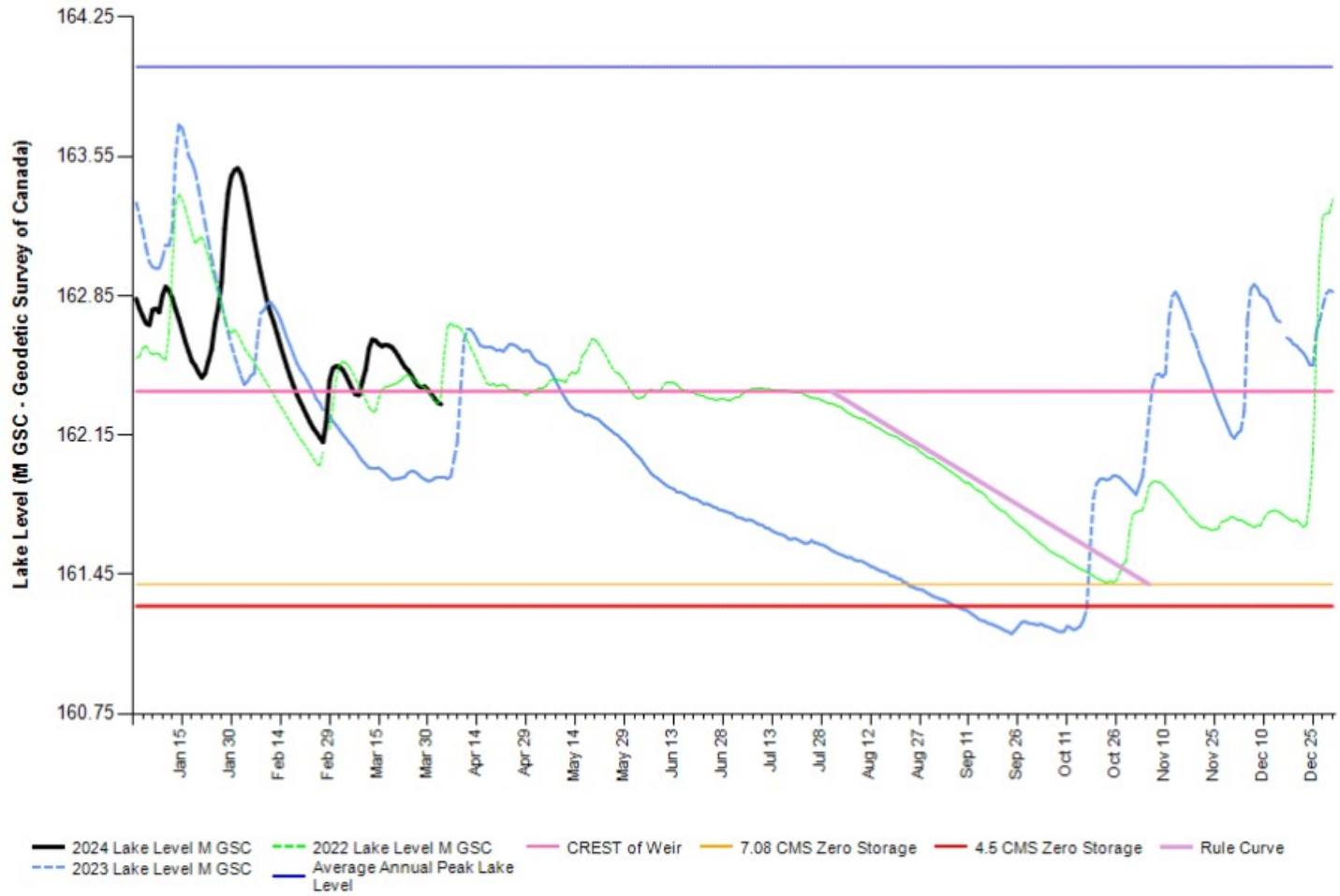
<https://paperexcellence.com/mill-location/crofton/>

and navigate to bottom of page for "Cowichan Water Management Information".

