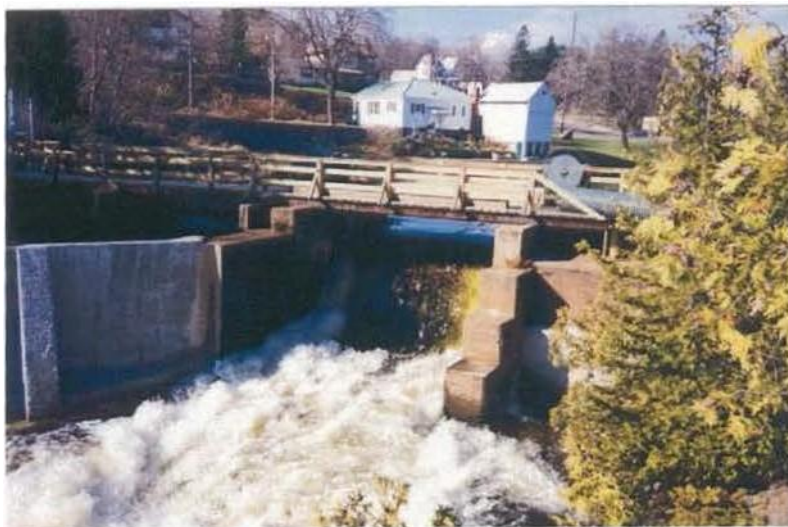


WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WATERPOWER

Bracebridge Generation Ltd.

Bancroft Generating Station

Bancroft, Ontario



April 2005

Amended June 2018

WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WATERPOWER

For the Bancroft Generation Station

On the York River

MNR Bancroft District, SouthCentral Region

Bancroft Light and Power Company (2000) Limited

For the 10-year period April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2015

In submitting this plan, I declare that this water management plan for waterpower has been prepared in accordance with *Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower*, as approved by the Minister of Natural Resources on May 14, 2002.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

March 15, 2005

Michael McLeod, President & Secretary, Bancroft Light and Power Company (2000) Limited.

I have authority to bind the corporation.

I certify that this water management plan has been prepared in accordance with *Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower*, as approved by the Minister of Natural Resources on May 14, 2002, and that direction from other sources, relevant policies and other obligations have been considered. I recommend this plan be approved for implementation.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

June 15, 2005

Monique Rolf von den Baumen-Clark, District Manager, Bancroft District, Ministry of Natural Resources

Approved by:


for Ron Running, Regional Director

BLP-WMP-0305

In 1994, MNR finalized its Statement of Environmental Values (SEV) under the Environmental Bill of Rights. The SEV is a document that describes how the purposes of the EBR are to be considered whenever decisions that might significantly affect the environment are made in the ministry. During the development of this water management plan, the ministry has considered its SEV.

This water management plan (WMP) sets out legally enforceable provisions for the management of flows and levels on this river within the values and conditions identified in the WMP.

In instances where, due to emergency energy shortages, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) requests that owners of the waterpower facilities and associated water control structures seek relief from certain provisions of this WMP, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) will consider those requests expeditiously and, after consultation with the IESO, may allow short-term relief from certain provisions.

The mandatory provisions of this WMP will be waived, as appropriate, when the dam owners (which may include other dam owners, such as MNR) are requested to do so by a police service or other emergency measures organization.

This plan does not authorize any other activity, work or undertaking in water or for the use of water, or imply that existing dams(s) meet with safe design, operation, maintenance, inspection, monitoring and emergency preparedness to provide for the protection of persons and property under the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*. Approval of this WMP does not relieve the dam owners from their responsibility to comply with any other applicable legislation. For the purposes of this plan, an operational plan means a plan for the management of flows and levels.

Approval of this plan does not grant a dam owner the right to flood Crown land or the land of any other person without first obtaining the Crown's or that person's consent, nor does it authorize any infringement of the rights of the Crown or of any other person.

**Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry**

Office of the Director
Southern Region
Regional Operations Division
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3C7
Tel: 705-755-3235
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**Ministère des Richesses naturelles
et des Forêts**

Bureau du directeur
Région du Sud
Division des opérations régionales
300, rue Water
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Tél: 705-755-3235
Télé: 705-755-3233



March 31, 2015

Mr. Chris Litschko
Bracebridge Generation
196 Taylor Road
Bracebridge ON P1L 1J9

Dear Mr. Litschko:

Subject: Approval of Amendment to Extend the Term of the
Water Management Plans for the Bancroft Generating Station and the Sequin River

This letter is to advise that the Water Management Plans for the Bancroft Generating Station and the Sequin River have been amended under Section 23.1(6) of the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*. An administrative amendment was undertaken and approved March 31, 2015 to extend the term of the water management plans for an additional three years. As indicated in our earlier correspondence, this will ensure that the water management plans remain in effect while providing time for the results of the provincial review to be known (e.g. proposed changes to the requirements for the preparation, amendment and review of water management plans). The plans will now expire March 31, 2018.

Please note, specific text changes are not being proposed to the plans as a result of this amendment. Instead, this letter should be affixed to the Bancroft Generating Station and the Sequin River Water Management Plans to indicate the term of both plans have been extended to March 31, 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Amanda McCloskey, Regional Planner, at amanda.mccloskey@ontario.ca or at 705-755-1367.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Ireland".

Jane Ireland
Regional Director
Southern Region

- c. Vince Ewing, Bancroft District Manager, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Dan Duggan, Parry Sound District Manager, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry



June 29th, 2018

Bryan Ingram and John Stasiuk
Bracebridge Generation Ltd.
196 Taylor Road
Bracebridge, ON P1L 1J9
bingram@bracebridgegeneration.com
jstasiuk@bracebridgegeneration.com

Attention: Bryan Ingram and John Stasiuk

Re: Notice of Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan Amendment Approval

This letter is to inform you that Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), under the authority of Section 23.1 (6) of the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act*, has amended the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan (BGSWMP). An administrative amendment was undertaken by MNRF, and was approved on June 29th, 2018.

The amendment was undertaken in order to align the BGSWMP with the 2016 Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin. These changes were identified in MNRF's letter notifying of intent to amend, dated March 23rd, 2018. As this letter indicated, these changes may include:

- Removal of WMP expiry dates, plan term and mandatory review;
- New amendment classification, processes and proponent roles and responsibilities;
- New compliance monitoring and data reporting processes (where applicable); and
- Details of the new Implementation Report, which will summarize monitoring efforts, assess new or continued direction of Effectiveness Monitoring Plans (EMPs) (where applicable) and support adaptive management.

Additionally, as indicated, "Bracebridge Generation Ltd." has replaced "Bancroft Light and Power Company (2000) Ltd." as the current proponent of the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan. The provisions of the BGSWMP continue to apply to facilities under new ownership.

Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry

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Changes as a result of this amendment are reflected in the updated (June 2018) version of the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan, which is attached for your records.

If you have any further questions about this amendment, please contact Mike Poskin, Regional Renewable Energy Coordinator at mike.poskin@ontario.ca or (705) 755-1362.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "SRew", written over a light grey circular background.

Sharon Rew
Regional Director
Southern Region
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

cc:

Paul Heeney, District Manager, Bancroft District, MNRF
Renee Bowler, Manager, Regional Resources Section, MNRF
Erin Cotnam, Land Use Planning Supervisor, MNRF
Mike Poskin, A/Renewable Energy Coordinator, MNRF

HISTORY OF AMENDMENTS

March 2015 Amendment

On March 31st, 2015, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) approved an administrative amendment to the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan to extend the term of the plan for an additional three years.

March 2018 Amendment

On March 23rd, 2018, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) approved an administrative amendment to the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan to extend the term of the plan for an additional six months.

June 2018 Amendment

On June 29th, 2018, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) approved an amendment to the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan to align the plan with the approved 2016 Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin.

The administrative amendment resulted in changes to the following sections of the plan (additional information in Appendix C):

Expiry Date	The expiry date has been removed.
Monitoring and Reporting	Table 1 has been revised.
Compliance	Section 6 has been revised.
Amendments	Section 7 has been replaced.
Implementation Reporting	Section 8 has been added.

As indicated, Bracebridge Generation Ltd. has replaced Bancroft Light and Power Company (2000) Ltd. as the current proponent of the Bancroft Generating Station Water Management Plan.

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1. Introduction

The provincial government mandated Water Management Planning ("WMP") after the opening of the electricity market in 2002 to ensure that issues arising from the operation of waterpower facilities are addressed.

1.1 Goal and Guiding Principles of Water Management Planning

The *Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower* (May 2002) originally identified the overall goal of the water management planning program in Ontario. These guidelines have since been replaced by the *Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin* (MNRF, 2016).

"The goal of water management planning is to contribute to the environmental, social and economical well-being of the people of Ontario through the sustainable development of waterpower resources and to manage these resources in an ecology sustainable way for the benefit of present and future generation."

Bracebridge Generation Ltd. ("Company") considers those objectives in operating its hydroelectric generation facilities through Water Management Planning process.

