

**RED RIVER FLOODWAY**  
**PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE RULES OF OPERATION**

**VOLUME I**

**REPORT ON THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**OCTOBER 2010**

**FARLINGER CONSULTING GROUP INC.**  
**H N WESTDAL & ASSOCIATES**

**RED RIVER FLOODWAY**  
**PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE RULES OF OPERATION**

**Volume 1:** Report on the Public Consultation

**Volume2:** Written Comments and Record of Meetings

**Volume 1**  
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# Executive Summary

Manitoba Water Stewardship conducted a public consultation on the rules of operation for the Red River Floodway in the period May through August, 2010. The public consultation is a component of the public review required in the licence granted in 2005 under the Manitoba Environment Act in respect to the expansion of the floodway.

The rules of operation for the Red River Floodway are issued under the general authority of *The Water Resources Administration Act*. The rules stipulate how the floodway gates are to be used under normal, major and extreme water flows and during emergency summer operations after the spring snowmelt has crested. The rules of operation, in essence, determine the water levels both inside the City of Winnipeg and upstream of the floodway inlet based upon flow conditions. The intent of operating rules 1 to 3 is to provide flood protection to the City of Winnipeg. Emergency operations under Rule 4 are intended to deal only with the risk of sewer backup, basement flooding and resultant health risks, in the period after the spring flood has passed.

The consultation gave the public an opportunity to comment on floodway operating rules. Meetings with municipalities north and south of the floodway, open houses, and an internet site with links to relevant information and legislation were part of the consultation process. The open houses were attended by staff from Manitoba Water Stewardship with expertise in floodway operations and included storyboards which explained floodway operations, the rules of operation and historic data on operations. The public was invited to provide comment at the open houses and/or to provide written submissions by mail or e-mail to Manitoba Water Stewardship.

There are two volumes to this report:

Volume 1: Report on the Public Consultation; and

Volume 2: Written Comments and Record of Meetings

Volume 1 contains a description of the public consultation process, details on open houses, a copy of the open house storyboards, and a summary of comments made by the public. Volume 1 includes descriptions of floodway operations, but as a report on a public consultation it does not include analysis of technical issues. This report does not arrive at any conclusions nor make recommendations. The report simply reports on the consultation process and documents comments received from the public.

Volume 2 includes a copy of records of meetings with municipalities, and written comments made by the City of Winnipeg, municipal governments, government agencies and community associations.

Perspectives on floodway operations tend to be particular to a respondent's property and place of residence. This applies to the City of Winnipeg, municipal governments and individuals. For example, residents north of the floodway, have different perspectives than people resident south of the floodway, reflecting different types of effects. Generally, those north of the floodway have concerns about flooding due to ice jams, which they perceive as being exacerbated by the floodway, and concerns about the regular loss of the Dunning Road Crossing. People resident south of the floodway have concerns about artificial flooding and the impact to property, lifestyle and peace of mind. People within the floodway's protection are mostly concerned about high water levels that affect bank stability and the use and enjoyment of the Red River and the walkway.

The 1997 flood was devastating to southern Manitoba and in particular to those people and communities residing south of the floodway structure. Since 1997, measures have been taken to mitigate flood damage to the residents of the Red River valley. Since 2002, emergency summer use of the floodway has occurred four times, including in 2010. Each use of the floodway under Rule 4 results in artificial flooding. In addition to property damage, the public noted that artificial flooding causes stress and anxiety throughout the community. Compensation provided for emergency summer use was generally thought to be inadequate. North of the floodway, severe ice jams were noted as the major cause of flooding, causing property damage and cutting off access to property and services.

## 1. Introduction

This report describes the public consultation on the Rules of Operation of the Red River Floodway conducted in the period April through August 2010.

The floodway was built between 1962 and 1968 to provide flood protection to the City of Winnipeg. It was expanded starting in 2006 and the final elements of the expansion are expected to be complete in the fall of 2010. The floodway is a provincial facility operated by Manitoba Water Stewardship in accordance with operating rules issued under the authority of the Water Resources Administration Act. These rules are also a condition of a licence under the Manitoba Environment Act (licence 2691), issued July 8, 2005. One condition of the Environment Act Licence states, in part, that:

“the Department shall conduct a public review of the rules of operation of the Development not less than once every five years, commencing with the date of this Licence”

The public consultation is a component of the public review required in the licence. The issues and comments presented in this report are those solely raised by members of the public, the City of Winnipeg, community associations and interested municipal governments. While this report includes descriptions of floodway operations there are no technical issues analysed as part of this consultation. This report does not arrive at any conclusions nor make recommendations. The report simply reports on the consultation process and documents comments received from the public.

There are two volumes to this report:

Volume 1: Report on the Public Consultation; and

Volume 2: Written Comments and Record of Meetings

## 2. Background

This section of the report provides an overview of the floodway and floodway operations. It provides necessary context to public commentary and defines some of the terms found later in the report.

The Red River Floodway was originally built between 1962 and 1968 to provide flood protection to the City of Winnipeg. It is part of a flood management system that now includes the Shellmouth Reservoir, the Portage Diversion and the West Dike. It was constructed at a cost of \$63 million and is estimated to have saved property damage in the order of \$30 billion. The floodway was built to protect the City of Winnipeg from a 1:160 year occurrence flood. The expansion of the floodway was stimulated by the 1997 flood (the “flood of the century”). Expansion started in 2006. It included widening the floodway, replacing the outlet structure, replacing bridges and crossing, upgrading the West Dike and construction of Embankment Gaps on the east side of the floodway near the Inlet Structure. The expanded floodway is designed to protect the City of Winnipeg from a 1: 700 year occurrence flood.

The 1997 flood was devastating to southern Manitoba and in particular to those people and communities resident south of the floodway structure. Measures have been taken since 1997 to provide flood protection south of the floodway and to mitigate flood effects downstream (north) of the outlet structure.

The figure below shows the location of floodway components and municipal jurisdictions.

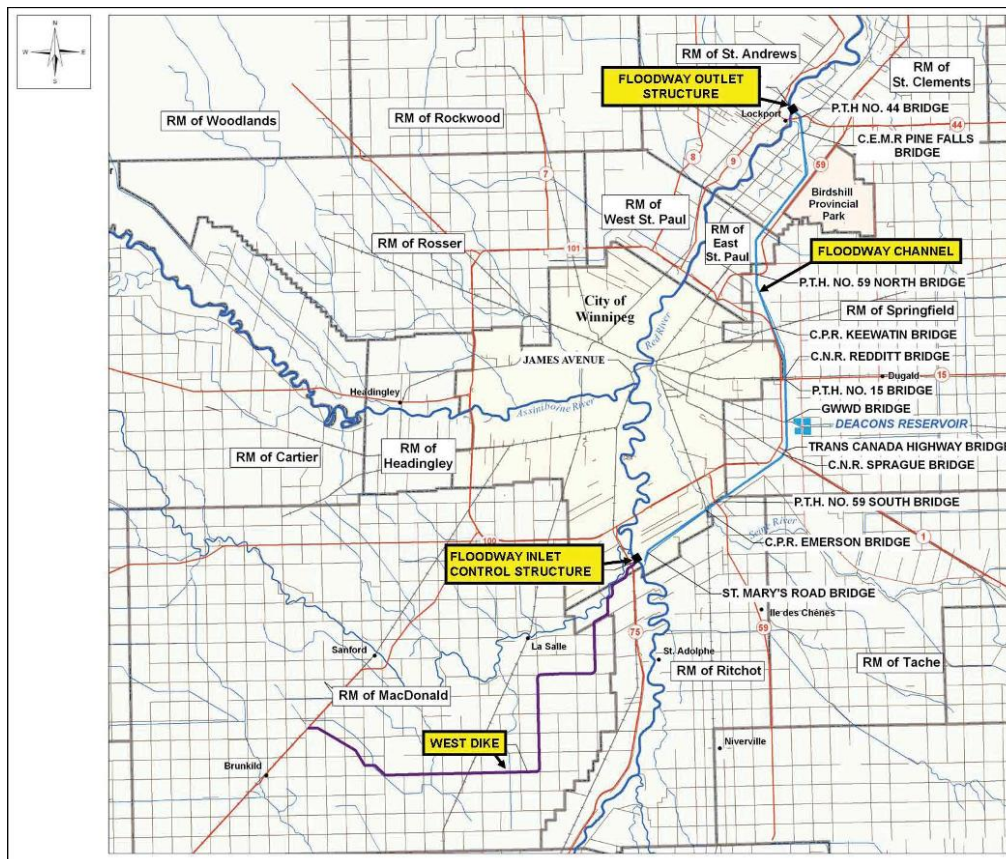


Figure 1: Floodway Location

## The Basics of Floodway Operation

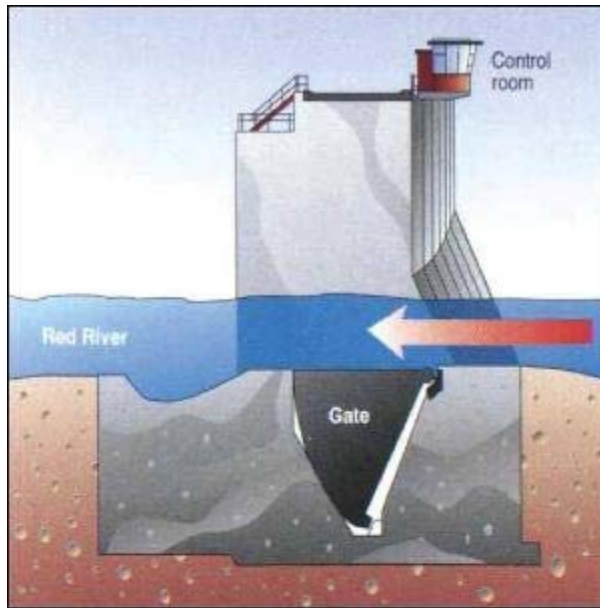
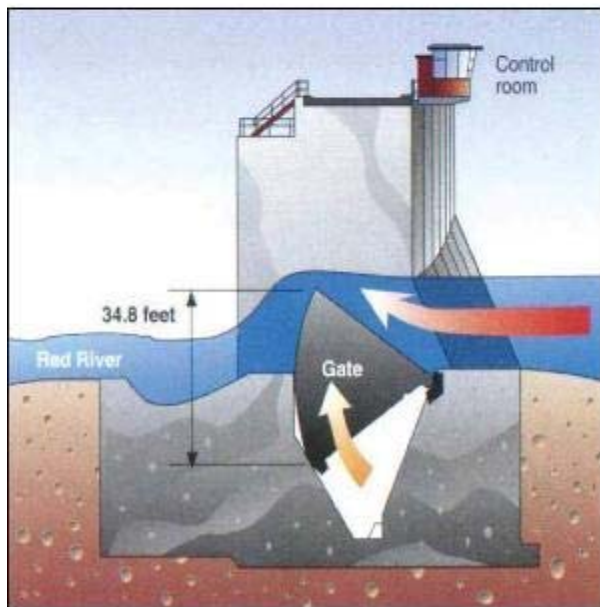


Figure (2) illustrates the basics of floodway operations.