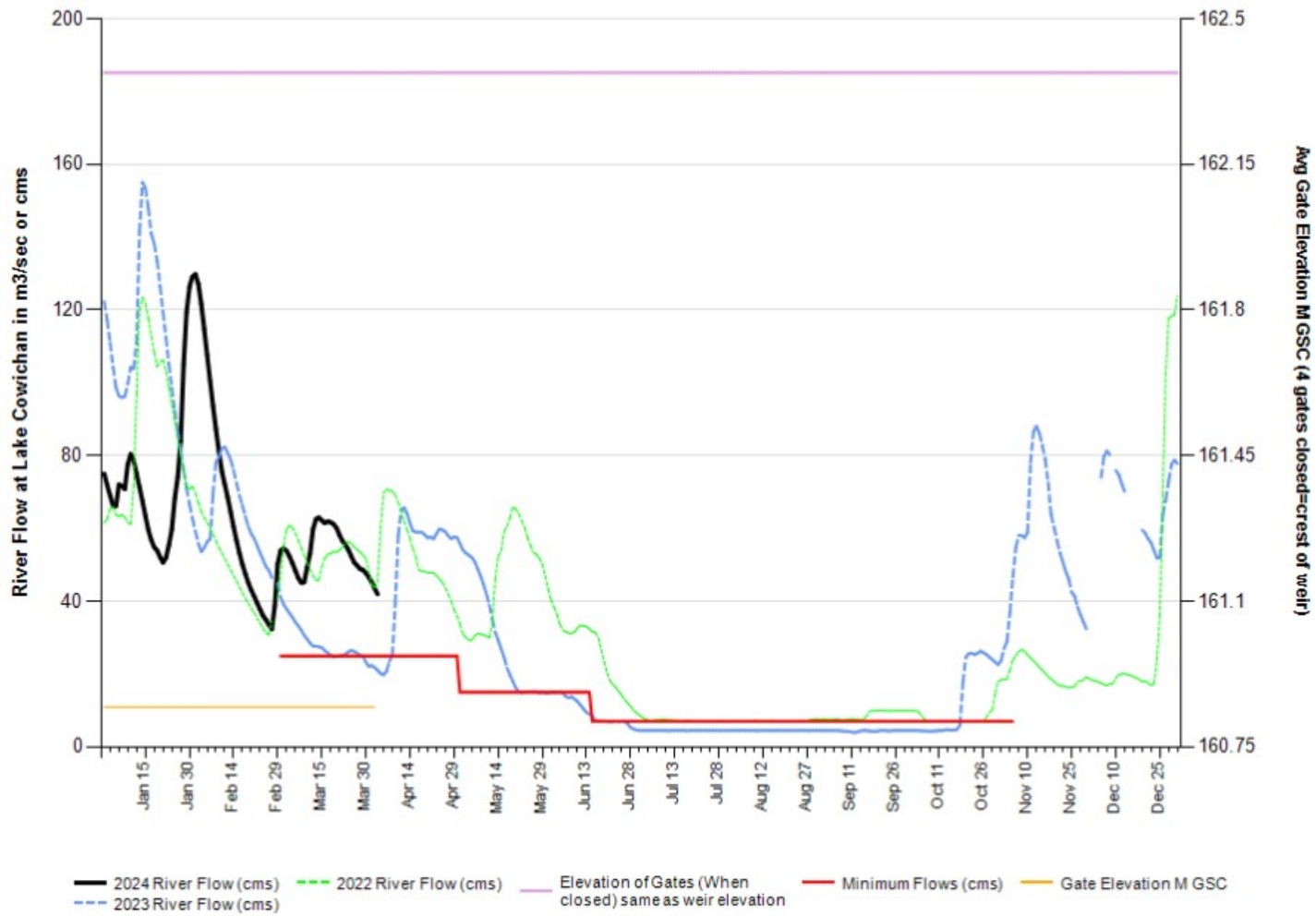
It may be tomorrow before the email is posted at this site.