A series of principles set out in the Water Management Planning Guideline for Waterpower that will guide the planning process for Bracebridge Generation Ltd.'s facilities are outlined as follows:

- Maximum net benefit to society.
- Riverine ecosystem sustainability.
- Planning based on best available information.
- Thorough assessment of options.
- Adaptive management.

These principles are described in more detail on pages 13 and 14 of the *Water Management Planning Guidelines for Waterpower*.

1.2 Terms of Reference for WMP

The WMP for the York River in the zone of influence of the Bancroft Generation Station ("GS") facilities is prepared based on an approved Terms of Reference (Appendix B).

1.3 Water Management Plan Objectives

The objectives of the WMP for the Bancroft GS are as follows:

- a) Review, document and understand the hydro facility operations relative to environmental, social and economic benefits;

- b) Establish the level of control that the facility exercises over levels and flows;
- c) Determine the zone of influence of the hydropower facility;
- d) Document resource values and environmental, social and economic issues within the zone of influence of the hydropower facility;
- e) Establish whether a change in hydropower operation (water levels and discharge flows) would have a net environmental, social and economic benefit;
- f) Fulfill the requirements of the *Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act* and the *Fisheries Act*.

2. Physical and Biological Description

Within the study area, the York River meanders slowly from the Baptiste Lake dam ("High Falls dam") to the Bancroft GS for approximately 16 km and averages approximately 20 meters in width. The water surface area is in the order of 320 km².

Background reports indicate that the depth of the water in the River varies considerably. The average water depth north of the main urban area of Bancroft is about 2 meters with the deepest section around 6.1 meters, at 670 Hastings Street North, and the shallowest section reaches to 0.61 meters in several locations north of the former CNR railway bridge. The shallow areas of the River at this point may be the result of the accumulation of sediment from natural erosion.

The average depth for the south end of the River from the "Eagle's Nest" area to the Bancroft GS dam is approximately 3.5 meters. The deepest section reaches to approximately 7.0 meters behind "Bancroft Sport and Marine", and the shallowest section is about 1.8 meters in front of the Millennium Park.

2.1 Description of Zone of Influence

The zone of influence of the Bancroft GS on the York River includes the reach of the York River upstream of the Bancroft GS dam to a set of unnamed rapids immediately downstream of the Baptiste Lake dam and downstream to the confluence of the generating station tailrace and the York River located approximately 300 meters downstream of the Bancroft GS where Casselman Creek joins the York River. A map of the zone of influence is given in Figure 1.

2.1.1 Zone of Influence North of the Bancroft GS

The Town of Bancroft sits in the valley of the York River. Land use maps for the Town indicate that certain parts of the town site are designated as "hazard lands" and have the potential to become flooded. The shoreline of the River within the

Town of Bancroft proper is characterized by typical urban development, which includes active residential, commercial and recreational uses.

Figure 1

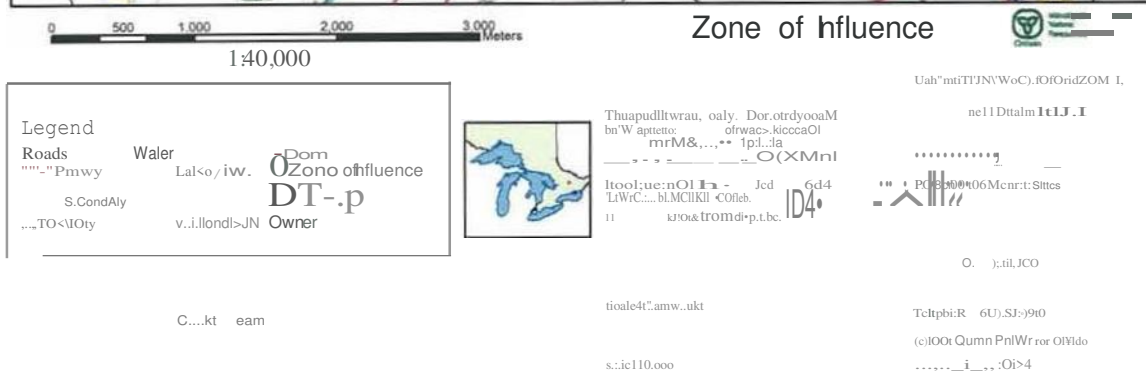
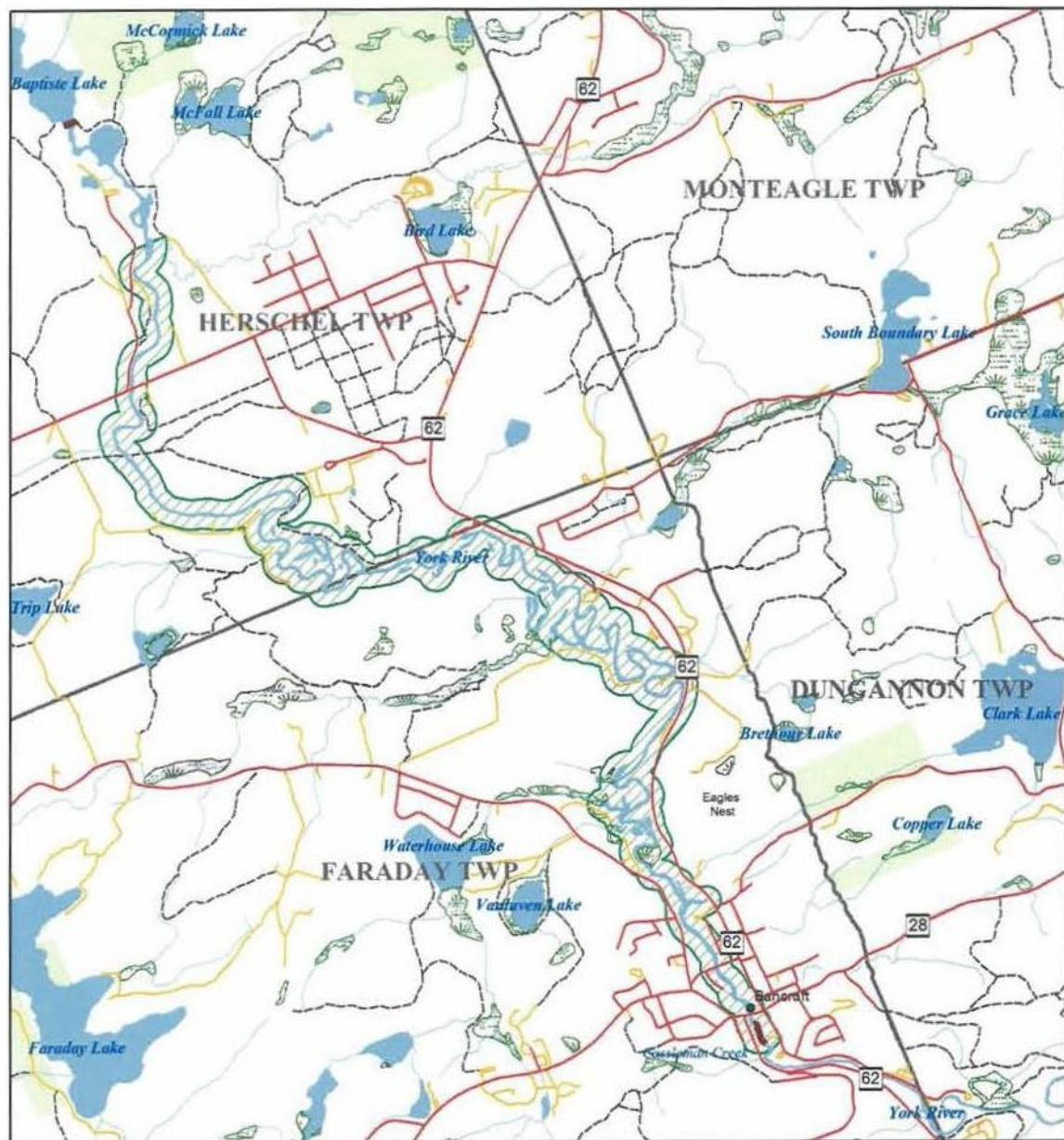


Figure 1- Bancroft GS Zone of Influence

Upstream of the Town the shoreline contains a mixture of rural development including cottages; permanent homes; brush land; and mixed hard and softwood forest. For much of the area between Bancroft and High Falls dam the River meanders slowly through sandy flatland where numerous oxbows and other wetlands have been created over time. Faraday Creek and a number of very small-unnamed streams drain into the River along this route. Hazard land mapping of the area indicates that most of the lands that may be subject to flooding within the zone of influence, especially during the spring freshet, are located in this area.

2.1.2 Zone of Influence South of the Bancroft GS

The study area zone of influence ends approximately 300 meters downstream of the Bancroft dam at the confluence of the turbine tailrace and the River. Between the dam structure and the end of the tailrace the drop in elevation in the River is approximately 8 meters over 200 meters or a 4% gradient.

