

Houle, Brian (Crofton)

From: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Sent: Thursday, September 5, 2024 11:58 AM
To: Houle, Brian (Crofton)
Subject: Watershed Update: September 5, 2024
Attachments: Cowichan River WQ update 29Aug2024.pdf; Quw'utsun Sta'lo' Skweyul Poster_FINAL2_No logo.png

Good morning,

Dry weather has returned and lake level is again dropping as expected and at about 1 centimeter/day.

From the trends you can see the wet weather slowed down the rate of decline in lake level and that 2024 continues to show enough water to sustain full base flow of 7.09 cms.

Heads up that next week, beginning on Monday and lasting about 2 weeks, Catalyst will have work crew at river at the Pump House on Cowichan River. The in river work is to remove accumulated gravel from in front of the pump house, to secure water flow to the mill water pumps for coming years.

Over time, the accumulation of gravel on river bottom in front of the pump house can restrict the flow of water into the pumphouse.

In 2007 and again in 2012 gravel removal was needed, and now, 12 years later, we need to do this again.

Environmental qualified professionals provide oversight and many actions are taken to ensure no harm to fish or fish habitat.

This kind of in river work is regulated and Catalyst works with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to gain approval for this work.

Province also reviews the work plan and can provide specific guidance for how this work is to be done to protect fish or fish habitat.

And, we are fast approaching the annual river day celebration planned for Sunday September 22 and I am including the poster for that event in this update.

It would be great to have many people attend this event with a theme this year to have activities for children at the many presenters tent stations.

Also, if you attend, you will see an amazing Cowichan Tribes river front setting by the rail bridge on the Cowichan River, mark your calendars.

And not to overload you, but I have attached the most recent watershed water quality report highlighting that 2024 did not have a repeat fish kill as was experienced in 2023.

Water conditions are improving for fish as we see average daily ambient temperatures drop and water temperatures drop as well.

Regards,
Brian Houle

Cowichan Tribes and the Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable are co-hosting:

Quw'utsun Sta'lo' Skweyul

Cowichan River Day

Sunday, September 22, 2024 10:00AM to 3:00PM

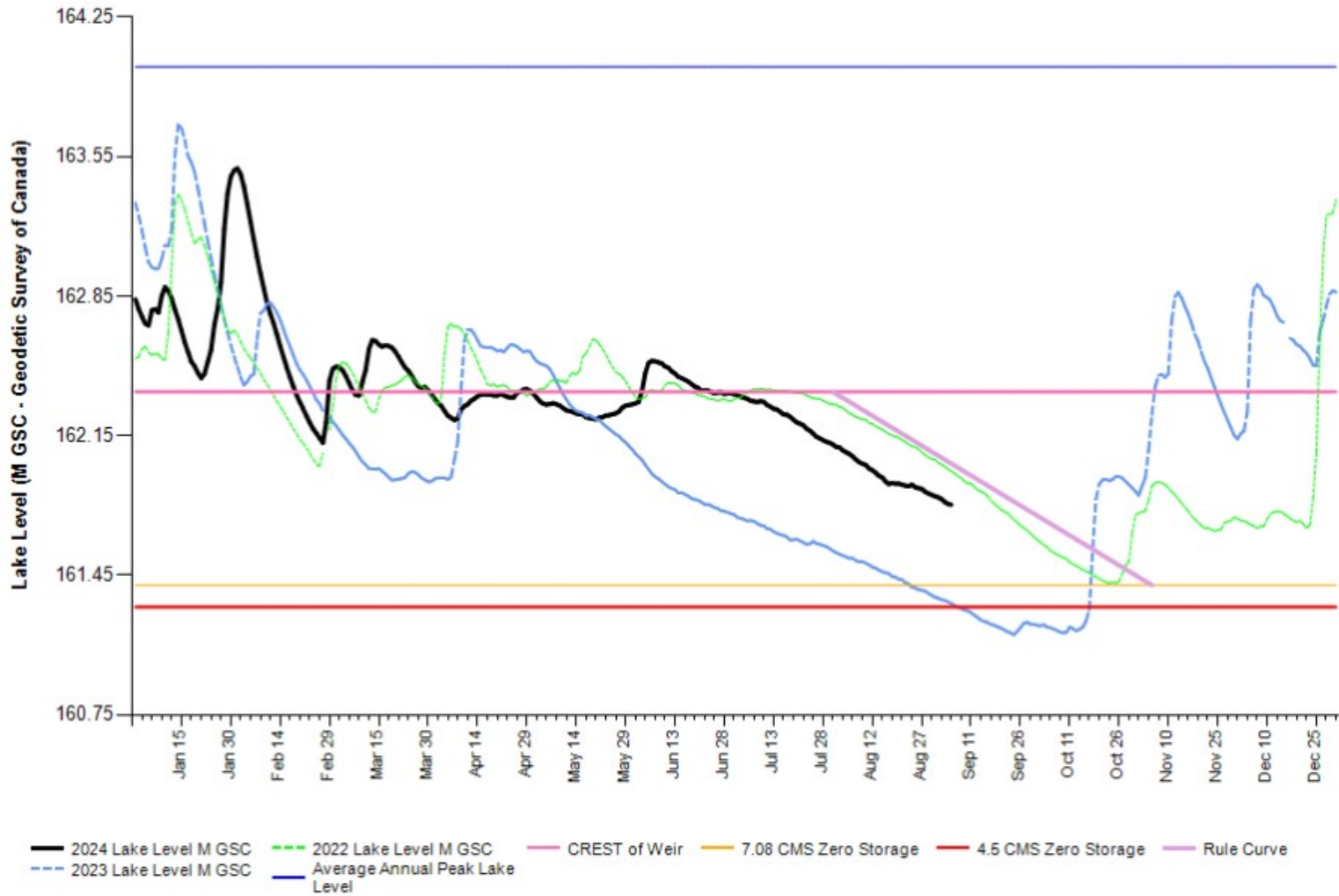
Gather with us at Black Bridge Beach, on Cowichan Tribes private property.
Parking will be available behind Si'em Lelum Gym, 5574 River Road, Duncan.
From the parking area, you will take a short walk to the river site.