Regards,
Brian

2024 Cowichan Lake Level - 2024 (Black) & 2023 (Blue) & 2022 (Green)



2024 Cowichan River Flow - 2024 (Black) & 2023 (Blue) & 2022 (Green)

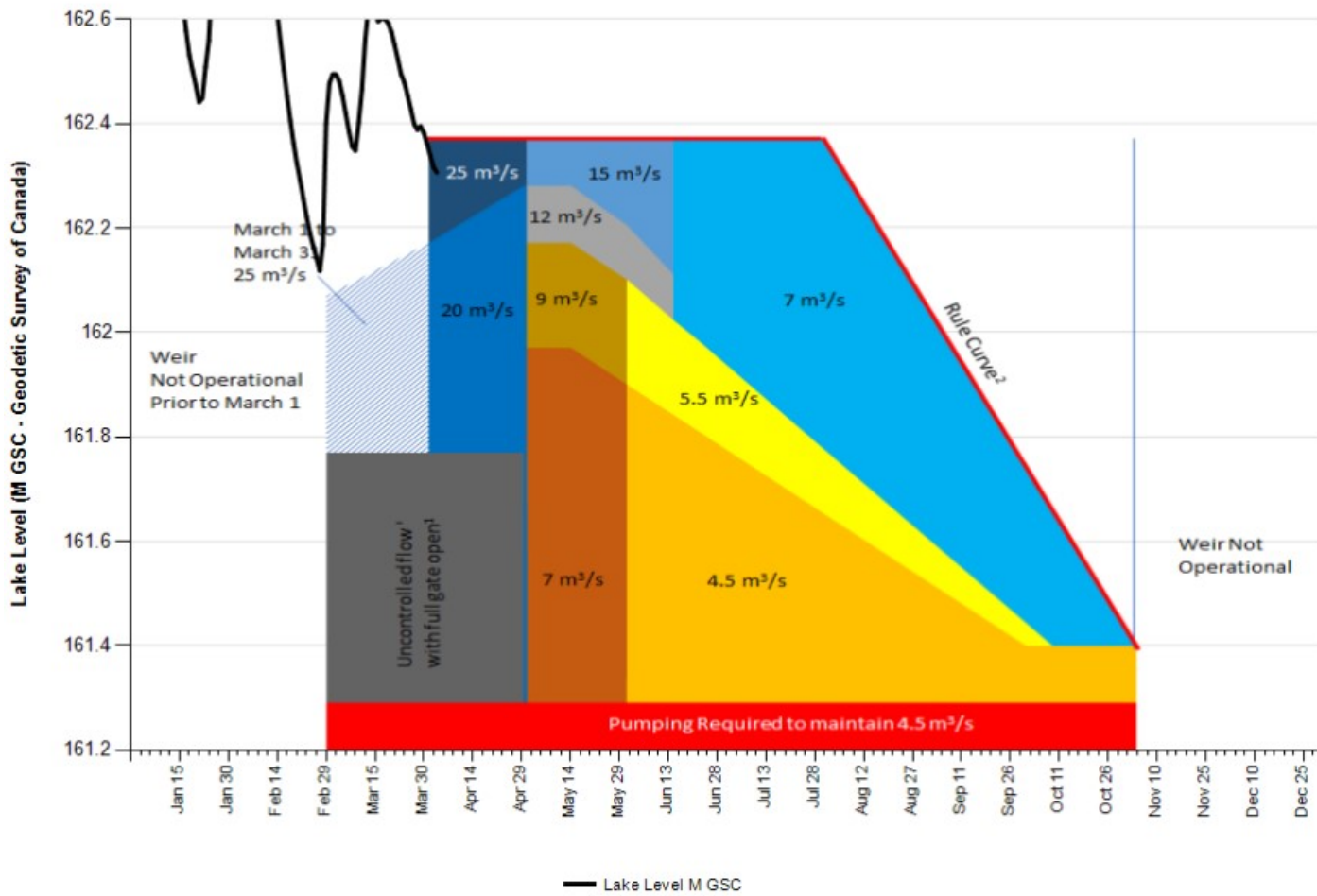


Next 7 Days



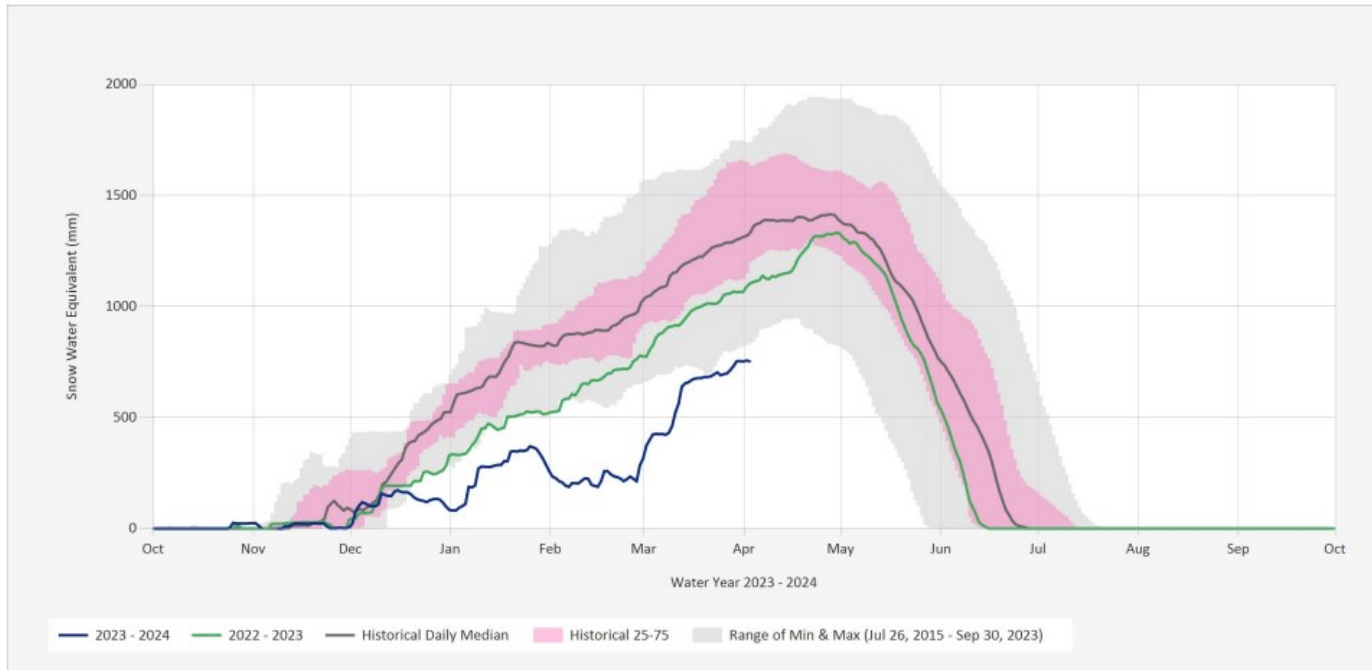
	Thu 04/04	Fri 04/05	Sat 04/06	Sun 04/07	Mon 04/08	Tue 04/09	Wed 04/10
	A mix of sun and clouds	Mainly sunny	Light rain	Cloudy with showers	Chance of a shower	Rain	Cloudy with sunny breaks
	10°	14°	9°	9°	7°	9°	13°
Feels like	8	14	7	8	5	7	13
Night	3°	3°	4°	3°	5°	3°	3°
POP	30 %	20 %	70 %	60 %	60 %	60 %	30 %
Wind (km/h)	14 N	9 NW	12 SW	12 SW	9 SW	10 SW	6 W
Wind gust (km/h)	21	14	18	18	14	15	9
Hrs Of Sun	4 h	11 h	1 h	2 h	3 h	1 h	2 h
24 Hr Rain	-	-	1-3 mm	~1 mm	5-10 mm	~10 mm	-