Immediately down stream from the Bancroft GS the York River flow is unregulated and provides most of the flow at the Palmer Rapids dam on the Madawaska River during the spring freshet.

2.2 Resource Values

The steering committee has identified that the major resource value within the zone of influence of the hydropower facility is the economical benefit associated with the generation of hydropower. The generated power is sold to the grid, which supplies the local community.

The Bancroft Dam is operated for two primary purposes, namely electricity production and water management control. As described in Section 3 the operation of the Bancroft Dam is currently coordinated with MNR's operation of the High Falls dam.

2.2.1 Electricity Generation

Run-of-the-river hydroelectric power has been generated on the York River in the Town of Bancroft since the 1930's. The powerhouse at this time can produce 250 kW by its two Francis turbines. The Company's revenue stream is directly affected by the efficient operation of the generating station and the sale of electricity to Hydro One Networks Inc. If the generators are not spinning no revenue is created for the Company whose only shareholder is the Town of Bancroft.

Under certain operating conditions in the Bancroft GS, one or both turbines may be shut down for routine maintenance purposes. In this case, water flow to the power canal is either reduced (if one turbine is shut down) or stopped (both turbines shut down) and the corresponding volume of water is redirected through the main sluiceway.

In a low flow condition on the River, typically during late August and September, it is usually necessary to shut down one or both turbines because there is not sufficient water to maintain stable generation capability.

2.2.2 Natural Resource Values

Fish spawning and nursery grounds are located within the zone of influence for Walleye, Northern pike, Smallmouth, and Largemouth bass and require constant water level and adequate water flow to keep the shallow bays and other nursery habitat available for the young fish. Walleye need adequate water flow over their spawning grounds from April 15 to May 31. Northern Pike require flooded bays from April 15 to May 8. Smallmouth and Largemouth Bass need constant water levels from May 1 to July 15th.

MNR has undertaken an evaluation of 12 wetland areas along the River upstream from the Bancroft GS. The wetland areas provide habitat for numerous species of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, aquatic vegetation, trees and shrubs. Several rare species have been verified, but not confirmed within the study area including the Boreal Snaketail, Auricled Twayblade (plant), and the Blanding's Turtle. There is also a report of a species at risk with a status of "special concern". This particular species has recently been proposed to be elevated to an endangered status.

The York River wetlands provide a valuable natural water reservoir within the zone of influence. They reduce the velocity of the River to reduce erosion potential and release certain quantities of water that they retain (surface and ground water, and precipitation) into associated surface and ground water. They also help protect against flood damage particularly since they are located upstream from Bancroft urban area.

The combination of the historical (natural) water regime and the present dam controlled water regime has led to the features and values present at this time including rare species, species at the risk, vegetation forms and wetland function.

York River has other values like recreational and social attraction as well. The River is one of the most attractive areas for cottaging, camping, photography, hunting and fishing.

2.3 Issue Identification and Mitigation

The major issues, which have been identified and discussed in detail during the scoping phase of the planning, were (i) flooding control for the area within the zone of influence, and (ii) protection and preservation of the river fishery. The Bancroft GS is a "run-of-the-river" type of operation with very limited storage and drawdown capacity in the head pond because of close proximity of residential, commercial and recreational land use. However, the coordinated management of

the water flows by MNR and Bracebridge Generation Ltd. staff ensures that flooding and erosion damage is minimized. To protect the fishery within the zone of influence, certain operational requirements have been also outlined in the scoping report to avoid disruption of spawning activities and subsequent egg hatching and larvae incubation periods (Appendix A).

3. Waterpower Facility and Other Water Control Structures

This section represents the physical structure and characteristics of the water control facilities built in the York River.

3.1 Water Control Structures

The facilities controlling the water level in the York River, which are pertinent to this study, include the High Falls dam ("Baptist Lake dam") at the outlet of Baptiste Lake and the Bancroft Dam.

3.1.1 High Falls Dam

The High Falls dam, which is owned and operated by MNR is located north of South Baptiste Lake Road and west of Birds Creek (Latitude: N45, 07, 08, Longitude: W77, 55, 03).

High Falls dam regulates the water level of Baptiste Lake, and is the primary source of water for the River above the reach of the Bancroft GS. This dam has four sluice gates and a mechanical valve to provide additional control of the water level on Baptiste Lake. The essential fisheries requirements of this dam ensure the water level of the lake is held at 7.3 ft. during fall drawdown and does not go lower than 6.5 ft. before March 15. In addition the drawdown from April 15 to mid-July should be restricted to less than one foot and then maintained at that level until the first of September in each year.

3.1.2 Bancroft GS Dam

The existing Bancroft dam is located in the Town of Bancroft, and is operated by Bracebridge Generation Ltd. and the Town of Bancroft to control the water level in the York River (see Figure 1, zone of influence). It consists of three sluiceway structures separated by rock islands, and a power canal to guide water into the Company's two turbine penstocks. The former Bancroft Public Utilities Commission rehabilitated the dam in the summer of 1999.

Figure 2 shows the Bancroft Dam including the sluiceways and power canal. The sluiceways form the main component of the dam spanning the York River. Bracebridge Generation Ltd. owns the west sluiceway, while the Town of Bancroft owns the center and east sluiceways. Each sluice consists of a set of stop logs all of which are removable with an installed hand winch. The number of the stop logs for the main sluiceway, the middle sluiceway and east sluiceway are 8 logs, 5 logs and 8 logs respectively. The power canal is an open reinforced concrete box structure protected at the intake by a set of trash racks, which prevent river debris from entering the canal. The

power generation units are supplied with water through two penstocks. The water is directed to the penstocks from a gate-controlled concrete intake structure located at the end of the power canal.

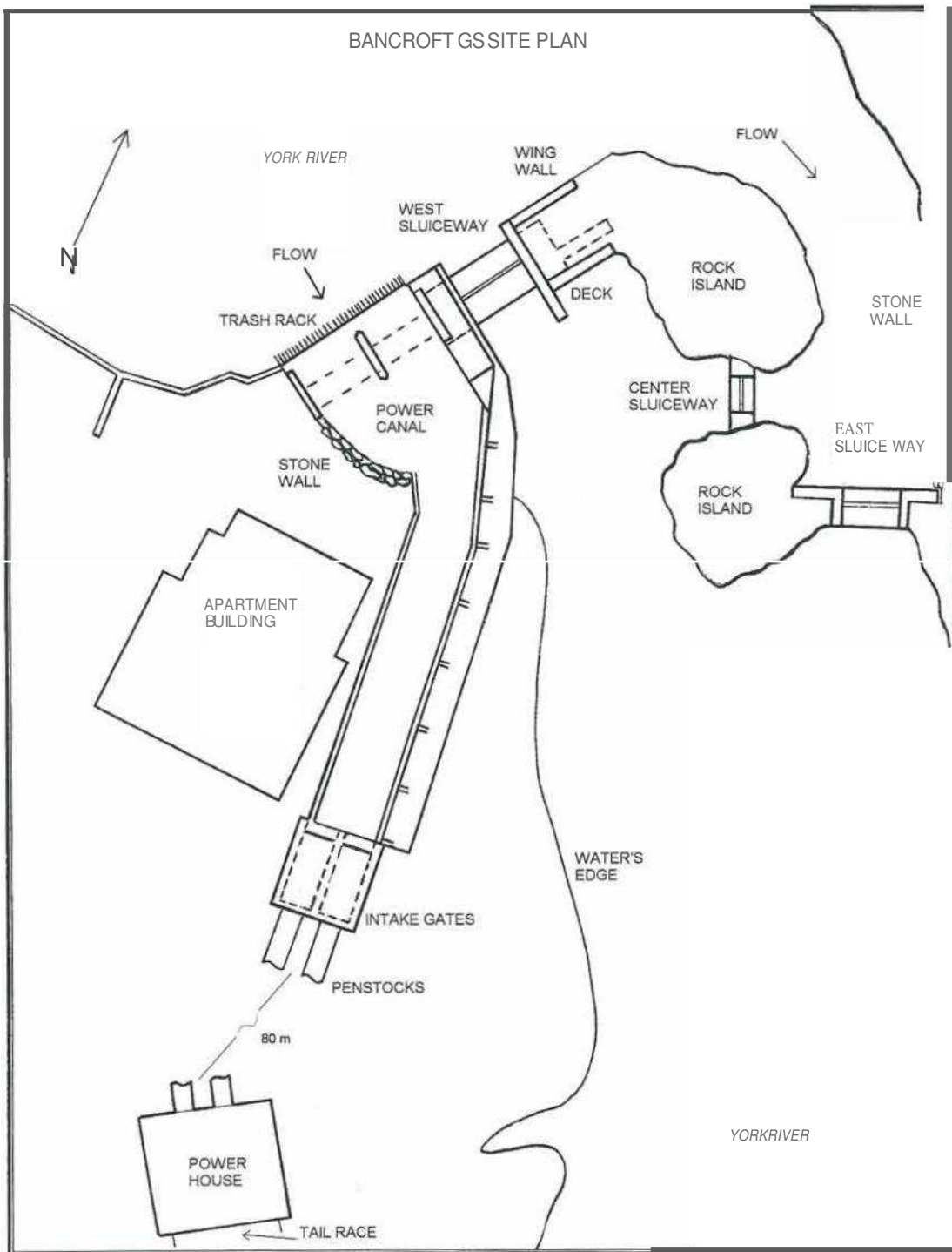


Figure 2 - Generation Facilities of Bancroft Dam

The dam site is locked and secured with chain link fencing. The structure of the Bancroft Dam is explained in more details in the scoping report (Appendix A).