Under low flow conditions the water level in the Red River is below the top of the floodway channel inlet lip. All of the Red River flow passes through the City of Winnipeg.

When the water level in the Red River is just above the top of the floodway channel inlet lip most of the Red River flow still passes through the City of Winnipeg but some of the flow starts going down the floodway channel. Water is then flowing freely in both the Red River and the floodway.

When the water level upstream of the floodway inlet control structure falls below natural levels the gates at the inlet control structure are raised and the water level upstream of the floodway inlet control structure returns to natural levels.



Under flood control conditions the water level in the Red River continues to rise, well above the top of the floodway channel inlet lip. As the water levels get higher, water starts entering the floodway channel through the east embankment gaps. The gates at the inlet control structure continue to be operated.

During extreme floods, the water levels upstream of the floodway inlet control structure rise above natural levels due to operation of the gates.

**Figure 2: Floodway Operations**

## History of Floodway Operations

The floodway has operated for spring floods 27 times since 1968 or about twice every three years. The floodway can now accommodate a greater flood event without going above the natural levels of the Red River. This is due to floodway channel expansion and the improvements to the floodway gaps. Under rules for spring operations there has only been artificial flooding (see following section for description of natural and artificial) once, in 1997, the “Flood of the Century”. With the expanded floodway, flows of that magnitude would not have resulted in artificial flooding. Figure (3) presents historic statistics on floodway operations.

Year	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE				JAMES AVENUE				PORTAGE DIVERSION
	Peak Flow in Floodway (cfs)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (ft)	James Ave Natural Peak Flow (cfs)	James Ave Natural Peak level (ft)	Frequency of Flood (Years)	James Ave Actual Peak level (ft)	Portage Diversion Effect at Peak (cfs)
1969	22,100	May 3	April 13	May 17	35	-	78,000	24.1		18.5	0
1970	22,800	May 1	April 19	May 20	31	759.6	80,500	24.7		18.9	8,230
1971	9,100	April 14	April 11	April 21	10	754.0	53,900	18.6		16.6	420
1972	1,200	April 18	April 16	April 20	4	751.2	56,100	19.0		16.6	3,920
1973	-	-	-	-	-	742.4	18,700	11.5		11.6	-
1974	36,700	April 24 & 25	April 18 May 20	May 18 May 31	30 11	764.6	96,000	28.0	16	19.2	17,600
1975	9,400	May 7 & 8	April 30	May 11	11	754.4	59,000	19.8		15.8	5,100
1976	10,300	April 11	April 7	April 25	18	754.8	63,800	20.8		15.8	10,000
1977	-	-	-	-	-	734.4	6,600	7.0		7.0	-
1978	18,100	April 16	April 9	May 3	24	758.1	62,000	20.4		17.3	0
1979	42,000	May 9	April 20	May 29	39	764.9	107,000	30.3	21	19.1	6,300
1980	-	-	-	-	-	745.6	31,100	12.6		12.7	-
1981	-	-	-	-	-	735.4	5,600	7.0		7.0	-
1982	600	April 18	April 16	April 21	5	751.3	51,500	18.4		16.1	6,145
1983	900	April 11	April 10	April 13	3	751.7	49,200	17.9		16.8	3,800
1984	-	-	-	-	-	748.9	39,000	14.6		14.0	-
1985	-	-	-	-	-	747.0	37,000	14.0		14.5	-
1986	9,800	April 3	March 31 May 6	April 14 May 11	14 5	754.8	64,000	20.9		17.8	9,600
1987	17,900	April 10	April 7	April 18	11	758.3	82,600	25.1	11	18.6	9,400
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,900	8.6		8.5	-
1989	4,800	April 24	April 21	May 1	10	752.8	49,000	17.4		16.2	0
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,200	6.9		6.9	-
1991	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,800	6.4		6.4	-
1992	3,600	April 8	April 6	April 10	4	752.7	49,400	17.5		15.5	4,000
1993	-	-	-	-	-	746.9	46,000	16.7		16.5	-
1994	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,000	15.0		14.6	-
1995	13,700	March 29	March 24	April 25	32	757.4	66,200	21.5		17.7	750
1996	38,800	April 30 & May 1 & 2	April 19	June 8	50	764.6	108,000	30.3	22	19.2	12,000
1997	66,400	May 3 & 4	April 22	June 3	42	771.5	163,000	34.4	98	24.5	10,500
1998	6,700	April 1	March 29	April 5	7	754.1	55,000	18.8		16.8	0
1999	15,700	April 16	April 4	May 1	27	758.2	77,100	23.5		17.2	6,500
2000	-	-	-	-	-	749.8	44,300	15.7		15.7	-
2001	21,100	April 28	April 7	May 20	43	760.0	82,000	25.0	10	17.9	9,200
2002	3,200	June 19	June 18	June 25	7	752.9	53,800	18.1		17.3	-
2003	-	-	-	-	-	738.7	16,900	7.8		7.6	-
2004	15,800	April 5	April 1	April 19	18	760.0	79,700	24.4		18.9	6,000
2005	15,300	April 8	April 5	April 20	15	759.3	84,400	25.5	11	18.9	2,900
2005	23,400	July 4	June 30	July 27	27	762.4	89,500	26.5	100 (est)	20.1	9,900
2006	33,200	April 15	April 5	May 9	34	763.4	96,700	28.5	16	20.2	8,300
2007	4,200	April 12	April 3	April 17	14	753.6	61,000	19.6		17.7	5,400
2008	-	-	-	-	-	744.7	16,000	11.5		11.4	-
2009	43,100	April 18 to 21	April 8	May 24	47	767.1	128,000	32.5	39	22.3	21,000
2010	16,000	April 6	March 28	April 22	25	759.1	69,000	22.3		18.5	3,600
2010	7,000	June 2	May 30	June 3	4	756.0	62,100	20.1		18.3	1,600

NOTE: In 2005, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 4 to Rule 1 on June 30.  
In 2010, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 1 to Rule 4 on June 3.

Events where James Avenue natural level above 25 feet highlighted  
**Figure 3: History of Floodway Operations under Rules 1 and 2**



## Operating Decisions

Floodway spring operating decisions are made by Manitoba Water Stewardship in accordance with the approved operating rules. According to the rules, the floodway gates should not be operated until the ice on the river is moving freely, unless flooding in Winnipeg is imminent. In the spring of 2009 the floodway was operated before ice had broken up in the vicinity of the floodway inlet. This was done to reduce an immediate threat of flooding within the City of Winnipeg.

There is a Red River Floodway Operation Advisory Board in place to;

- “ provide input, guidance and advice to the Minister of Water Stewardship on the operation of the floodway control gates in accordance with the approved operating rules during periods of flooding on the Red River,
- work together as a team to identify and resolve issues that may arise as a result of proposed gate operations
- facilitate the exchange of relevant and timely information between local residents and the government agencies regarding gate operations and their impact on residents.”

Members of the Advisory Board are:

- Manitoba Water Stewardship (Chair)
- Federal Government
- Rural Municipality of Ritchot
- Rural Municipality of MacDonald
- Rural Municipality of Morris
- City of Winnipeg
- Selkirk and District Planning Area

## Manitoba Clean Environment Commission Hearings

The original floodway was built prior to environmental legislation that would require public review, public hearings and licencing. The recent expansion of the floodway, however, was a project that required a licence under the Environment Act of Manitoba and permits under various federal acts.

In the licencing process, the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission (CEC) received technical reports, testimony and recommendations related to complaints about floodway operations including ice jamming, ground water contamination, lowering of the water table due to ground water escaping to the floodway channel and artificial flooding. The hearings constituted a thorough review of significant aspects of floodway operations.

The Executive Summary of the CEC report noted in part that: “the Floodway operating rules determine the water levels both inside the City of Winnipeg and upstream of the Floodway Inlet Control Structure. In so doing they determine whether upstream residents will be subject to artificial flooding and the degree of artificial flooding. The [operating] rules must be clear, publically agreed upon, and adhered to.”

## City of Winnipeg Flood Protection Measures

The City of Winnipeg has undertaken substantial measures to mitigate flood effects. These measures include:

- 1) Reducing basement flooding in combined sewer areas which is rainfall driven; and
- 2) Improving the overall flood protection system.

In total the city has spent about \$345 million on these measures since 1977.

## Artificial Flooding

Artificial flooding is incremental flooding above the natural water level. The definition given in the Red River Floodway Act is as follows:

**“artificial flooding”**, in relation to a given event means flooding

- (a) caused by floodway operation during spring flooding; and
- (b) in which the Red River exceeds the **natural level** at the time of the event

The extent of artificial flooding is determined using a hydrodynamic model calibrated for each flood. Elevation data is obtained from hydrometric gauging stations. Aerial photos are used to evaluate the extent of artificial flooding.

Artificial flooding in accordance with the above definition occurred during spring operations in 1997. Floodway operations in the summer under Rule 4 also result in artificial flooding due to natural levels being exceeded

### Natural Water Level

The term “natural water level” refers to the level that would have occurred in the absence of flood control works with the level of urban development at the time of construction of these works.