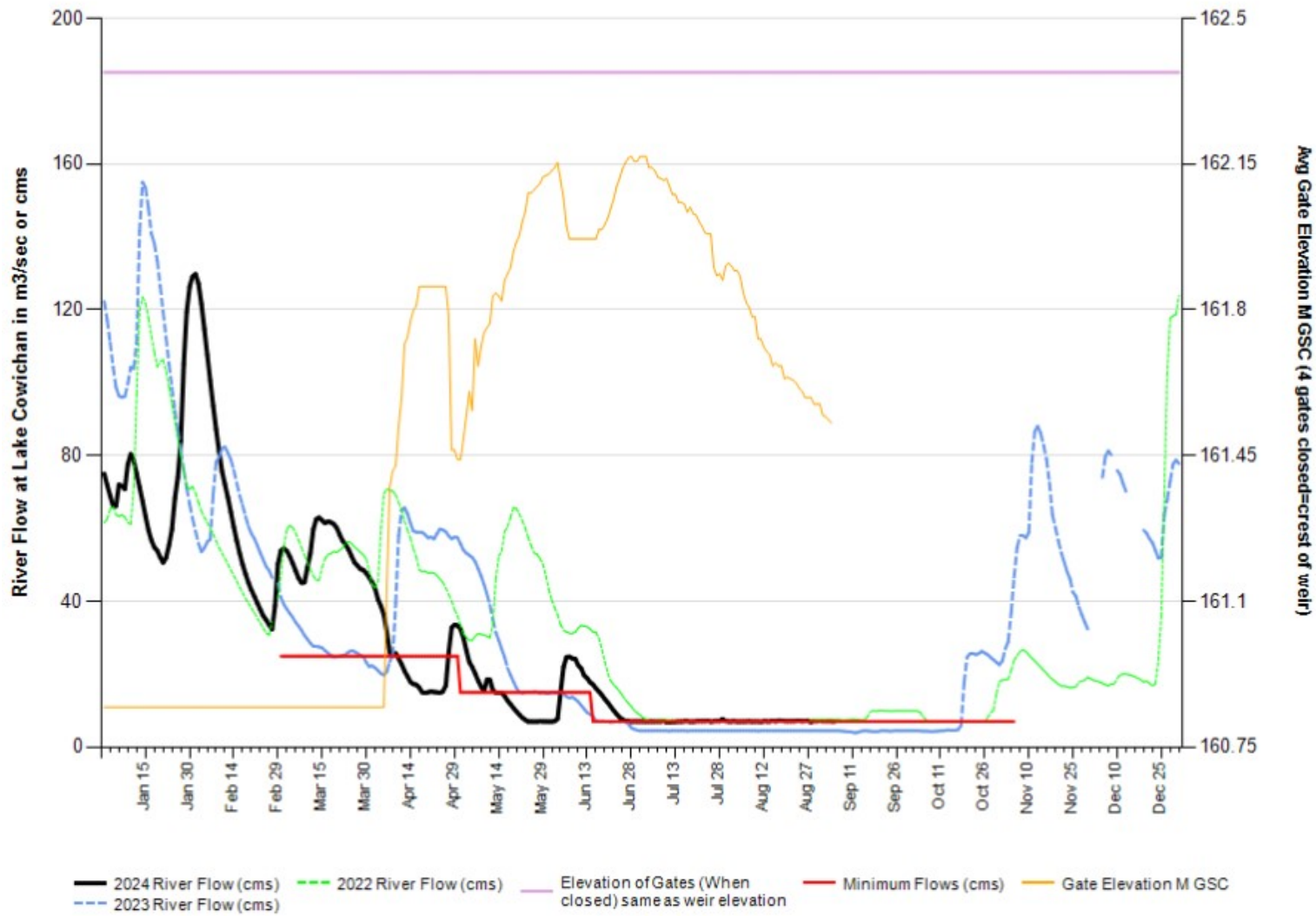
**Free! Everyone
welcome!
Refreshments!**