3.1.3 Description of Waterpower Facility

Facilities of the Bracebridge Generation Ltd. generating station are situated adjacent to the York River near the junction of Highway 62 and Bridge Street in the Town of Bancroft. The generation facilities include the powerhouse with two 125 kW generators, the control dam, the intake canal (power canal), head works and control gates, two penstocks, the tail race, and a set of three pole mounted step-up transformers.

3.2 Current Operations

The 1997 agreement on York River water level between the MNR and Town of Bancroft identifies the current operating limitations of Baptiste Lake dam and Bancroft dam, which includes provision for the protection of the river fishery.

3.2.1 Operations of the Baptiste Lake Dam and Bancroft Dam

Operators from MNR and the Company manually operate both water control structures respectively. To ensure that the water levels are maintained as close to the "normal" operating condition as possible, the standard protocol that currently exists between the MNR dam operator for Baptiste Lake and the facilities operator for the Company is to maintain timely telephone communications between the parties. The objective is to ensure that the action of one operator (such as removing stop logs) is subsequently matched by the action of the other.

3.2.2 Operations of the Hydropower Facility

The corporate objective of the Company is to operate its two Francis turbine generators close to operating capacity at all times. Given the normal operating zone established by MNR between the high water limits and the low water limits for the York River, the waterpower generation of electricity is approximately 66% of the installed capacity on an annual average basis. A survey on the seasonal generation of the Bancroft GS is provided in the scoping report (Appendix A).

4. Information Gaps, Priorities and Programs

During the scoping phase of the plan, the major information gap that was identified related to the lack of updated data on the water level of the York River. The latest water flow data collected for the River below the High Falls dam dates back to 1993. Since that date and due to closing the only automatic data collection station located on the York River downstream of the Bancroft GS, no regular monitoring of the River's water levels and flows has been conducted in this area. The only water level data available is that collected on a daily basis at the Bancroft Dam. The monthly average basis data of electric power generation may help in estimating flow rates. However, new and more complete data for the

River may be needed to precisely analyze the River's behaviour within the zone of influence.

5. Operating Plan

Bancroft GS will continue to operate and generate hydropower in response to, and in accordance with the operating rules outlined in Section 5 and approved as the new operating plan. The operating regime for the York River is shown in Figure 3. The assigned upper/lower levels in Figure 3 are based on agreement with MNR to maintain required water levels of the river for different seasons¹. The measures in terms of flows and levels are summarised in Table 1 and are deemed to be the mandatory component of this plan. The assigned operating zone and levels based on Figure 3 are defined as follows:

5.1 Normal Operating Zone

This zone defines the acceptable range of water level fluctuations that best suit the river-users requirements. The normal operating zone is limited to the minimum water level identified by the Lower Operating Level (LOL) and to the maximum water level given by the Upper Operating Level (UOL). The Target Operating Level (TOL) in Figure 3 denotes the target seasonal water level. TOL considers physical and ecological characteristics of the watershed as well as stakeholder requirements, however, it is not a mandatory part of the plan. In considering the design parameters of the target operating level the following seasonal operating conditions have been taken into account:

Spring Freshet (Middle of March to early June). During this period the water level of the river reaches to its maximum elevation. Thus, the target water level for this period is assigned to 325.3 GSC. However, the water level of the river may be increased to the upper level of 325.5 GSC to accommodate the spring freshet. The lower level is kept at 324.95 GSC.

Summer (Mid June to July 15th). The water level of the river during this period is maintained between 324.95 and 325.3 GSC. However the target level is set to 325.2 due to the decrease of upper operating level as summer time progresses.

Fall and Winter (Late July to early March of the following year). The water level for this period should be maintained in the range of 324.95 to 325.3 GSC (LOL and UOL). The minimum water level for the river occurs from early September to the middle of November.

¹ The operating plan remains consistent with the 1997 agreement between the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Town of Bancroft.

Figure 3 - Operating Plan for York River

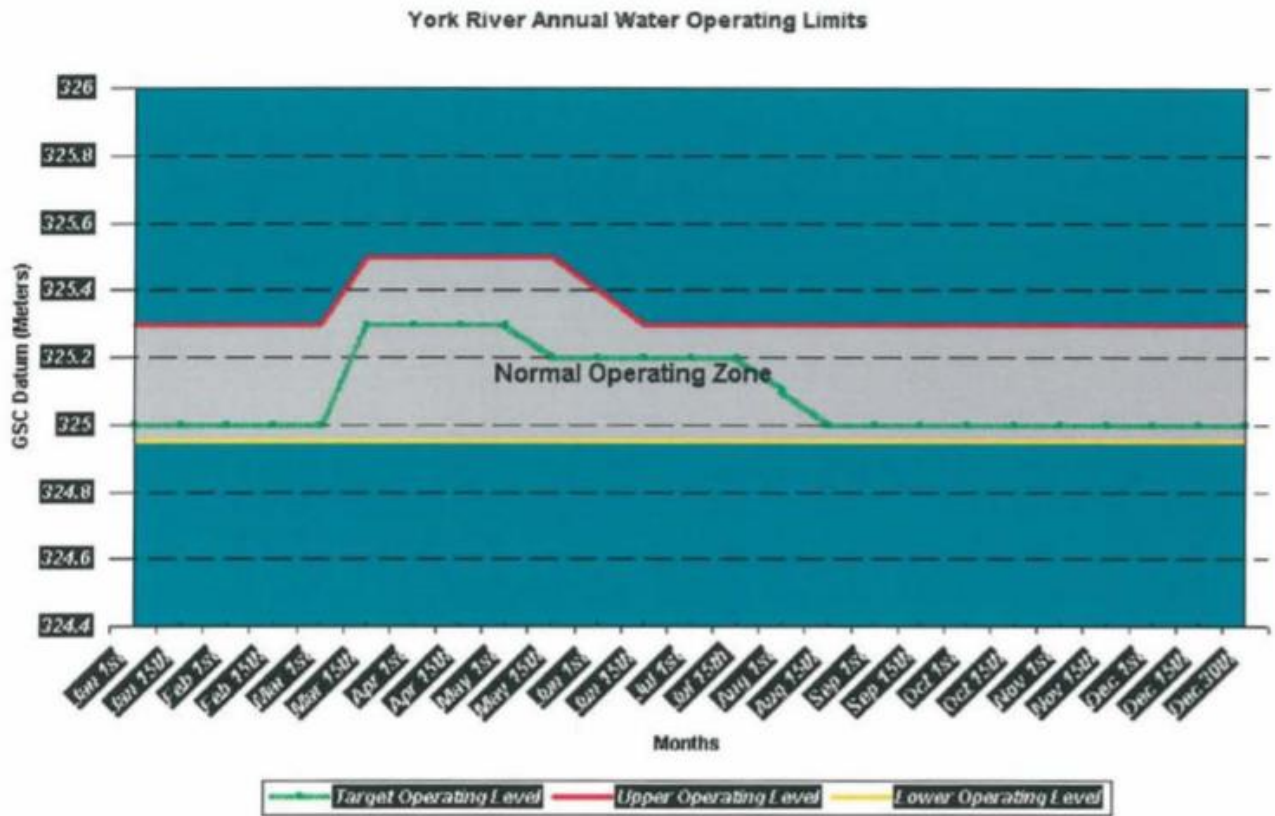


Table 1 Bancroft Generating Station		
Operating Requirements		
Operating Regime Upper and Lower Limits		Mandatory
<i>The operator will manage flows and levels to stay within the upper and lower limits of the operating regime identified in Section 5.1 and Figure 3</i>		
Minimum Flows		Best Practice
<i>The operator will maintain historic minimum flows at all times through flow manipulations or leakage.</i>		
Monitoring and Reporting Requirements		
	<i>Daily monitoring and recording of water levels at the gauge located adjacent to the power canal at the Bancroft Dam. Operators shall make flow and level data available to the Ministry upon request. Reporting on the results of data collection will occur through the Implementation Report, as outlined in Section 8.</i>	Mandatory
	<i>Daily monitoring and recording of water flows through the Bancroft generating station</i>	Best Practice
	<i>Reporting of any deviations from the operating requirements of the water management plan to MNR within 24 hours, providing details on the following, if available:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• The date, time and nature of the deviation;</i> <i>• The extent of the deviation;</i> <i>• Possible causes of the deviation;</i> <i>• Known or anticipated impacts associated with the deviation; and</i> <i>• Steps taken or to be taken, including the timeframe, to correct the deviation.</i> 	Mandatory
	Complete an annual compliance report and forward to MNR that contains a summary and description of all incidents and any remedial action(s) proposed or undertaken (in the event that there were no recorded incidents of noncompliance, the report will state as such) annually by January 31	Mandatory

6. Plan Enforcement and Compliance

Bracebridge Generation Ltd. must ensure their facility is operated in accordance with the operating requirements of this WMP. The legal requirement is set out in Section 23.1 (7) of the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (LRIA).