2024 Cowichan Lake Level and River Flow Guidance Chart - Below Average snow pack



Source Data: SW.Daily@3B24P

Location: Heather Mountain Upper, Latitude: 48.943875, Longitude: -124.452113, Elevation: : 1190 m



Statistics are based on the period of record prior to the current Water Year

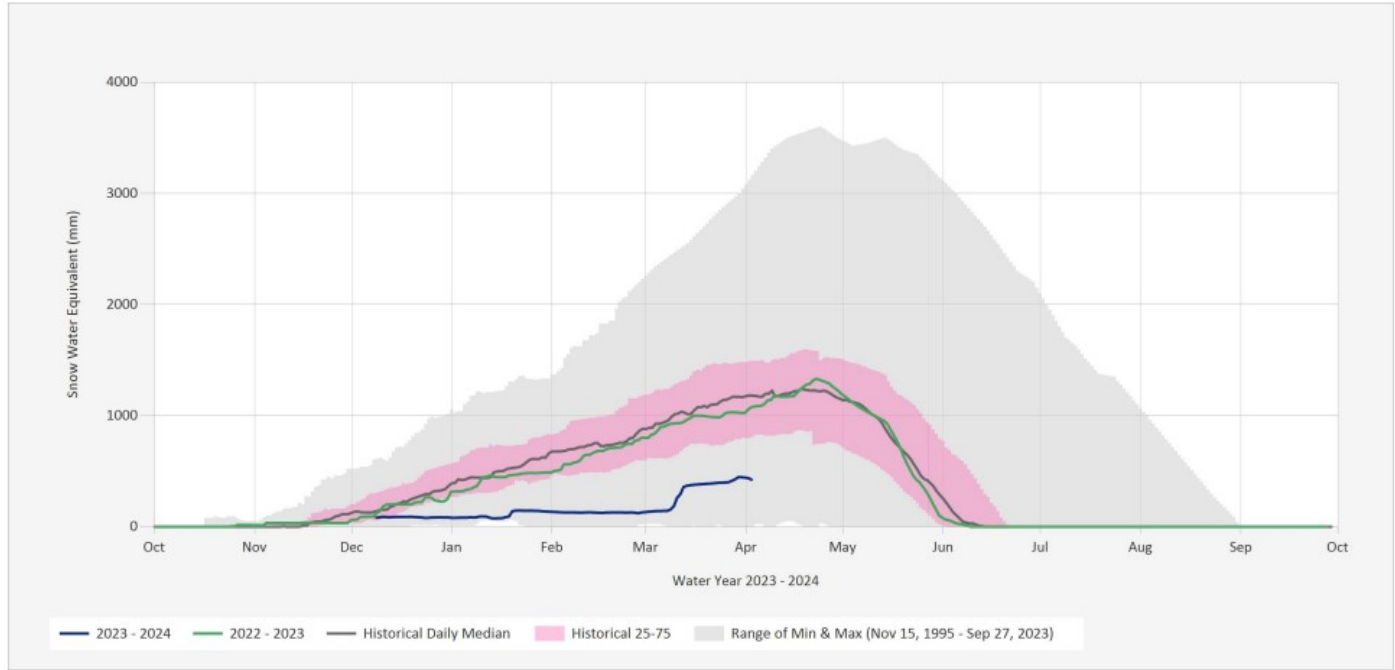
Statistics are only displayed for locations with at least two years of data

Automated Snow Weather Station Graph is only available for Active locations

Data last appended: April 2, 2024 16:00 UTC+00:00

Status: Active

Source Data: SW.Daily@3B23P
Location: Jump Creek, Latitude: 48.969505, Longitude: -124.276182, Elevation: : 1160 m



Statistics are based on the period of record prior to the current Water Year
Statistics are only displayed for locations with at least two years of data
Automated Snow Weather Station Graph is only available for Active locations
Data last appended: April 2, 2024 16:00 UTC+00:00
Status: Active



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