The natural level at the Red River Floodway inlet is calculated based on a relationship developed in 2004 between the flow at James Avenue and the floodway inlet. The relationship is also affected by the flow contributed by the Assiniboine River, Shellmouth Reservoir, Portage Diversion, the floodway and other developments which all influence the actual water level at the inlet.

The precise definition of natural water level taken from the Red River Floodway Act is as follows:

**“natural level”** means the scientifically demonstrable water level that would be expected in the Red River at a given time during spring flooding in the absence of the floodway, the Assiniboine River Diversion, the Assiniboine River dikes, the Shellmouth dam, the primary dikes in the City of Winnipeg, and urban development in the area protected by the floodway since its design was finalized.

### Rule 4: Emergency Summer Operations

Floodway inlet control structure was used for summer flooding for the first time in 2002. A rule for emergency summer operations, Rule 4, was only established in 2005. As shown in Figure (4) the floodway gates were used in the summers of 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2010 to reduce the risk of sewer back-up within the City of Winnipeg from intense rainfall events. And as noted above, by definition, each time the gates are used under Rule 4, the result is some amount of artificial flooding. (If summer operation occurs under Rule 1, however, artificial flooding does not occur since natural levels at the inlet are not exceeded.)

The Forks walkway cannot be protected under Rule 4. The rule does not allow gate operation to keep the river level less than 9 ft at James Avenue while the walkway is at approximately 8 ft.

	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE			
Year	Peak Flow in Floodway (cfs)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (ft)
2002	7,800	July 6	July 4	August 4	31	754.5
2004	9,000	June 11	June 10	July 31	51	756.6
2005	15,700	June 30	June 14	June 30	16	760.0
2010	12,200	June 4	June 3	July 10	41	758.3

Figure 4: Summer Operation of the Floodway under Rule 4

### Flood Protection Upstream of the Floodway

Upstream of the floodway eighteen communities are protected by ring dikes constructed under a cost-shared program to the level of the 1997 flood at each particular location plus 2 feet. (0.6 m). The federal and provincial governments contributed 90% of the cost of the ring dikes with the local rural municipality paying the remaining 10%.

Similarly, almost all rural individual homes and farmsteads upstream of the floodway inlet are protected to the same level (1997 plus 2 ft.) under a voluntary program, whereby government has contributed approximately 90% of the cost of either ring dikes or the raising of structures on earthen mounds in the areas affected by spring flooding of the Red River and tributaries, with the remainder paid for by the property owner.

In total, since 1997, the provincial and federal governments have spent over \$110 million on flood protection upstream of the floodway.

### **Flood Mitigation Downstream of the Floodway Outlet**

As noted elsewhere the City of Selkirk, the R.M. of St. Clements, the Coalition for Flood Protection North of the Floodway and a number of individuals expressed the opinion that floodway operation exacerbated ice jams downstream of the floodway outlet which in turn causes flooding upstream of the jam location. The storyboards displayed at the public meetings showed copies of newspaper articles as well as a report from Sir Sanford Fleming indicating that serious ice jams had occurred as early as the mid to late 1800's and several individuals attending the public meetings stated that ice jams had been a serious problem for a number of years.

The province initiated an ice jam mitigation program in recent years. This program involves the cutting and/or boring of river ice and subsequent breaking of ice by two Amphibex ice breakers from the mouth of Netley Creek to south of the Selkirk Bridge, a distance of approximately 27 km.

### **The Red River Floodway Act**

Compensation for artificial flooding is a major concern for residents of the Red River Valley. In March, 2004, the province introduced the Red River Floodway Act to help address this issue. The Act allows those who suffer property damage and/or economic loss from artificial spring flooding on the Red River to claim compensation, including individuals, farms, businesses, non-profit organizations and local authorities. The Red River Floodway Act covers a broader range of damage and loss than the Disaster Financial Assistance Program (DFA). It covers financial loss due to the inability to work or carry on a business. There is no claim limit and no deductible. This compensation is in addition to the assistance available under other government flood protection and damage programs. In particular, the provincial program is separate from the DFA and covers losses in excess of those covered by DFA.

Artificial flooding due to summer operations is provided under an ad hoc program announced after each event.

### **3. The Public Consultation Process**

Condition 15 of the Environment Act Licence #2691 requires a public review of the rules of operation of the floodway not less than once every five years and a review process to be approved by the Director of Environmental Assessment, Manitoba Conservation. The public review process was approved by the Director in 2006 and a letter approving the proposed timelines for the review was received from the Director in May 2010. The public consultation was one part of the public review.

The consultation process had several broad components:

- Meetings with affected municipalities;
- Letters to the City of Winnipeg and adjacent municipalities advising of the review process and an invitation to provide comments;
- Public open houses;
- Newspaper advertisements;
- A website; and
- An invitation for the public to provide written comments.

This section of the report provides details of the review process: a summary of meetings, location of open houses, attendance, description of the web site and the number of comments received.

Attachments provide copies of newspaper ads, web based material and storyboards used in open houses. In the “What We Heard” section of this report we relate comments received from the public.

In Volume 2, we present meeting notes from municipal meetings and written comments from the City of Winnipeg, municipal government and community associations.

#### **Meetings with Municipalities**

There were meetings with three municipalities and the City of Selkirk. Meetings were either with council or senior municipal staff. In each case a record was kept of each meeting. In two cases the meeting notes constitute the primary expression of municipal concerns.

**Table (1) Municipal and City Meetings**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
City of Selkirk	May 3, 2010	200 Eaton Avenue, Selkirk
Rural Municipality of St. Clements	May 3, 2010	St. Clements Municipal Office
Rural Municipality of Ritchot	May 19, 2010	RM of Ritchot Municipal Office
Rural Municipality of St. Andrews	May 21, 2010	RM of St. Andrews Municipal Office

**Public Open Houses**

There were three open houses as part of this consultation. People resident north of the floodway, inside the floodway’s protection and south of the floodway inlet control structure generally have different perspectives on floodway operations, reflecting their personal experience with the floodway and flooding. Venues, therefore, were chosen to facilitate attendance by these groups.





The open houses included a comprehensive set of storyboards to explain floodway history, operations and rules. Water Stewardship staff were in attendance to explain technical details of floodway operations, related regulations, supporting legislation, and floodway related research and studies. The open house hours were from 2:00PM to 8:00 PM.

**Table (2): Open House Venues**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Monday, July 5th	Selkirk Inn & Conference Centre, Selkirk	27
Tuesday July 6th	Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 1330 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg	37
Thursday July 8th	Howden Community Centre 1078 Red River Drive, Rural Municipality of Ritchot	44

### Advertisements

The public was notified about the public consultation through newspaper advertisements that invited the public to “Share Your Views” by attending open houses, submitting comments in writing, and learning more about the public review at the Water Stewardship website.

Table (3) provides a list of newspapers and issue dates for the ads. Copies of the English and French version of the ads are presented in Appendix (B).

**Table (3): Newspaper Advertisements**

<b>Publication</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>
<b>Daily Newspapers</b>	
Winnipeg Free Press	Saturday, June 19, 2010
Winnipeg Sun	Sunday, June 20, 2010
<b>Weekly Newspapers</b>	
La Liberte	Wednesday, June 23, 2010
<b>MCNA</b>	
Selkirk Journal	Friday, June 25, 2010
Interlake spectator	Friday, June 25, 2010
Stonewall Argus/ Teulon times	Friday, June 25, 2010
Emerson Southeast Journal	Saturday, June 26, 2010
Steinbach Carillon News	Thursday, June 24, 2010
Central Plains Herald Leader	Saturday, June 26, 2010

### **Written Comments**

Members of the public and municipal governments were invited to make written comments about the operating rules. Written comments were received at open house venues, via mail and e-mail. At the open house venues comment cards were provided to facilitate comments. Comments received at each open house included both those written on comment cards and more detailed written submissions. Comments received by mail and e-mail tended to be more detailed. A summary of the numbers of written comments is presented in table (4). A summary of comments is presented in the following chapter.



**Table (4) Written Comments Received**

	<b>Number of Written Comments</b>
Selkirk Open House	6
Winnipeg Open House	4
Ritchot Open House	3
Comments received by mail or e-mail	39 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>	52

### **Web Access**

Water Stewardship included a link on their website to direct visitors to the “Public Review of Red River Floodway Rules of Operation”. This web site address was included in newspaper ads used for the open houses and on the comment cards distributed at each open house.

The website included links to a full copy of the Environment Act licence, rules of operation, previous studies and reports, and open house storyboards. The web site invited visitors to make comments online or by mail, notified visitors of the time and place of open houses and included links to studies, reports and relevant acts and regulations.

A copy of the website page is included in Appendix (D).

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<sup>1</sup> Includes written presentations from Rural Municipalities and the City of Winnipeg

## 4. What we Heard

This section presents a summary of comments received about the rules of operation for the Red River Floodway. Most comments were made in writing. Staff working at the open house, however, also took note of verbal comments and these are included in the summary.

The first part of this chapter presents a summary organised by location: north of the floodway, within the floodway's protection, and south of the floodway. Comments have been organised in that fashion to reflect perspectives on floodway operations which tend to be particular to a respondent's property and residence. People resident north of the floodway, for example, have different perspectives than people resident south of the floodway; reflecting different types of perceived effects.

Volume 2 of this report includes copies of written comments from city and municipal Governments, government organizations and community organizations. For privacy considerations comments from individuals have been summarized in the appropriate place but are not copied in Volume 2.

The section called "In Their Own Words" juxtaposes a selection of comments from people/organisations within the City to those resident south of the floodway and a further section presents comments from people resident north of the floodway. Most comments are about the perceived effects of the floodway in general and not linked to any one operating rule. The most specific comments are about summer operations. Even these comments are not so much about the technical aspects of Rule 4, as they are about changes to the rules to allow greater summer operations.

### Comments from North of the City

#### City of Selkirk

A meeting was held with the acting Chief Administrative Officer and senior officials. The City of Selkirk noted two broad areas of concern plus a number of other issues related to rule interpretation and compliance with licencing conditions.