The water level requirements in this WMP are mandatory. Enforcement action may be taken where these requirements are not met.

Bracebridge Generation Ltd. is also required to self-monitor mandatory water flow and level limits, and report on any incidents where a deviation from the operating requirements of the WMP (mandatory water flow and level), or other mandatory conditions of the WMP. All incidents must be reported to the MNRF. The mandatory self-monitoring requirements of this plan include:

1. The owner/operator must notify OMNR of all incidents of operations outside the approved operating range. Incidents related to high or low water conditions are addressed in the Compliance and Enforcement Guidelines, Appendix J of the OMNR Water Management Planning Guidelines (2002).
2. An initial notification to the MNRF is required within 24 hours of the occurrence of the incident or when the proponent(s) first becomes aware of the incident. The report should include:
 - The date, time and nature of the deviation;
 - The extent of the deviation;
 - Possible causes of the deviation;
 - Known or anticipated impacts associated with the deviation; and
 - Steps taken or to be taken, including the timeframe, to correct the deviation.
3. The facility owner/operator is then required to provide a written report to the MNRF within 30 days, outlining the details of the incident, any additional information not provided in the incident notification and subsequent remediation. Each report is to be dated and signed by the owner/operator.
4. Bracebridge Generation Ltd. will maintain records of all water level information for a minimum of 5 years. Therefore, any data collected near the end of the water management plan term must be kept for 5 years from the day it is collected to ensure the minimum 5 year requirement is met.
5. All reports produced are subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and are considered public documents and subject to mandatory exemptions in that Act (i.e. commercially sensitive restrictions), will be made available to the public upon an FOi request.
6. The proponent shall complete an annual compliance report to OMNR by January 31. The report will contain a summary and description of all incidents and any remedial action(s) proposed or undertaken. In the event there were no recorded incidents of noncompliance, the report will state as such.
7. When requested by OMNR to supply information the proponent shall do so in the

timeframe indicated in the request.

8. All written water level compliance reports will be signed and dated by the hydropower facility owner or a designate.

Additional criteria of the WMP include:

- OMNR will also from time to time monitor compliance through periodic site inspections (as set out in Section 20 of the LRIA), audits and investigations of public complaints.
- The owner/operator must report to MNR all incidents of failing to meet the compliance water level requirements of the plan.
- Nothing in this WMP precludes the Minister from making further Orders under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act.
- In instances where there are unscheduled facility imperatives (e.g. emergency maintenance etc.) MNR will consider requests from the owner/operator for temporary relief from the plan expeditiously and considerate of relative priorities.

7. Provision for Plan Amendments

7.1 Plan Amendments

In order for the WMP to remain current and to address future issues, the plan may be amended by following the amendment process set out in this section. Any change to the WMP requires an amendment to be submitted to the plan proponents and approved by MNRF. From time to time, new data, information, or issues may arise. MNRF retains the authority to amend a plan at any time, or issue an Order for the plan proponent(s) to amend the WMP.

7.2 The Amendment Process

Any party (Plan Proponent, MNRF, or 3rd Party) with an interest in the WMP may request an amendment to the WMP by bringing forward issues to the attention of the plan proponent(s).

An amendment request must be accompanied by sufficient information to allow the proponent(s) to determine whether the proposed amendment should proceed, and whether the amendment should be treated as minor or major. Proponent(s) must apply due diligence when considering proposed amendments.

The plan proponent(s) are responsible for:

- Receiving amendment requests;
- Assessing amendment requests based on criteria outlined in this section;
- Proposing amendments to MNRF; and
- Preparing amendment proposals for MNRF review

MNRF will review proposed amendments to ensure that plan proponents screen and process amendments consistent with the 2016 Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin.

7.2.1 Types of Amendments

Changes to the WMP may include simple text corrections to significant modifications to an operating regime. In order to provide flexibility for a range of potential amendment requests, two categories of amendments (minor and major) exist. The categories are mainly differentiated by the expected level of public interest in the proposed change to the WMP.

Amendments may be subject to public and First Nations and Métis community engagement or consultation, dependent on the category of amendment (described below), as detailed in Section 3.5 of the Maintaining Water Management Plan Technical Bulletin, 2016.

7.2.1.1 Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes that do not affect the operating regime, plan objectives, are not expected to generate a high level of public interest, and are not expected to adversely affect Aboriginal and treaty rights. Minor amendments will not be subject to public and First Nations and Métis community engagement or consultation beyond discussions with a SAC (if applicable). Minor amendments may include:

- Changes in the presentation of information, factual or text corrections; and/or
- Changing a WMP to include a new dam and its associated Operating Plan (Section 2.1 of the Maintaining Water Management Plan Technical Bulletin, 2016)

7.2.1.2 Major Amendments

Major amendments are more significant in scale such as: changes to the operating regime or plan objectives, changes that could be expected to generate a high level of public interest or changes that might adversely affect Aboriginal and treaty rights. A major amendment will be subject to public, First Nations, and Métis community engagement or consultation. For major amendments where equivalent consultation and engagement has previously occurred through another process (e.g. previous notification that a change will be required, or amendments required after public consultation in other planning processes), the MNRF may exercise discretion to process the proposed change as a minor amendment on a case by case basis.

7.2.2 Amendment Request

Individuals submitting an amendment request shall clearly articulate concerns and potential solutions. Amendment requestors shall participate in good faith opportunities

undertaken to obtain Indigenous Communities, public and stakeholder input on proposed major amendments and should consider their ability to contribute towards those engagement opportunities.

An amendment request should provide sufficient information to allow plan proponent(s) to determine whether an amendment request should be investigated further. It is the responsibility of the individual(s) requesting the amendment to demonstrate that the request is credible, worthy of consideration and within the scope of the WMP and the LRIA.

The amendment request must contain the following information:

- A description of the changes being requested;
- The rationale for the changes being requested;
- Results of any pre-consultation completed with potentially affected parties; and
- Where changes in operations are proposed, a description of how the proposed operation changes may impact other dams subject to the WMP.

Upon receipt of an amendment request from a third party, the plan proponent(s) will acknowledge receipt of the request in writing to the third party and notify the MNRF that a request has been received. Where the MNRF receives an amendment request from a third party, the request will be forwarded to the plan proponent(s).

Where plan proponent(s) are considering submitting an amendment request to the MNRF, prior consultation with the MNRF, the SAC (if applicable) and other plan proponents may occur.

Plan proponents will maintain records for all amendment requests.

7.2.3 Review of Amendment Request and Categorization of Amendment

The proponent(s) is responsible for screening amendment requests to determine if the request should proceed through the amendment process, and for categorizing the amendment as minor or major. This determination will ensure the appropriate degree of public consultation for the plan amendment.

The assessment will consider the following criteria:

- a) Is the amendment consistent with this Technical Bulletin?
- b) Is the amendment consistent with the WMP objectives, or does the amendment propose a change to the WMP objectives?
- c) Is there an alternative method to deal with the request rather than amending the WMP?
- d) Is the request within the scope of the WMP?
- e) Is the request related to any ongoing data or effectiveness monitoring commitments?
- f) Is the request supported by other potentially affected parties?
- g) Is the amendment required to comply with other regulatory requirements?

- h) Has the amendment request been considered previously?
- i) Does the amendment have the potential to negatively affect dam safety/public safety?
- j) Does the amendment have potential impacts on socio-economic or environmental considerations?

Where an amendment request does not contain sufficient information to complete an assessment or make a recommendation to MNRF, the plan proponent will return the proposed amendment to the third party with a request for additional information.

When a plan proponent(s) has completed the screening of the amendment request, written notification will be provided to MNRF. The notification will include: a summary of the amendment request and supporting rationale, results of the assessment, a recommendation of whether the request should be further considered, and if so, the appropriate category for the amendment.

7.2.4 Review of Assessment Results

The MNRF will review the plan proponent's screening results and will:

- Agree with the recommendation;
- Request additional information; or
- Disagree with the recommendation.

Where the plan proponent(s) recommends against proceeding with the amendment request, and the MNRF is in agreement, the plan proponent(s) will notify the requestor of the decision with supporting rationale.