**Please wear an
orange shirt!**

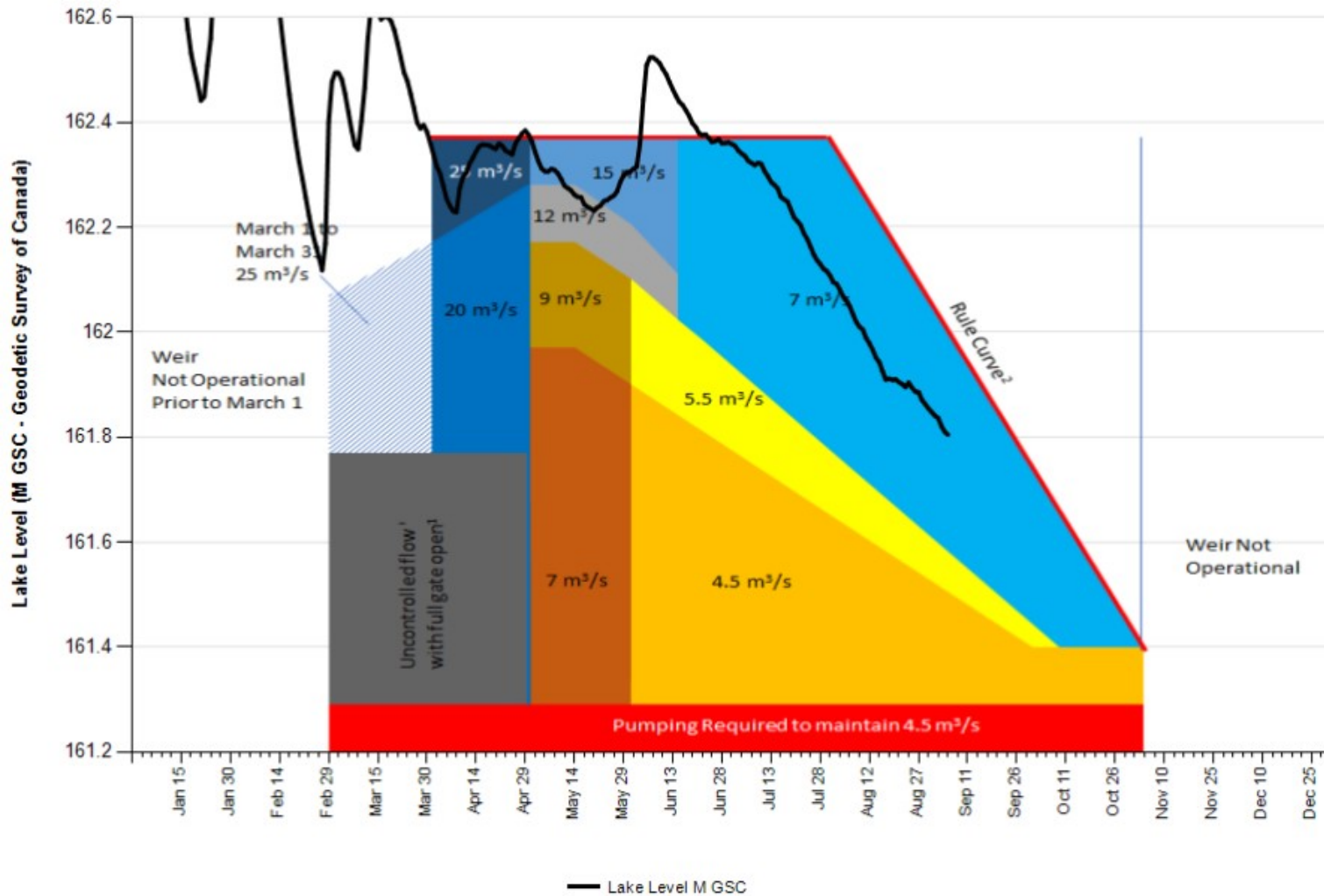
2024 Cowichan Lake Level - 2024 (Black) & 2023 (Blue) & 2022 (Green)



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



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



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