The broad areas of concern were flooding caused by ice jams and inadequate communication arrangements regarding initial gate operation. The City of Selkirk noted that ice jams are the principal cause of flooding in the Selkirk area. The City is of the opinion that ice jams are frequently related to the opening of the floodway. The flow from the floodway lifts upstream ice carrying it downstream and eventually resulting in a jam. The location of the jam determines where flooding takes place. They have concerns that an ice jam in the worst location would put the intersection of Evelyn and Queen under one metre of water.

The City's concern with communication derives from their experience that they do not receive information on a timely basis. Flood waters can rise very quickly and require a rapid response to avoid serious damage.

See Volume 2 for a full account of Selkirk's concerns.

### **Rural Municipality of St. Clements**

A meeting was held with the Mayor of St. Clements and the Chief Administrative Officer. Mayor Steve Strang also forwarded written comments.

The RM of St. Clements has concerns related to safety, finance and inconvenience.

Dunning Road crosses the floodway at grade with a ford type crossing of the central drain. The crossing provides access from Henderson Highway to Highway 59 in the vicinity of the Pineridge Trailer Park. When the floodway is in use the crossing is unusable. Before the crossing can be returned to use the municipality often has to restore the road to a useable condition at their own cost. If the floodway is used under Rule 4 (emergency summer operations) the crossing is lost again with additional expense. For this reason the municipality is opposed to any rule change which would allow further summer operations.

Closing of the Dunning Road Crossing is not only an inconvenience and cost but also a safety issue as when the Crossing is closed emergency vehicles have a longer response time to areas east of the floodway.

A broad issue is that the floodway effectively cuts the municipality in half creating development issues and a loss of tax base.

Cost issues relate to the regular re-building of Dunning Road Crossing, policing of the floodway, illegal use of the floodway by ATVs and dumping.

The floodway puts a strain on municipal drainage systems and has led to increased flooding.

The municipality also feels it is unreasonable that it has to defend itself against floodway operation through the use of engineering reports to make its case for compensation and/or modifications to floodway operations.

Lastly, the municipality is critical of notification procedures. There is no requirement to notify municipalities north of the floodway that it has gone into operation. And as the floodway typically goes into operation during the day, it is dark when the floodway waters reach the outlet in St. Clements, heightening the stress on residents. The Municipality would like to see the floodway go into operation around midnight. Floodwaters would then reach St. Clements about six in the morning which would allow the Municipality to (go on flood-watch) visit homes

and critical sites in daylight. (note later, the comment from RM of Ritchot was that they would like to see the floodway go into operation in the morning.)

See Volume 2 for notes from the meeting held with the mayor and for a copy of the mayor's written comments.

### **Rural Municipality of St. Andrews**

The Municipality is of the opinion that the design of the floodway did not take into account downstream issues and that issues raised by the municipality have been ignored.

There is a local perception that ice jamming on the Red River has been exacerbated by floodway operations and that riverbank failure in the vicinity of the floodway outlet is also caused by floodway operations.

The time of day that the floodway goes into operation is also a concern. By the time floodway waters arrive in St. Andrews it is dark.

Notes from a meeting with the council of St. Andrews are presented in Volume 2.

### **Comments from the Public**

The Coalition for Flood Protection North of the Floodway

"The **Coalition for Flood Protection North of the Floodway ("Coalition")** has been an active non-profit, voluntary, Red River Floodway centric organization since the flood of **1996** dealing with flood related issues impacting property and homes. The Coalition members reside in the City of Selkirk, the RM of St Andrews and St Clements, and over the years the common bond between all of these people and the floods have been and continue to be *floods caused by ICE JAMS.*"

The Coalition has presented two papers both of which are included in full in Volume 2. A brief summary of those papers is presented here.

The Coalition paper, Non Natural Impact of 2009 Floodway Operations, is a review and analysis of hydrological data undertaken by Coalition members. In the opinion of the Coalition their analysis shows a connection between the operation of the floodway and downstream water levels during the spring flood event of 2009. They contend that their analysis supports their contention that the travel time through the floodway is much faster than in the Red River. This is the principal cause of ice jamming and contradicts testimony by the Floodway Authority at licencing hearings.

This conclusion has led the Coalition to recommend:

- That actual impacts of floodway operations be studied and understood, and procedures developed to minimize these impacts. This requirement should form part of future licensing stipulations.
- That conditions of floodway licensing not be expanded until the current potential for impacts have been studied, are understood, and procedures have been put into place to minimize the impacts.

The second Coalition paper, Public Review of Floodway Rules of Operation Comments on Floodway Operations and Related Rules elaborates further on the relationship between the floodway, ice, ice jams and flooding. The paper makes a number of observations about specific operating rules and requests, “a hearing to deal with the identified issues and concerns as soon as possible so a set of revised operating rules can be adopted and implemented accordingly.”

Other comments from individuals north of the floodway related to ice jams and the lack of dredging of the Red River. Some of these comments are quoted below in the section, “In their Own Words”. Related to flooding caused by ice jams is commentary on stress and illness related to flooding, loss of property values and conflicts over compensation.

## Comments from Within the Floodway

### City of Winnipeg Comments

The City of Winnipeg submitted a letter that made technical observations on each rule and requested clarification of Rule 2. The City notes that it supports Rule 4 and “would be supportive if the Province would review their summertime operation to see if there is potential to operate the Floodway to keep the river walkways at the Forks open as long as possible.”

### Comments from Organizations

Comments were received from:

- The Forks Renewal Corporation,
- Economic Development Winnipeg Inc.
- Travel Manitoba
- The Elm Park Residents Association; and
- City of Winnipeg Councillor Jenny Gerbasi.

Presentations from each of these sources are included in Volume 2.

The Forks Renewal Corporation notes that they have a “huge interest in floodway operations as, by sitting at the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine rivers, we are impacted daily by their ebb and flow. We understand the implications of the upstream effect of using the floodway for summer control measures and are appreciative of the need for balance in all floodway operations.” The paper from the Forks notes significant economic losses resulting from high water levels in the summer. These include: high maintenance costs, lost tourism opportunities

and damage to image and reputation. The Forks “are encouraging the Province to continue to look to ways of using the floodway for summer control levels to 7-feet James .....so Winnipeg’s premier tourist destination can flourish.”

Economic Development Winnipeg notes that tourism is an important economic driver for Winnipeg and the Forks is a key element in the tourism industry. “The Forks walkways also provide a path through a historic region of our great city. We are a river city that must continue to celebrate and showcase this important part of our heritage in the tradition of all great river cities.”

Travel Manitoba would “support any measures which would allow both residents and visitors greater enjoyment of the Red River and uninterrupted pedestrian access to the Forks.”

Councillor Jenny Gerbasi wrote in support of having the rules for the summer control operations for the Red River Floodway reviewed. “The walkway is too far an important trail not only for residents but for visitors to our city to have it sitting underwater for the majority of the season.”

The Elm Park Residents Association commented on spring, summer and fall operations. In the spring the association would like to see the floodway in operation, regardless of ice conditions, early enough to minimize damage to river banks cause by ice breaking up at levels above 12 feet James.

Written submissions from the City and organizations are presented in Volume 2.

### **Comments from the Public**

Comments from people resident in the City of Winnipeg were in favour of expanding the use of the floodway during summer months. Respondent noted:

- that improved drainage in agricultural lands south of the Winnipeg have increasing impacted on safety, erosion, and amenity of the Red River within the city;
- the condition of the Red River is “atrocious”, tarnishing the image of Manitoba;
- river banks are failing. Riverbank erosion is a serious problem;
- the river has become unusable; and
- repeated flooding of the walkway affect tourist and recreational use of the Red River.

## **Comments from south of the Floodway**

### **Municipal Comments**

A meeting was held with the Rural Municipality of Ritchot and a written submission was provided by Mayor Stefaniuk.

In the meeting with the Mayor and Council they noted several broad issues:

- The floodway is inadequate for both the City of Winnipeg and the RM of Ritchot. It serves neither of them well;
- The City of Winnipeg cannot be protected without causing flooding upstream. If the province wants to protect Winnipeg in this manner it should buy out the forebay;

- Compensation is inadequate. Residents of Ritchot suffer from stress and have been treated shabbily under the Red River Floodway Act. Residents have abandoned St. Adolph Park due to repeated flooding; and
- It was noted that Rule 4 addresses City of Winnipeg problems only. Septic fields that are flooded in Ritchot cannot be used for an extended period of time after waters recede; and
- With respect to timing of operations it was noted that summer operations raise water levels very quickly. It may be preferable to open the gates in the morning to allow the RM to deal with flooding in daylight hours.

In his written submission, Mayor Stefaniuk noted that “Summer operations of the floodway should not be allowed under Rule 4. The floodway channel is not designed for this type of operation and river levels upstream of the control structure have to be lifted significantly before water enters the floodway channel. There are other solutions to Winnipeg’s summer river level problems such as reconfiguring the floodway entrance, redesigning the forks walkway and upgrading Winnipeg’s antiquated sewage pumping stations.” He also noted that “Ritchot continues to become the reservoir needed to augment a floodway that does not have the physical capacity to protect the City of Winnipeg to the 700 year flood level.”

Notes from the meeting with the RM of Ritchot and a copy of Mayor Stefaniuk’s comments are included in full in Volume 2.

### **Comments from Organizations**

A written presentation was received from the North Ritchot Action Committee (NRAC). A copy of this presentation is included in Volume 2.

The NRAC note that the experience of people resident upstream of the floodway has created an environment where “affected residents are distrustful and cynical of anything proposed by the Province of Manitoba or the Manitoba Floodway Authority (MFA).” The NRAC note that this history includes a provincial denial of artificial flooding associated with the 1997 flood until confronted with independent evidence to the contrary, exclusion from meaningful participation in new rules of operations and calculation of natural levels, and a general sense of lack of consideration for rights of upstream residents.

The NRAC submission makes seven points:

- The Province should negotiate with land owners to obtain legal permission to expropriate their private property for temporary water storage;
- The City of Winnipeg should, in the words of the International Joint Commission “adopt a flood culture” and cease developing lands that depends on artificial low water levels to be functional;
- Imprecision associated with estimates must be interpreted to the benefit of the aggrieved;

- Whatever the rules they must be enforceable and enforced;
- Share the protection offered by all the floodworks in southern Manitoba by reducing water elevations upstream of Winnipeg below natural whenever possible;
- The need for Rule 4 to persist has not been established and summer operation should be prohibited; and
- The City of Winnipeg should bring its sewer infrastructure to modern standards to reduce the frequency with which it is overwhelmed by rain.