Where the MNRF agrees that the amendment request should proceed, the plan proponent(s) will develop and submit the final amendment proposal for MNRF consideration. The plan proponent(s) will undertake any necessary planning, consultation, information gathering or other investigative activities associated with the amendment. Where the amendment is requested by a third party, the third party may be expected to support engagement activities.

Where the MNRF disagrees with the recommendation, the MNRF will discuss the proposed amendment with the plan proponent(s). The MNRF may subsequently direct the plan proponent(s) to proceed with consideration of the plan amendment.

7.3 Ordering an Amendment

When a decision is made to proceed through the plan amendment process, the MNRF may formalize the decision through the issuance of an Order to prepare an amendment or approve the amendment under the authority of LRIA Section 23.1(6). Plan proponent(s) may also request that the MNRF issue an Order to amend the plan.

The MNRF retains the authority to require a plan proponent to undertake a WMP

amendment where the plan proponent is unwilling to consider reasonable requests or where there are significant concerns regarding a facility's operation.

When MNRF intends to order a plan proponent to amend a plan, the proponent(s) will be provided a notice of intent to issue an Order to amend the plan prior to the issuance of the Order. Upon receipt of a notice of intent to issue an Order to amend a plan, the proponent(s) has 15 days to submit a request for an inquiry to the MNRF. Requests for an inquiry under the LRIA are referred by the MNRF to the Office of the Mining and Lands Commissioner (OMLC). Additional detail regarding appeals to the OMLC is referenced in MNRF's LRIA Administrative Guide and Section 11 of the LRIA.

7.4 Amendment Preparation

Where the MNRF has determined that a proposed amendment request should proceed, the plan proponent(s) shall prepare the final amendment proposal, including completing consultation activities or information gathering in support of the proposed amendment. Where the amendment is requested by a third party, the third party requester should discuss opportunities for collaboration in preparing the amendment.

For minor amendments, the plan proponent(s) must engage the MNRF, other plan proponent(s) and the SAC (if applicable). Public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and consultation requirements for major amendments are described in this plan.

7.4.1 Consultation and Engagement Requirements for Major Amendments

Plan proponent(s) and in certain circumstances third party amendment requestors, shall undertake public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and consultation when developing a major amendment. Specific requirements shall be discussed with the MNRF in advance. The scope of consultation and engagement may vary depending on:

- Scope and scale of the proposed major amendment;
- Level of public, stakeholder and First Nation and Métis community interest in dam operations;
- Level of potential impact on Aboriginal and treaty rights;
- Potential impacts on other regulatory approvals; and
- Potential impacts within the scope of the LRIA and the WMP.

Consultation and engagement approaches may include:

- Direct written notice;
- Open houses;
- Information sessions;
- Public notice; and/or
- Community meetings or workshops/focus groups.

Sufficient opportunity for reasonable engagement shall be provided and information regarding the amendment shall be communicated in concise plain language.

7.4.2 Consultation and Engagement Requirements Where EA Applies

In some instances, proposed changes to existing operations of the WMP will be subject to the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act, such as MNRF's Resource Stewardship and Facility Development Class EA, or the OWA Class EA.

In such cases, the EA Act requirements shall be completed in advance of submitting an amendment request. The plan proponent(s) is not required, but may elect, to incorporate WMP amendment considerations during the EA Act process.

Where proposed changes are subject to an EA, the proponent may not be required to complete any additional public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and consultation in support of the proposed WMP amendment where sufficient engagement activities have been completed as part of the EA process.

MNRF determination of whether consultation and engagement completed during the EA is sufficient for purposes of a WMP amendment shall be made as part of the Ministry's assessment of the WMP amendment screening results. Additional consultation and engagement shall not be required, unless the MNRF concludes that the EA consultation was insufficient. In this case, the MNRF will determine the scope and scale of additional consultation and engagement necessary for the purposes of the WMP amendment.

7.5 Amendment Submission

Following completion of any applicable consultation requirements, the plan proponent(s) will provide the MNRF, other plan proponent(s) where appropriate, and any third party requesters, a copy of the final amendment proposal including:

- a) Amendment request and supporting rationale;
- b) Proposed changes (replacement text) as they would appear within the approved plan;
- c) Map of the area affected by the amendment (if applicable);
- d) Record of consultation identifying the type of form of feedback sought, issues identified and steps taken by the proponent to modify the proposed amendment in response to comments (if applicable); and
- e) Any other supporting information deemed applicable to the proposed amendment.

7.6 Amendment Review

All amendments to the WMP must be approved by the MNRF.

The MNRF will complete a review of the amendment submission. For proposed minor

amendments, the MNRF will complete a review within 30 days of receipt of a complete submission. For proposed major amendments, MNRF will complete a review within 60 days of receipt of a complete submission.

During and/or following the review of the proponent's amendment submission, the MNRF may, with supporting rationale, request additional information required to complete the MNRF's review.

7.6.1 Requests for Additional Information

Where additional information is required, the MNRF will identify in writing the additional information requested and the rationale for the request. In such circumstances, the MNRF review timeline will be put on hold until the MNRF receives the requested information.

Upon receiving a request for additional information from the MNRF, the proponent may:

- Agree to provide the additional information by the specified time;
- Request a change to the specified time for submitting the information;
- Request a review by the Regional Director of the required information; or
- Refuse to provide the additional information.

Further details regarding the above scenarios can be found in Section 3.7.1 of the Technical Bulletin (2016).

7.7 Issuance of Decision

In issuing a decision on the proposed amendment, the MNRF shall either:

- Approve the amendment;
- Approve the amendment subject to changes considered advisable to further the purposes of the Act; or
- Refuse the amendment.

MNRF will provide the plan proponent(s) and any third party requester, as appropriate, written confirmation of its decision and supporting rationale.

If the amendment is approved, the WMP will be revised and a record of the amendment will be appended to the approved WMP.

Where the MNRF intends to refuse an amendment, a Letter of Intent to Refuse approval of the amendment will be issued to the proponent identifying the supporting rationale and any additional measures the proponent(s) can take to address any outstanding concerns. The Letter of Intent to Refuse approval of amendment will notify the proponent that unless the MNRF receives a request within 15 days from the proponent for an inquiry, the amendment will be refused.

Requests for an inquiry under the LRIA are referred by the Ministry of the Office of Mining and Lands Commissioner (OMLC). Additional information on appeals to the OMLC is detailed in MNRF's LRIA Administrative Guide.

8. Implementation Reporting

Plan proponents for the WMP shall submit an Implementation Report to the MNRF every five years. This report shall be a collective submission from all plan proponents.

The Implementation Report will provide status updates, transparency of dam operations and inform adaptive management considerations. The Implementation Report is not intended to initiate a fundamental review of the WMP.

The Implementation Report will include:

- Summary of all amendment requests received, including the rationale for completed amendments and how proposed amendments that did not proceed were addressed;
- Status of the Standing Advisory Committee, where applicable;
- Report on the results of the effectiveness monitoring program (EMP), if applicable, including a summary of monitoring conducted and findings, a determination of whether operations are having a negative or unintended impact, and an assessment of whether revisions to the facility operations, or the EMP, are required; and
- Status and results of any data or information collection outlined in the WMP's data collection program, if applicable, and a determination of whether revisions to the program are required.

The MNRF will review the report for completeness but will not formally approve the report. If the report is not complete, the MNRF will request that additional information be provided. The MNRF may also audit records used by the proponent(s) to prepare the Implementation Report and may request any additional information to verify the information presented.

Upon confirmation from the MNRF that the Implementation Report is complete, plan proponents will make the report publicly available.

The date for submission of the initial implementation report, through consultation with OWA, has been established as **December 31st, 2020**. In Accordance with the Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin (2016), Implementation Reports must be submitted every five years thereafter.

7. Appendices

Appendix A:

Scoping Report

Appendix B: Terms

of Reference

Appendix C: 2018 Administrative Amendment Background

Appendix C:

2018 Administrative Amendment Background

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p><i>The plan expiry date will be removed.</i></p>	<p>ALL simple water management plans in Ontario.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A ten-year review will no longer occur. • Plans no longer expire. • Plans will now be maintained through the amendment and reporting processes outlined below.
<p><i>Existing text about amendment processes in water management plans to be removed and replaced with:</i></p> <p>“Provision for Plan Amendments</p> <p>Plan Amendments</p> <p>In order for the WMP to remain current and to address future issues, the plan may be amended by following the amendment process set out in this section. Any change to the WMP requires an amendment to be submitted to the plan proponents and approved by MNRF. From time to time, new data, information, or issues may arise. MNRF retains the authority to amend a plan at any time, or issue an Order for the plan proponent(s) to amend the WMP.</p> <p>The Amendment Process</p> <p>Any party (Plan Proponent, MNRF, or 3rd Party) with an interest in the WMP may request an amendment to the WMP by bringing forward issues to the attention of the plan proponent(s).</p> <p>An amendment request must be accompanied by sufficient information to allow the proponent(s) to determine whether the proposed amendment should proceed, and whether the amendment should be treated as minor or major. Proponent(s) must apply due diligence when considering proposed amendments.</p> <p>The plan proponent(s) are responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receiving amendment requests; 	<p>ALL simple water management plans in Ontario.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any change to a WMP requires an amendment. • Plan proponents are now responsible for receiving amendment requests from a third party, and may also propose amendments. • Once the proponent receives an amendment request, they must notify MNRF, assess and process the request based on the listed criteria, and then make a recommendation regarding the amendment to MNRF. Proponents are then responsible for preparing amendment proposals for Ministry review. • All amendments require approval from MNRF. • The Minister retains the authority to amend or order to amend the plan at any time.

