

Environment Committee Report – April 11th 2023

No significant changes from the March report. Brereton, Jessica and White lakes have more recent readings showing the lakes at the winter target. Nutimik, Dorothy and Eleanor are up very slightly from the previous month.

Lake levels are as follows:

LAKE	LAST MEASUREMENT	LEVEL IN FEET *	2022 PEAK LEVEL	COMMENTS
				Target levels
Falcon	November 10 th	1065.50 =	1067.91 May 13	Summer 1065.50–1066.25 Winter 1065.0
Star	November 15 th	1114.85 =	1117.67 May 11	Summer 1115.00
West Hawk	April 11 th	1090.20 =	1094.99 May 17	Summer 1091.00 – 1091.50 Winter 1090.00
Caddy	April 11 th	1044.05 =	1050.55 May 13	Summer 1044.75 – 1045.75 Winter 1044.0
Brereton	February 11 th	1036.50 -	1038.74 May 5	Summer 1037.00 Winter 1036.5
Big Whiteshell	November 9 th	1017.45 =	1022.30 # May 31	Average summer level 1018.75 (2020)
Jessica	February 15 th	1017.20 =	1019.87 May 21	Summer 1017.50 Winter 1017.0
White	February 15 th	1002.70 -	1007.33 May 26	Summer 1003.40 Winter 1002.7
Betula	November 9 th	988.20 =	991.95 May 9	Summer 988.20
Nutimik	April 11 th	900.75 +	911.02 June 1	Average summer level 900.26 (2020)
Dorothy	April 11 th	900.39 +	907.97 June 1	
Eleanor	April 11 th	899.90 +	905.42 June 1	

* Change from the March 11th report, shown as Increasing +, Decreasing -, or Same =

Earlier May data is missing, therefore the level could have been higher.

PEAK LEVEL shows the highest recorded lake level this year and the date.

The March 21st updated Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure flood forecast for the spring continues to rate the Whiteshell area as a LOW risk. To read the full report use the following web address:

www.gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/pdf/2023/march_2023_flood_outlook_report.pdf

For those of you in the north of the Whiteshell Park who may be rebuilding in the aftermath of last years' flood, the Lake of the Woods Control Board has updated their "Before you Build" web page with the data from 2022. This chart shows the flood history since 1984 and offers advice to enable an informed decision on how high a dock or structure would have to be to escape damage during previous events. The graph and data are available at:

www.lwcb.ca/beforeyoubuild/index.html#docksWRMB

Lake of the Woods Control Board has issued a general outlook for the Winnipeg River basin as good, with lower snow pack in the western side of the basin and lower soil moisture which will help in reducing the Winnipeg River flow once we are in full spring melt. LOWCB has issued their annual strategy for managing the levels of Lake of the Woods and Lac Seul, the major contributors to the Winnipeg River levels and flows in Manitoba. The detailed document is available at:

www.lwcb.ca/regulation/LWCBStrategy2023Mar07.pdf