The submission notes that flooding is not just about money. Like other commentators from south of the floodway, the NRAC notes that stress, anxiety and trauma has taken a heavy toll on the health and quality of life for those impacted by artificial flooding.

### **Comments from the Public**

Written submissions and comments were received from people resident in the Rural Municipality of Ritchot. The submissions and comments were opposed to an expanded use of the floodway during the summer due to damage and hardship resulting from artificial flooding. Verbal comments at the Ritchot open house were largely focused on the damage caused by artificial flooding, frustration in dealing with the compensation process, and inadequate compensation.

A market gardener noted that 2010 was the fourth time in eight years that the floodway has been operated during the summer and that summer operation of the floodway has had a very negative impact on their business. They hired a tree expert to evaluate the damage to trees on their property from flooding. The expert concluded, amongst other things, that the operation of the floodway led to the loss of portions of the woodland. The market gardeners noted that the amount of summer artificial flooding has been very stressful. “It has been physically, emotionally, and financially draining on both of us. It leaves us both frustrated and depressed. We can’t sleep at night because we worry and are passionate about our business.”

Other comments from Ritchot included complaints about closing of Courchaine Road (access road for the floodway inlet structure) every time the floodway goes into operation. Other verbal comments included a perspective that artificial flooding should be dealt with under the Red River Floodway Act.



## In Their Own Words

Presented below is a selected sample of comments that juxtaposes comments received from residents, municipal government and associations who reside south of the floodway Inlet structure to those who are within the floodway. This section does not include all of the public comments but it is “In Their Own Words” and captures the essence of two different perspectives about floodway operations.

### City of Winnipeg Residents

“Put the floodway into operation to minimize/eliminate the overtopping of the Forks/Assiniboine River Walkway. The Forks and the Assiniboine River Walkway have become Winnipeg’s premier tourist attraction and will become even more so when the Museum for Human Rights and the Upper Fort Garry Interpretive Centre are completed in 2012”.

“By not using the floodway gates in times of high water, millions of dollars of commerce has been lost to the city and those who would do business on or because of the Red River. My concerns include damage to the riverbanks as a result of not raising the floodway gates in times of high water.

When the Red River is higher than normal summertime levels, it is faster and much more powerful. This increases riverbank erosion. High summertime river levels have been a regular event at least since the early to mid

### Persons Resident South of the Inlet

“It seems to us that the government has a responsibility to balance the rights of those of us who live south of the floodway against the need to prevent sewer back-up in the City of Winnipeg. That balance does not exist now - the advantages are all for the City - the disadvantages are all for us. A program of flood easements and fair compensation and a compulsory requirement that all Winnipeggers mitigate their risks through the use of back-up valves and sump pumps, as well as a requirement that the City maintains its pumping system, would go a long way to balancing the situation”.

“Residents in north Ritchot do not accept the premise that anyone has the right to expropriate our properties for water storage under any circumstances. We do not accept the premise that the artificial flooding must occur. We do not accept the premise that the floodway cannot be operated to provide an upstream benefit. And we do not accept the premise that the MFA has our best interests and well being at heart. The imposition of artificial flooding, most notably as proposed in Rule 4, amounts to the tyranny of the majority over a minority – a small minority with a small voice that happens to have the misfortune of living upstream of the majority of

90's.

If the Province employed a different approach for use of the floodway in the summertime, riverbank erosion would be lessened, our riverbanks would have an opportunity to be reforested, and the costs to maintain and repair would be lessened by millions of dollars.”

“With the vastly increased efficiency deployed by those in charge of land management and control South of Winnipeg (including vast areas of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota)....., the run-off into the Red River and its tributaries following any measurable precipitation...has increasingly impacted on safety, erosion, amenity and other aspects related to river level fluctuations in Winnipeg...The raging torrents that flow through Winnipeg following a week or two after a significant storm .....creates unsafe conditions for anyone coming near the Red and in particular those making use of the River for recreational activities such as paddling, rowing and use of watercraft. Our summer seasons are short enough that they ought not to be adversely impacted by the dangers that could be averted through the control of river levels through use of the floodway.....As one who has witnessed the development known as the San Antonio Riverwalk that was developed decades ago through water control on the Colorado River to create a tourist mecca and picturesque city.... I can attest that can certainly be an example to be followed within Winnipeg”

“We feel strongly that utilization of the Floodway to maintain reliable water levels in Winnipeg throughout the summer is integral to Winnipeg and Manitoba delivering reliable

voters in Manitoba. This is hardly consistent with the generally accepted principles of democracy in a modern society. Democracy needs to be more than two wolves and a lamb voting on what to eat for lunch”.

“The people of the RM of Ritchot do not want artificial flooding. Period. ....It is not right to protect Winnipeg by harming Ritchot. Before the floodway was built, iron-clad promises were given that this would never happen, and that the floodway would never be used to create artificial flooding. ....There is no justification for summertime flooding. It is odious. The purpose is to keep the walkway at the Forks dry, and to ease the drainage situation in the low lying areas of Winnipeg. I suggest that you go to the residents of Charleswood, St. James, and Transcona, and tell them that you would like to build a diversion to store excess water on their yards in the summer. Perhaps when they hear that it is for the benefit of the Forks, they will accept. We do not want water stored on our lands for the convenience of the Forks, or the low-lying areas of Winnipeg. We have equal rights with the people of Winnipeg. Flooding Ritchot does not solve Winnipeg’s drainage problems -- .....the RM of Ritchot is not the insurance policy for the low-lying areas of Winnipeg”.

“So, the junction we are now at is how to proceed with the deliberate, destructive, artificial flooding of habitat, wildlife, structures, and residents in the RM of Ritchot.

tourism experiences. Attractions and activities such as our river walkways, Splash Dash Tours and river cruises rely on specific water levels. Frontiers North Adventures are strong supporters of Splash Dash Tours (with whom we've been working for 5+ years) and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. In 2013, with the opening of the CMHR, tourist volumes in Winnipeg, specifically at The Forks, are expected to increase dramatically. Will we be ready? Also consider by this time the Assiniboine Park Zoo (potentially accessible by water) will be well underway with their \$180 million redevelopment of the Park and Zoo. What sort of impression of Winnipeg will our guests receive if during mid-summer The Forks are submerged under water and our Rivers are neither safe nor accessible? Currently tourism in Manitoba generates \$480 million in export revenue, \$238 million in provincial tax revenues and \$64.9 million in Municipal tax revenues. 61% of tourists in Manitoba are other Manitobans. Revising the Floodway operations policy will positively affect tourism operations at the Forks and along our waterways. Active water-level management will also improve the tourism experience we are able to deliver to the residents of our great City and Province. Please seriously consider this information in your protocol review”.

“I believe the province must take action. An improved balance must be found for the use of the floodway during summertime months.”

The long history of deception and distrust relating to flood issues in the impoundment area is well established. It is an unfortunate adversarial situation. Although there is a strong bias to embrace economic, technical, and engineering principles in pursuing flood protection issues, there must be a holistic grasp of how floodway operations really impact the upstream community. Humanity needs to be embraced. Information must be disclosed. Accountability for decisions has to be evident. The challenge at the feet of the Steering Committee is to create a meaningful outcome of this exercise which provides environmental integrity along with physical, financial, and emotional security to the upstream residents of the RM of Ritchot”.

“We already sacrifice our land, crops, peace of mind, business, income, time & attention, money & even access to our own homes during emergency spring operations. The government cannot expect us to – nor be allowed to force us to endure floodgate operations during non-spring water events.”

## In Their Own Words (cont'd)

### North of the Floodway

"The rural Municipality [St. Clements] has been one of the most affected by the Red River Floodway. The floodway cuts the southern part of the RM in two, creating numerous servicing issues and greatly reducing our ability to subdivide properties east of the project. We have lost a good portion of our most valuable property to make way for the floodway with nothing in return."

"Dunning Crossing connects the Pineridge trailer park (400 plus homes) and numerous "east of Highway 59" properties to Henderson Highway. The crossing is heavily used throughout the year. Each instance the floodway gates are opened results in this road being lost to the public. Once the water has receded the RM is responsible to restore the road to a useable condition. It is for this reason we oppose increased operation of the floodway outside of its current licencing requirements"

"The first problem we had was in 1996 when the opening of the floodway caused a surge of water against ice that was not ready to breakup causing a devastating ice jam for our area. The wall of water came and rose several feet in less than one hour. In 2004, again when the ice was not ready to move the floodway opening caused flooding in our area. In 2009 we had the same thing happen again."

"To us, the Floodway Rules if Operation appear to be more concerned with Winnipeggers and residents living upstream of the floodway inlet than residents such as us, in the north. .... It is our opinion that the expansion of the floodway caused artificial flooding on our property. ....We request the following be added to the rules:

1. The floodway not be opened until river ice has broken and moved past Breezy Point .....
2. That an independent study be completed to review how the Floodway impacts residents living north of the outlet
3. That portable dikes be made available .....
4. That compensation .... programs .... be made available to all property owners."

"This spring ..... we flooded for the third time in 13 years, the first being in 1996, when we were evacuated, via Zodiac, in the dead of night. .... We had lived on this property for 30 years, were accustomed to spectacular river breakups, but only small amounts of water on the driveway for short periods of time. We had no warning of the impending disaster, which began occurring just six hours after the Floodway Gates were opened. A huge ice jam was the cause, for which we fault the Province in that the Floodway Gates had been opened before it was safe to do so given the ice had not broken up further north. Compensation did not come close to replacing what was lost."

“We believe that the Manitoba Floodway is, in large part, responsible for flooding in the south Breezy Point area.”

“We believe the Floodway negatively impacts us and we attribute our loss directly to its expansion. It is unbelievable that we flooded in 2009 when we never flooded before and when old timers who have lived in this area tell us our property had never flooded.”