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing amendment requests based on criteria outlined in this section;Proposing amendments to MNRF; andPreparing amendment proposals for MNRF review <p>MNRF will review proposed amendments to ensure that plan proponents screen and process amendments consistent with the 2016 Maintaining Water Management Plans Technical Bulletin.</p> <p><i>Types of Amendments</i></p> <p>Changes to the WMP may include simple text corrections to significant modifications to an operating regime. In order to provide flexibility for a range of potential amendment requests, two categories of amendments (minor and major) exist. The categories are mainly differentiated by the expected level of public interest in the proposed change to the WMP.</p> <p>Amendments may be subject to public and First Nations and Métis community engagement or consultation, dependent on the category of amendment (described below), as detailed in Section 3.5 of the Maintaining Water Management Plan Technical Bulletin, 2016.</p> <p><i>Minor Amendments</i></p> <p>Minor amendments are changes that do not affect the operating regime, plan objectives, are not expected to generate a high level of public interest, and are not expected to adversely affect Aboriginal and treaty rights. Minor amendments will not be subject to public and First Nations and Métis community engagement or consultation beyond discussions with a SAC (if applicable). Minor amendments may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Changes in the presentation of information, factual or text corrections; and/orChanging a WMP to include a new dam and its associated Operating Plan (Section 2.1 of the Maintaining Water Management Plan Technical Bulletin, 2016) <p><i>Major Amendments</i></p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>Major amendments are more significant in scale such as: changes to the operating regime or plan objectives, changes that could be expected to generate a high level of public interest or changes that might adversely affect Aboriginal and treaty rights. A major amendment will be subject to public, First Nations, and Métis community engagement or consultation. For major amendments where equivalent consultation and engagement has previously occurred through another process (e.g. previous notification that a change will be required, or amendments required after public consultation in other planning processes), the MNRF may exercise discretion to process the proposed change as a minor amendment on a case by case basis.</p> <p><i>Amendment Request</i></p> <p>Individuals submitting an amendment request shall clearly articulate concerns and potential solutions. Amendment requestors shall participate in good faith opportunities undertaken to obtain Indigenous Communities, public and stakeholder input on proposed major amendments and should consider their ability to contribute towards those engagement opportunities.</p> <p>An amendment request should provide sufficient information to allow plan proponent(s) to determine whether an amendment request should be investigated further. It is the responsibility of the individual(s) requesting the amendment to demonstrate that the request is credible, worthy of consideration and within the scope of the WMP and the LRIA.</p> <p>The amendment request must contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A description of the changes being requested;• The rationale for the changes being requested;• Results of any pre-consultation completed with potentially affected parties; and• Where changes in operations are proposed, a description of how the proposed operation changes may impact other dams subject to the WMP. <p>Upon receipt of an amendment request from a third party, the plan proponent(s) will acknowledge receipt of the request in writing to the third party and notify the MNRF</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>that a request has been received. Where the MNRF receives an amendment request from a third party, the request will be forwarded to the plan proponent(s).</p> <p>Where plan proponent(s) are considering submitting an amendment request to the MNRF, prior consultation with the MNRF, the SAC (if applicable) and other plan proponents may occur.</p> <p>Plan proponents will maintain records for all amendment requests.</p> <p><i>Review of Amendment Request and Categorization of Amendment</i></p> <p>The proponent(s) is responsible for screening amendment requests to determine if the request should proceed through the amendment process, and for categorizing the amendment as minor or major. This determination will ensure the appropriate degree of public consultation for the plan amendment.</p> <p>The assessment will consider the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Is the amendment consistent with this Technical Bulletin?b) Is the amendment consistent with the WMP objectives, or does the amendment propose a change to the WMP objectives?c) Is there an alternative method to deal with the request rather than amending the WMP?d) Is the request within the scope of the WMP?e) Is the request related to any ongoing data or effectiveness monitoring commitments?f) Is the request supported by other potentially affected parties?g) Is the amendment required to comply with other regulatory requirements?h) Has the amendment request been considered previously?i) Does the amendment have the potential to negatively affect dam safety/public safety?j) Does the amendment have potential impacts on socio-economic or environmental considerations? <p>Where an amendment request does not contain sufficient information to complete an</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>assessment or make a recommendation to MNRF, the plan proponent will return the proposed amendment to the third party with a request for additional information.</p> <p>When a plan proponent(s) has completed the screening of the amendment request, written notification will be provided to MNRF. The notification will include: a summary of the amendment request and supporting rationale, results of the assessment, a recommendation of whether the request should be further considered, and if so, the appropriate category for the amendment.</p> <p><i>Review of Assessment Results</i></p> <p>The MNRF will review the plan proponent’s screening results and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree with the recommendation;• Request additional information; or• Disagree with the recommendation. <p>Where the plan proponent(s) recommends against proceeding with the amendment request, and the MNRF is in agreement, the plan proponent(s) will notify the requestor of the decision with supporting rationale.</p> <p>Where the MNRF agrees that the amendment request should proceed, the plan proponent(s) will develop and submit the final amendment proposal for MNRF consideration. The plan proponent(s) will undertake any necessary planning, consultation, information gathering or other investigative activities associated with the amendment. Where the amendment is requested by a third party, the third party may be expected to support engagement activities.</p> <p>Where the MNRF disagrees with the recommendation, the MNRF will discuss the proposed amendment with the plan proponent(s). The MNRF may subsequently direct the plan proponent(s) to proceed with consideration of the plan amendment.</p> <p>Ordering an Amendment</p> <p>When a decision is made to proceed through the plan amendment process, the MNRF</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>may formalize the decision through the issuance of an Order to prepare an amendment or approve the amendment under the authority of LRIA Section 23.1(6). Plan proponent(s) may also request that the MNRF issue an Order to amend the plan.</p> <p>The MNRF retains the authority to require a plan proponent to undertake a WMP amendment where the plan proponent is unwilling to consider reasonable requests or where there are significant concerns regarding a facility’s operation.</p> <p>When MNRF intends to order a plan proponent to amend a plan, the proponent(s) will be provided a notice of intent to issue an Order to amend the plan prior to the issuance of the Order. Upon receipt of a notice of intent to issue an Order to amend a plan, the proponent(s) has 15 days to submit a request for an inquiry to the MNRF. Requests for an inquiry under the LRIA are referred by the MNRF to the Office of the Mining and Lands Commissioner (OMLC). Additional detail regarding appeals to the OMLC is referenced in MNRF’s LRIA Administrative Guide and Section 11 of the LRIA.</p> <p>Amendment Preparation</p> <p>Where the MNRF has determined that a proposed amendment request should proceed, the plan proponent(s) shall prepare the final amendment proposal, including completing consultation activities or information gathering in support of the proposed amendment. Where the amendment is requested by a third party, the third party requester should discuss opportunities for collaboration in preparing the amendment.</p> <p>For minor amendments, the plan proponent(s) must engage the MNRF, other plan proponent(s) and the SAC (if applicable). Public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and consultation requirements for major amendments are described in this plan.</p> <p><i>Consultation and Engagement Requirements for Major Amendments</i></p> <p>Plan proponent(s) and in certain circumstances third party amendment requestors, shall undertake public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>consultation when developing a major amendment. Specific requirements shall be discussed with the MNRF in advance. The scope of consultation and engagement may vary depending on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scope and scale of the proposed major amendment;• Level of public, stakeholder and First Nation and Métis community interest in dam operations;• Level of potential impact on Aboriginal and treaty rights;• Potential impacts on other regulatory approvals; and• Potential impacts within the scope of the LRIA and the WMP. <p>Consultation and engagement approaches may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct written notice;• Open houses;• Information sessions;• Public notice; and/or• Community meetings or workshops/focus groups. <p>Sufficient opportunity for reasonable engagement shall be provided and information regarding the amendment shall be communicated in concise plain language.</p> <p><i>Consultation and Engagement Requirements Where EA Applies</i></p> <p>In some instances, proposed changes to existing operations of the WMP will be subject to the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act, such as MNRF’s Resource Stewardship and Facility Development Class EA, or the OWA Class EA.</p> <p>In such cases, the EA Act requirements shall be completed in advance of submitting an amendment request. The plan proponent(s) is not required, but may elect, to incorporate WMP amendment considerations during the EA Act process.</p> <p>Where proposed changes are subject to an EA, the proponent may not be required to complete any additional public and First Nations and Métis community engagement and consultation in support of the proposed WMP amendment where sufficient engagement activities have been completed as part of the EA process.</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>MNRF determination of whether consultation and engagement completed during the EA is sufficient for purposes of a WMP amendment shall be made as part of the Ministry’s assessment of the WMP amendment screening results. Additional consultation and engagement shall not be required, unless the MNRF concludes that the EA consultation was insufficient. In this case, the MNRF will determine the scope and scale of additional consultation and engagement necessary for the purposes of the WMP amendment.</p> <p>Amendment Submission</p> <p>Following completion of any applicable consultation requirements, the plan proponent(s) will provide the MNRF, other plan proponent(s) where appropriate, and any third party requesters, a copy of the final amendment proposal including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Amendment request and supporting rationale;b) Proposed changes (replacement text) as they would appear within the approved plan;c) Map of the area affected by the amendment (if applicable);d) Record of consultation identifying the type of form of feedback sought, issues identified and steps taken by the proponent to modify the proposed amendment in response to comments (if applicable); ande) Any other supporting information deemed applicable to the proposed amendment. <p>Amendment Review</p> <p>All amendments to the WMP must be approved by the MNRF.</p> <p>The MNRF will complete a review of the amendment submission. For proposed minor amendments, the MNRF will complete a review within 30 days of receipt of a complete submission. For proposed major amendments, MNRF will complete a review within 60 days of receipt of a complete submission.</p> <p>During and/or following the review of the proponent’s amendment submission, the</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>MNRF may, with supporting rationale, request additional information required to complete the MNRF’s review.</p> <p><i>Requests for Additional Information</i></p> <p>Where additional information is required, the MNRF will identify in writing the additional information requested and the rationale for the request. In such circumstances, the MNRF review timeline will be put on hold until the MNRF receives the requested information.</p> <p>Upon receiving a request for additional information from the MNRF, the proponent may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to provide the additional information by the specified time;• Request a change to the specified time for submitting the information;• Request a review by the Regional Director of the required information; or• Refuse to provide the additional information. <p>Further details regarding the above scenarios can be found in Section 3.7.1 of the Technical Bulletin (2016).</p> <p>Issuance of Decision</p> <p>In issuing a decision on the proposed amendment, the MNRF shall either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve the amendment;• Approve the amendment subject to changes considered advisable to further the purposes of the Act; or• Refuse the amendment. <p>MNRF will provide the plan proponent(s) and any third party requester, as appropriate, written confirmation of its decision and supporting rationale.</p> <p>If the amendment is approved, the WMP will be revised and a record of the amendment will be appended to the approved WMP.</p>		