“The Coalition for Flood Protection North of the Floodway has long maintained that the floodway operation affects downstream water events. These claims have consistently been discounted by officials within the Water Stewardship Branch and the Manitoba Floodway Authority.

The Coalition has consistently maintained that the floodway impacts need to be first studied and understood, and then operational procedures established to minimize impacts. In order to accomplish this, better monitoring than exists today must first be established.

Unfortunately it is the same government officials who consistently refuse to acknowledge that any floodway impacts exist, who would need to first champion the establishment of better monitoring, and then conduct the necessary reviews and studies to develop better operational procedures. Left to itself this is not likely to happen . ”

APPENDIX A  
MANITOBA ENVIRONMENT ACT LICENCE & RULES OF OPERATION

# Environment Act Licence

## Loi sur l'environnement Licence

Manitoba  
Conservation  
Conservation  
Manitoba



Licence No./Licence n° 2691  
Issue Date/Date de délivrance July 8, 2005

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANITOBA ENVIRONMENT ACT (C.C.S.M. c. E125)  
THIS LICENCE IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(1) TO:

**THE MANITOBA DEPARTMENT OF WATER STEWARDSHIP (“the  
Department”) AND THE MANITOBA FLOODWAY AUTHORITY (“the  
Authority”); “the Licencees”**

for the construction, maintenance and operation of the Development being the Red River Floodway, as described in Clause 1 of this Licence, in accordance with the Proposal filed under The Environment Act dated July 28, 2003, the Environmental Impact Statement dated August, 2004, Supplementary Information dated November, 2004, and the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission June, 2005 Report on Public Hearing, and subject to the following specifications, limits, terms and conditions:

### **DEFINITIONS**

In this Licence,

**“approved”** means approved by the Director in writing;

**“artificial flooding”** means water levels on the Red River that exceed water levels that would occur on the river without the presence of the Development and other associated flood control and City of Winnipeg infrastructure works, and occur:

- a) during spring operation of the Development, as defined in The Red River Floodway Act; and
- b) during non spring operation of the Development pursuant to Rule 4 of the Development’s rules of operation;

**“as constructed plans”** means engineering drawings complete with all dimensions which indicate all features of the Development as it has actually been built;

**“Director”** means an employee so designated pursuant to The Environment Act;

**\*\*A COPY OF THE LICENCE MUST BE KEPT ON SITE AT THE DEVELOPMENT  
AT ALL TIMES\*\***

**“Environmental Impact Statement” (“EIS”)** means the document submitted by the Manitoba Floodway Authority respecting the Development dated August, 2004;

**“Environmental Management Plan” (“EMP”)** means a framework plan describing the integration of environmental mitigation and monitoring measures during all phases of the Development, including construction, inactive operation and active operation;

**“Environmental Protection Plan” (“EPP”)** means a detailed plan that includes but is not limited to a description of environmental sensitivities and mitigative actions related to project activities.

**“Fuel storage area”** means an area where bulk fuel is stored in above ground or underground petroleum storage tanks, and does not include fuel stored in tank trucks or portable tanks;

**“Hearing”** means the public hearing conducted by the Clean Environment Commission pursuant to the Development between February 14, 2005 and March 10, 2005;

**“Joint clause”** means a clause of this Licence that applies jointly to the Authority and the Department; and

**“Minister”** means the member of the Executive Council charged by the Lieutenant Governor in Council with the administration of The Environment Act.

### **SCOPE OF PROJECT**

1. The Development includes but is not limited to the following components:
  - a) Red River Floodway Channel, having an expanded capacity of 3,964 m<sup>3</sup>/s (140,000 cfs);
  - b) Inlet Control Structure, on the Red River near St. Norbert;
  - c) Outlet Structure, on the Red River Floodway Channel near Lockport;
  - d) West Dyke, extending from the Inlet Control Structure south and west;
  - e) Six highway bridge crossings on the Red River Floodway Channel, including St. Mary’s Road, PTH 59 South, Trans Canada Highway, PTH 15, PTH 59 North and PTH 44;
  - f) Six railway bridges crossing the Red River Floodway Channel, including CNR Emerson, CNR Sprague, Greater Winnipeg Water District, CNR Redditt, CPR Keewatin and CEMR Pine Falls;
  - g) Appurtenant structures, including all drainage outlet drop structures, the Seine River Syphon Structure, Seine River Grande Pointe Diversion Outlet Structure, drainage structures through the West Dyke, and utility crossings, including electrical transmission towers, gas pipeline crossings and water utility crossings serving the City of Winnipeg and the Rural Municipality of East St. Paul.



Major components of the Development are shown in Figure 1 attached to this Licence.

2. For all components of the Development described in Clause 1 of this Licence, the Authority and its successors shall be responsible for construction and maintenance activities, and the Department shall be responsible for operational activities.

### **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

This Section of the Licence contains requirements intended to provide guidance to the Licencees in implementing practices to ensure that the environment is maintained in such a manner as to sustain a high quality of life, including social and economic development, recreation and leisure for present and future Manitobans.

3. In addition to any of the following specifications, limits, terms and conditions specified in this Licence, the Licencees shall, upon the request of the Director:
  - a) sample, monitor, analyze or investigate specific areas of concern regarding any segment, component or aspect the Development, including but not limited to water levels, water flows, water quality, pollutants, and socioeconomic effects related to the environmental effects of the Development, for such duration and at such frequencies as may be specified; and
  - b) provide the Director, within such time as may be specified, with such reports, drawings, specifications, data, analysis, descriptions of sampling and analytical procedures being used, and such other information as may from time to time be requested.
4. The Licencees shall submit all information required to be provided to the Director under this Licence, in writing, in such form (including number of copies) and of such content as may be required by the Director.

### **SPECIFICATIONS, LIMITS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### **Respecting Construction and Maintenance:**

5. The Authority shall, not less than two weeks prior to beginning construction of each component of the Development, provide notification to the Environment Officer responsible for the administration of this Licence of the intended starting date of construction and the name of the contractor(s) responsible for the construction.

6. The Authority shall collect and dispose of all used oil products and other regulated hazardous wastes generated by the machinery used in the construction and maintenance of the Development in accordance with applicable legislative and policy requirements of Manitoba Conservation.
7. The Authority shall establish any fuel storage areas required for the construction and maintenance of the Development:
  - a) a minimum distance of 100 metres from any waterbody; and
  - b) in compliance with the requirements of *Manitoba Regulation 188/2001*, or any future amendment thereof, respecting *Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products*.
8. The Authority shall, during construction and maintenance of the Development, immediately report fuel spills in excess of 100 litres to Manitoba Conservation's Emergency Response line at (204) 944-4888.
9. The Authority shall dispose of construction debris from the Development at a waste disposal ground operating under the authority of a permit issued pursuant to *Manitoba Regulation 150/91* respecting *Waste Disposal Grounds*, or any future amendment thereof, or a Licence issued pursuant to The Environment Act.
10. The Authority shall design, construct and maintain the Development to minimize additional groundwater leakage into the channel of the Development resulting from the expansion of the channel. Groundwater leakage before, during and after construction of the Development shall be monitored and reported to the Director in accordance with the requirements of Clause 25 of this Licence. Appropriate remedial action measures to address excessive groundwater leakage shall be identified and set out in a report to the Director in accordance with Clause 3 of this Licence, and approved remedial action shall be taken in accordance with the Director's instructions.
11. The Authority shall, within six months of the completion of construction of the Development, provide to the Director copies of as constructed plans for all components of the Development. Three paper copies and 12 electronic copies of the plans on compact disks shall be provided.

**Respecting Operation:**

12. The Department shall operate the Development in accordance with the rules of operation in Attachment 1 of this Licence.

13. The Department shall vary the rules of operation in Attachment 1 of this Licence only :
  - a) by filing a notice of alteration pursuant to Section 14 of The Environment Act;  
or
  - b) under emergency conditions in accordance with the provisions of The Water Resources Administration Act.
14. Following a variation in the rules of operation due to emergency conditions, the Department shall, within one month of the variation, submit a report to the Director describing the reason for the variation and its impacts on the environment, including all affected water levels. In the event that a second occurrence of a variation occurs at any time as a result of similar emergency conditions, the Department shall file a proposal for an alteration in the rules of operation in accordance with Section 12 of The Environment Act. This proposal shall be filed within two months of the date of the second variation.
15. The Department shall conduct a public review of the rules of operation of the Development not less than once every five years, commencing with the date of this Licence. A report detailing the process to be followed in this review shall be provided to the Director for approval within one year of the date of this Licence.
16. The Department shall, during flood events causing artificial flooding, supply, deliver and remove sandbags on behalf of affected municipalities to residents, farmsteads and business structures likely to be affected by artificial flooding. These activities shall be undertaken at no cost to the affected municipalities.
17. The Department shall, each year in which a probable event of artificial flooding occurs during spring operation of the Development, commission an independent third party review of the report prepared by the Department pursuant to the Red River Floodway Act subsequent to every operation of the Development. The independent review of the report shall be completed and provided to the Director within one month of the completion of the Department's report.
18. The Department shall employ qualified staff for the operation of the Development. This shall include primary and backup staff for all forecasting and operating positions. A report listing staff members and their qualifications shall be provided to the Director by March 31 of each year.

**Respecting an Environmental Management Plan and Environmental Protection Plans:**

19. The Licensees shall provide, for the approval of the Director, within six months of the date of this Licence, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the construction, maintenance and operation of the Development. The EMP shall include a discussion of plans for environmental inspections, monitoring and

follow-up, plans for reporting, relevant references and a description of public input into its development.

20. The Licencees shall provide, for the approval of the Director, a set of subject specific Environmental Protection Plans (EPPs) for all project phases addressing subjects including but not necessarily limited to:
- a) water quality and quantity protection;
  - b) sediment and erosion control;
  - c) fish and fish habitat;
  - d) the physical environment, including climate, air quality, noise, soils, vegetation, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and species at risk;
  - e) transportation infrastructure and utilities;
  - f) health;
  - g) heritage resources; and
  - h) accidents and malfunctions.