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>Where the MNRF intends to refuse an amendment, a Letter of Intent to Refuse approval of the amendment will be issued to the proponent identifying the supporting rationale and any additional measures the proponent(s) can take to address any outstanding concerns. The Letter of Intent to Refuse approval of amendment will notify the proponent that unless the MNRF receives a request within 15 days from the proponent for an inquiry, the amendment will be refused.</p> <p>Requests for an inquiry under the LRIA are referred by the Ministry of the Office of Mining and Lands Commissioner (OMLC). Additional information on appeals to the OMLC is detailed in MNRF's LRIA Administrative Guide."</p>		
<p><i>Existing text outlining specific requirements for reporting of water flows and levels data to MNRF will be removed and replaced with:</i></p> <p>"Proponents shall make water flow and level data available to the Ministry upon request."</p>	<p>Simple water management plan proponents in Ontario that have an existing operating regime only (dams that have an effect on flows/levels).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing requirements for data collection and the retention of this data remain in effect. Proponents no longer have to submit routine flow and level monitoring data on existing schedules, rather they will be submitted upon request by MNRF. The data that is collected under existing requirements will be communicated through the Implementation Report, as explained further below.
<p><i>Incident notification text will be revised to ensure it aligns with the requirements outlined below:</i></p> <p>"Self-Monitoring, Data Reporting and Incident Notification</p> <p>All facilities are required to self-monitor mandatory water flow and level limits, and report on any incidents where a deviation from the operating requirements of the WMP (mandatory water flow and level), or other mandatory conditions of the WMP. All incidents must be reported to the MNRF.</p>	<p>Simple water management plan proponents in Ontario that have an existing operating regime only (dams that have an effect on flows/levels).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proponents must notify MNRF of deviations from the operating regime (flows and levels) within 24 hours of an incident occurring. Proponents must make MNRF aware of the expected cause and duration of the incident, any remedy the proponent has taken to correct the deviation, and if/when a return to band is expected. In addition to this initial notification, the proponent must send a follow-up report to

What is changing?	Where does this apply?	What does this mean?
<p>An initial notification to the MNRF is required within 24 hours of the occurrence of the incident or when the proponent(s) first becomes aware of the incident.</p> <p>The report should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The date, time and nature of the deviation; • The extent of the deviation; • Possible causes of the deviation; • Known or anticipated impacts associated with the deviation; and • Steps taken or to be taken, including the timeframe, to correct the deviation. <p>The dam owner will maintain and retain records of all level and flow information, and will create and maintain a permanent archive of those records for future reference.</p> <p>The facility owner/operator is then required to provide a written report to the MNRF within 30 days, outlining the details of the incident, any additional information not provided in the incident notification and subsequent remediation.”</p>		<p>MNRF that details the incident within 30 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many plans already outline similar requirements for incident notification.
<p><i>Annual compliance text will be revised to ensure it aligns with the requirements outlined below:</i></p> <p>“Annual Compliance Reports</p> <p>The plan proponent will prepare and submit an Annual Compliance Report. The report will contain a summary and description of all incidents and any remedial action(s) proposed or undertaken. In the event there were no recorded incidents of noncompliance, the report will state as such.”</p>	<p>Simple water management plan proponents in Ontario that have an existing operating regime only (dams that have an effect on flows/levels).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proponents will submit an annual signed compliance report to MNRF that outlines any incidents (deviances from the operating regime flows/levels) in the past year, if any. • Many plans already outline similar requirements for compliance reporting.
<p><i>The following statement will be added to existing data collection and/or effectiveness monitoring sections:</i></p> <p>“Reporting on the results of data collection and/or effectiveness monitoring programs will occur through submission of the Implementation Report, as outlined in Section XX.”</p>	<p>Simple water management plan proponents in Ontario that have an existing operating regime only (dams that have an effect on flows/levels).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where they exist, data collection and effectiveness monitoring requirements continue to apply. • Proponents will report on collected data and the status of the effectiveness monitoring program through the Implementation Report,

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		as outlined below.
<p><i>A section will be added to introduce the new requirement for the implementation report as below. Note that MNRF is working to confirm a schedule for submission of these reports; final dates will be amended into the plan.</i></p> <p>“Implementation Reporting</p> <p>Plan proponents for the WMP shall submit an Implementation Report to the MNRF every five years. This report shall be a collective submission from all plan proponents.</p> <p>The Implementation Report will provide status updates, transparency of dam operations and inform adaptive management considerations. The Implementation Report is not intended to initiate a fundamental review of the WMP.</p> <p>The Implementation Report will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of all amendment requests received, including the rationale for completed amendments and how proposed amendments that did not proceed were addressed; • Status of the Standing Advisory Committee, where applicable; • Report on the results of the effectiveness monitoring program (EMP), if applicable, including a summary of monitoring conducted and findings, a determination of whether operations are having a negative or unintended impact, and an assessment of whether revisions to the facility operations, or the EMP, are required; and • Status and results of any data or information collection outlined in the WMP’s data collection program, if applicable, and a determination of whether revisions to the program are required. <p>The MNRF will review the report for completeness but will not formally approve the report. If the report is not complete, the MNRF will request that additional information be provided. The MNRF may also audit records used by the proponent(s) to prepare</p>	<p>ALL simple water management plan proponents in Ontario.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proponents are responsible for submitting an Implementation Report every five (5) years. • The initial Implementation Report will be due between 1 to 3 years from the March 31st, 2018 expiry date of the WMP. MNRF continues to work with the Ontario Waterpower Association to finalize these dates. The initial Implementation Report submission date for your WMP will be included in the final amendment to your plan. • Please contact Mike Poskin, Regional Renewable Energy Coordinator, with any questions regarding this date at mike.poskin@ontario.ca or (705) 755-1362. • The implementation report may include a summary of any amendment requests received, a status update on the Standing Advisory Committee (if one exists), the status of the Effectiveness Monitoring Program, and a report on any flow and level data collected by proponents (if applicable). • MNRF will review the reports, may audit the records and/or request other information used to make the report. • Once completed and reviewed by MNRF, proponents should make the implementation

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<p>the Implementation Report and may request any additional information to verify the information presented.</p> <p>Upon confirmation from the MNRF that the Implementation Report is complete, plan proponents will make the report publicly available.”</p>		<p>report available to the public.</p>