These EPPs shall normally be approved by the Director prior to construction on any component of the Development listed in Clause 1 of this Licence that involves the above listed subjects. For construction in 2005 only, the Director may approve site specific Construction Phase Environmental Protection Plans (CPEPPs) prior to the completion of the EPPs, provided that the CPEPPs address all relevant subject areas. Three paper copies and 12 electronic copies of the EPPs on compact disks shall be provided to the Director.

21. The Authority shall develop Construction Phase Environmental Protection Plans (CPEPPs) for each construction contract of the Development. The CPEPPs shall be based on the EPPs and shall provide specific direction to project managers and contractors respecting all aspects of environmental protection applicable to each contract site. Two copies of each CPEPP shall be provided to the Director at the time of tendering each contract. CPEPPs prepared in 2005 prior to the completion of the EPPs require the approval of the Director prior to the commencement of construction on each contract.
22. The Department shall, within two years of the date of this Licence, develop an Operation Phase Environmental Protection Plan (OPEPP) for all operating scenarios of the Development. The OPEPP shall be based on the EPPs and shall provide specific direction to operators of the Development respecting all aspects of environmental protection applicable to operation of the Development. Three paper copies and 12 electronic copies of the OPEPP on compact disks shall be provided to the Director.
23. The Licencees shall not include activities in the EPPs that are incompatible with any Manitoba groundwater quality protection policies.
24. The Licencees shall not use untreated surface water to create a hydraulic barrier to groundwater movement in an aquifer.

**Respecting Monitoring and Follow-up:**

25. The Licencees shall develop and implement a comprehensive groundwater monitoring program for all phases of the Development. The program shall consider baseline information obtained before the initiation of construction of the Development. A report summarizing groundwater monitoring plans shall be provided within six months of the date of this Licence to the Director for approval. The report shall describe the locations, parameters, frequency and duration of monitoring, and the public and technical input leading to the selection of these aspects of the plans.
26. The Licencees shall include groundwater in the vicinity of the Inlet Control Structure of the Development in the monitoring program required by Clause 25 of this Licence.
27. The Licencees shall provide, by March 31 of each year, a report to the Director on all water quality monitoring undertaken in connection with the Development during the previous calendar year. Copies of the report shall be provided to interested municipalities and members of the public, and placed and maintained on the Licencees' respective websites.
28. The Licencees shall undertake a monitoring plan for the Inlet Control Structure and the embankments of the Development in accordance with the most recent guidelines of the Canadian Dam Association. Reports prepared pursuant to this monitoring plan shall be provided to the Director, the public liaison committee discussed in Clause 34 of this Licence, and placed and maintained on the Licencees' respective websites.
29. The Licencees shall undertake a riverbank monitoring program for the Development in accordance with proposals in the Environmental Impact Statement and at the Hearing. Reports prepared pursuant to the monitoring program shall be provided to the Director, and placed and maintained on the Licencees' respective websites.

**Respecting Further Studies:**

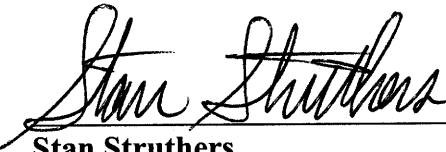
30. The Licencees shall undertake a comprehensive baseline study of groundwater quality and quantity along the full length of the channel of the Development. A report on this study shall be provided to the Director, and placed and maintained on the Licencees' respective websites.
31. The Licencees shall, within two years of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director a health risk assessment with respect to groundwater contamination for the Development. This assessment shall be placed and maintained on the Licencees' respective websites.

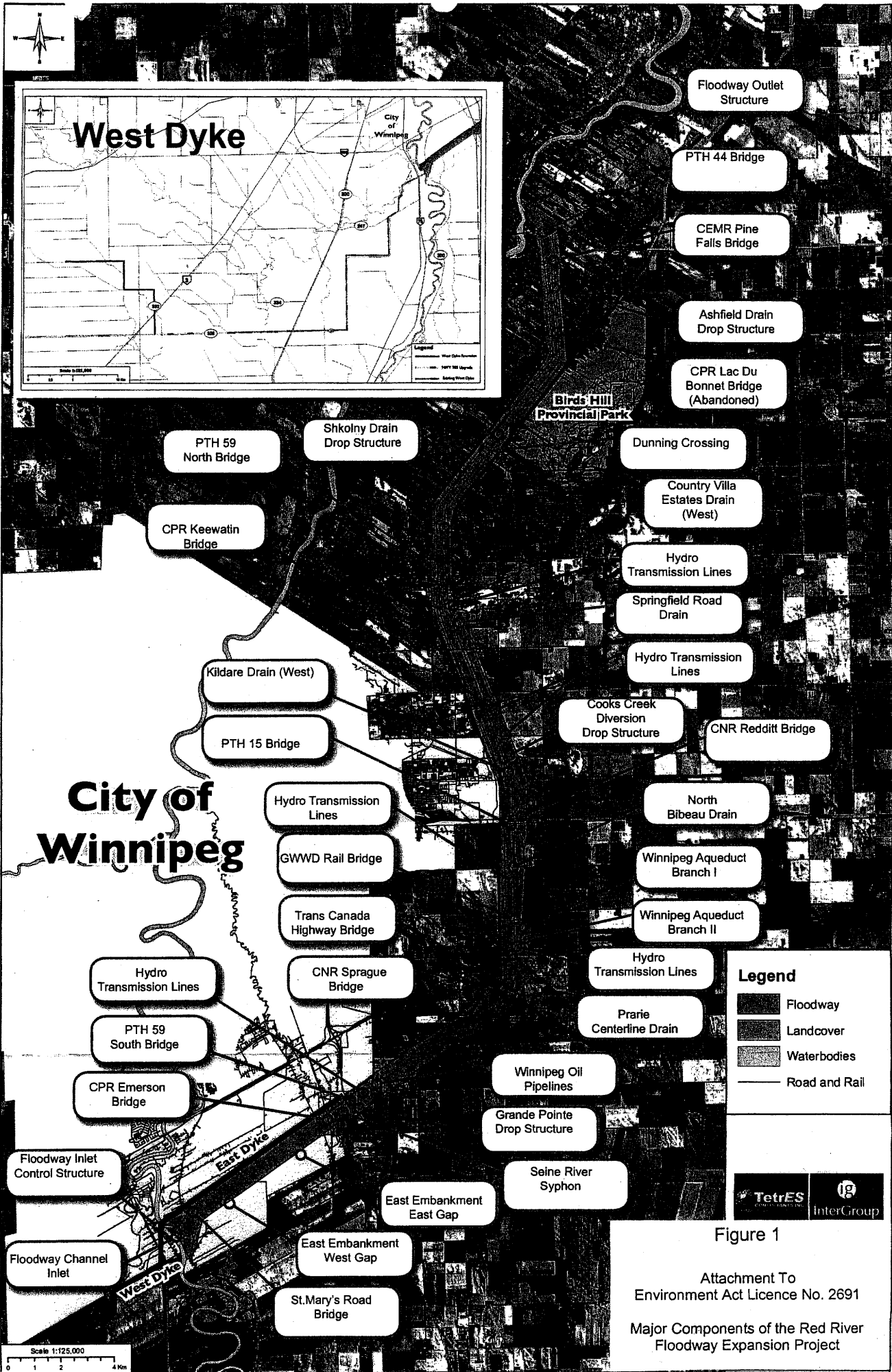
32. The Licencees shall, within six months of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director for approval a proposal for the adjudication of claims regarding groundwater issues related to the Development.
33. The Licencees shall, within six months of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director for approval a proposal for a peer review team to undertake hydrogeological reviews of:
  - a) baseline groundwater information, modeling and data and analysis gaps in connection with the Development;
  - b) all groundwater monitoring programs proposed in connection with all phases of the Development;
  - c) the health risk assessment with respect to groundwater contamination discussed in Clause 31 of this Licence;
  - d) measures to prevent increased groundwater loss into the channel of the Development discussed in Clause 10 of this Licence; and
  - e) all groundwater mitigation measures in connection with the Development, as discussed in Clauses 19, 20, 21 and 22 of this Licence, including measures to prevent contamination of the Birds Hill and Carbonate aquifers.
34. The Licencees shall, within four months of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director for approval a proposal to establish a public liaison committee for all phases of the Development. The proposal shall address terms of reference, membership, and administration.
35. The Authority shall, within six months of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director for approval a geotechnical assessment of the foundation conditions of the Inlet Control Structure of the Development.
36. The Authority shall, within one year of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director for approval an assessment of the potential for the jamming of the gates of the Inlet Control Structure. The assessment shall be undertaken based on the geotechnical assessment required in Clause 35 of this Licence.
37. The Authority shall, within six months of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director a report on its response to the report "Summary of Observations and Advice by a Panel of External Experts" concerning a workshop on issues involving the Inlet Control Structure and West Dyke convened on October 13 – 14, 2004. The report shall describe the status of implementation of the observations and advice of the experts' report, and shall be placed and maintained on the Authority's website.
38. The Authority shall, within one year of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director a report on the status of implementation of the dam safety provisions of the report contained in Appendix C of the Preliminary Engineering Report for the Development. The report shall be placed and maintained on the Authority's website.

39. The Authority shall, within one year of the date of this Licence, provide to the Director a Project Dam Safety Review for the Development prepared in accordance with the most recent guidelines of the Canadian Dam Association. The review shall be placed and maintained on the Authority's website.
40. The Authority shall undertake repairs and upgrades identified in the review required by Clause 39 of this Licence. A report on these repairs and upgrades shall be provided by March 31 of each year for the previous calendar year to the Director, and placed and maintained on the Authority's website.
41. The Department shall, within one year of the date of this Licence, provide a report to the Director respecting compensation for individuals, businesses and organizations affected by artificial flooding due to operation of the Development pursuant to Rule 4 of the rules of operation of the Development. The report shall describe in detail the implementation and administration of the chosen method of compensation. This report shall be placed and maintained on the Department's website.
42. The Licencees shall, not less than five years after the date of this Licence and not less than every five years thereafter, review all clauses of this Licence directed at the Licencees jointly, and identify whether either the Authority or the Department should be separately responsible for any particular joint clause. A report on this review shall be provided to the Director within one month of its completion.

#### **REVIEW AND REVOCATION**

- A. If, in the opinion of the Minister, the Licencees have exceeded or are exceeding or have or are failing to meet the specifications, limits, terms, or conditions set out in this Licence, the Minister may, temporarily or permanently, revoke this Licence.
- B. If construction of the development has not commenced within three years of the date of this Licence, the Licence is revoked.
- C. If, in the opinion of the Minister, new evidence warrants a change in the specifications, limits, terms or conditions of this Licence, the Minister may require the filing of a new proposal pursuant to Section 12 of The Environment Act.

  
**Stan Struthers**  
**Minister**  
**Environment Act**



**Figure 1**

Attachment To  
Environment Act Licence No. 2691

Major Components of the Red River  
Floodway Expansion Project





**Attachment 1**  
**To Environment Act Licence No. 2691**

**Rules of Operation – Red River Floodway Control Structure**

Source: Red River Floodway Operation Report Spring 2005, Manitoba Water Stewardship, June, 2005.

*Rule 1 - Normal Operation:*

Maintain “natural”<sup>1</sup> water levels on the Red River at the entrance to the Floodway channel, until the water surface elevation at James Avenue reaches 24.5 feet (7.46 metres), or the river level anywhere along the Red River within the City of Winnipeg reaches two feet below the Flood Protection Level of 27.83 feet (8.48 m).

*Rule 2 - Major Flood Operation:*

Once the river levels within Winnipeg reach the limits described in Rule 1, the level in Winnipeg should be held constant while levels south of the Control Structure continue to rise. Furthermore if forecasts indicate that levels at the entrance to the Floodway channel will rise more than two feet (0.6 metres) above natural, the City of Winnipeg must proceed with emergency raising of the dikes and temporary protection measures on the sewer systems in accordance with the flood level forecasts within Winnipeg. The levels in Winnipeg should be permitted to rise as construction proceeds, but not so as to encroach on the freeboard of the dikes or compromise the emergency measures undertaken for protecting the sewer systems. At the same time the Province should consider the possibility of an emergency increase in the height of the Floodway embankments and the West Dike. At no time will the water level at the Floodway channel's entrance be allowed to rise to a level that infringes on the allowable freeboard on the Floodway west embankment (Winnipeg side) and the West Dike.

*Rule 3 - Extreme Flood Operation:*

For extreme floods, where the water level at the Floodway channel's entrance reaches the maximum level that can be held by the Floodway west embankment and the West Dike, the river level must not be permitted to exceed that level. All additional flows must be passed through Winnipeg.

*Initial Gate Operation with Ice:*

The Floodway gates should not be operated until ice on the river is flowing freely, unless flooding in Winnipeg is imminent.

*Final drop of Gates:*

To minimize bank slumping along the river in Winnipeg and at the same time reduce the probability of sewer backup problems, final gate operations, once the level at the entrance to the Floodway Channel recedes to elevation 752 feet (229 metres), shall be carried out in consultation with the City of Winnipeg.

*Operation of Horn:*

The horn at the Floodway Structure shall only be operated once, before the first gate operation of the year. The horn should be sounded a half-hour before the first gate operation to alert residents that the Floodway Structure is being put into operation. For

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<sup>1</sup> The term “natural” refers to the level that would have occurred in the absence of the flood control works, with the level of urban development in place at the time of the construction of these works.

ongoing information a 1-800 number should be established that would provide current information of gate operations, potential impacts on water levels, and forecasts for the next few days. The information should also be included on the existing Water Stewardship internet site.

*Rule 4 - Emergency Operation to Reduce Sewer Backup in Winnipeg*

4(1) This rule defines the circumstances under which the Minister of Water Stewardship ("the Minister") may determine that emergency operation of the Floodway is necessary to prevent widespread basement flooding and resulting risk to health and damage to property within the City of Winnipeg.

4(2) This rule applies after the spring crest from snowmelt runoff at Winnipeg, whenever high river levels substantially impair the capacity of Winnipeg's combined sewer system.

4(3) As long as the Department of Water Stewardship ("the Department") forecasts that river levels for the next 10 days will be below 14 feet James Avenue Pumping Station Datum (JAPSD), the Department will not operate the Floodway Control Structure.

4(4) When the Department forecasts that river levels for the next 10 days are expected to rise to 14 feet JAPSD or higher, the Department will prepare a report that describes:

- (a) The basis of the Department's river level forecasts and its risk assessment;
- (b) The risk of basement flooding in Winnipeg, including the following factors:
  - (i) The predicted peak river level in the next 10 days;
  - (ii) The length of time the Department forecasts the river level will be at 14 feet JAPSD or higher;
  - (iii) The risk of an intense rainfall event in Winnipeg in the next 10 days;
- (c) The benefits and costs of Floodway operation, including:
  - (i) The extent of basement flooding and damage to property expected from various combinations of intense rainfall events and high river levels;
  - (ii) The risk to the health of Winnipeg residents from sewer back-up;
  - (iii) Economic loss and damage caused by artificial flooding south of the Inlet Control Structure;
  - (iv) Impacts of operation on fish and wildlife and their habitat and on water quality;

- (v) The risks and potential costs of riverbank instability that may be caused by artificial river level changes, both upstream and downstream of the Inlet Control Structure;
  - (vi) During construction of the Floodway expansion, costs and risks associated with any resulting delays of that construction, including the potential average annual expected damages associated with an additional period of risk of a flood event that would exceed the current capacity of the Floodway;
  - (vii) Such other benefits and costs of operation of which the Department is aware at the time of the preparation of the report, excluding benefits associated with recreational or tourism activities or facilities; and
- (d) measures that may be taken to mitigate the costs and impacts of the operation under consideration, including:
- (i) minimizing the rate at which river levels are changed both upstream and downstream of the Floodway Inlet Control Structure;
  - (ii) providing means to assure fish passage.

4(5) The Department will present a draft of the report prepared under rule 4(4) to the Floodway Operation Review Committee and provide an opportunity for the Committee to provide input, before finalizing the report and making recommendations respecting Floodway operation.

4(6) The Department will not recommend operation of the Floodway unless the expected benefits of doing so clearly and substantially outweigh the expected costs.

4(7) The Department will present its report and recommendations to the Minister, who, subject to rule 4(8), will make a decision respecting Floodway operation based on his consideration of the report.

4(8) The Department will not operate the Floodway control structure under this rule:

- (a) to raise river levels immediately upstream of the control structure to an elevation higher than 760 feet above sea level;
- (b) to achieve a river level of less than 9 feet JAPSD; or
- (c) except in circumstances of extreme urgency, to lower river levels more than one foot per day.

4(9) The Department will issue a news release announcing a decision to operate the Floodway at least 24 hours before commencing operation.

4(10) The Department will ensure every reasonable effort is made to personally notify landowners who may be directly affected by flooding due to Floodway operation in advance of the operation.

4(11) The Department will sound the horn at the Floodway Inlet Control Structure one-half hour before operation commences.

4(12) The Department will maintain a program of compensation for damages suffered by landowners arising from flooding caused by Floodway operation under this rule.

APPENDIX B  
OPEN HOUSE ADVERTISEMENTS

## CONSULTATIONS PUBLIQUES

# Exprimez votre point de vue

## Assistez aux consultations publiques portant sur les règles d'exploitation du canal de dérivation de la rivière Rouge

Le gouvernement du Manitoba tiendra une série de réunions pour donner la chance au public d'examiner et de commenter les règles d'exploitation du canal de dérivation.

### Lieux, dates et heures des consultations

Les consultations auront lieu de **14 h à 20 h** aux endroits suivants :

<b>Selkirk*</b>	5 juillet 2010 Selkirk Inn & Conference Centre, 162-168, rue Main
<b>Winnipeg</b>	6 juillet 2010 Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 1330, chemin Pembina
<b>M.R. de Ritchot</b>	8 juillet 2010 Centre communautaire Howden, 1078, promenade Red River

\*en anglais seulement

Par ailleurs, vous êtes invités à envoyer par écrit vos commentaires sur les règles d'exploitation du canal d'ici le **1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2010** à :

Gestion des ressources hydriques Manitoba  
Étude des règles d'exploitation du canal de dérivation  
200, croissant Saulteaux, C. P. 14  
Winnipeg (Manitoba) R3J 3W3  
Courriel : [reviewfloodwayrules@gov.mb.ca](mailto:reviewfloodwayrules@gov.mb.ca)

### Pour en savoir plus

Pour de plus amples renseignements au sujet de l'examen public des règles d'exploitation du canal de dérivation de la rivière Rouge, visitez notre site Web à [manitoba.ca/waterstewardship](http://manitoba.ca/waterstewardship) (en anglais seulement).



La Liberté  
Ad size: 2 cols (4.0625") x 123  
Insertion date: Wed., June 23, 2010  
Position: WFN

## PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

# Share your views

## Plan to attend open houses on the public review of the Red River Floodway Rules of Operation.

The Manitoba government is holding a series of open houses to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on the floodway rules of operation.

### Open House Places, Dates and Times

Open houses will be held from **2 to 8 p.m.** in the following locations:

<b>Selkirk</b>	July 5, 2010 Selkirk Inn & Conference Centre 162-168 Main Street
<b>Winnipeg</b>	July 6, 2010 Holiday Inn Winnipeg South 1330 Pembina Highway
<b>RM of Ritchot</b>	July 8, 2010 Howden Community Centre 1078 Red River Drive

Additionally, you are invited to submit comments in writing on the floodway rules of operation, by **September 1, 2010**, to:

Manitoba Water Stewardship  
Attention: Floodway Rules of Operation Review  
Box 14, 200 Saulteaux Crescent  
Winnipeg MB R3J 3W3  
E-mail: [ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca)

### For More Information

To learn more about the public review of the Red River Floodway rules of operation, please visit our website at [manitoba.ca/waterstewardship](http://manitoba.ca/waterstewardship).



APPENDIX C  
Internet Site

Water Stewardship Website  
manitoba.ca/waterstewardship

## Public Review of Red River Floodway Rules of Operation

Clause 15 of the [Environmental Act Licence No. 2691](#) states:

*"The Department shall conduct a public review of the rules of operation of the Development not less than once every five years, commencing with the date of this Licence. A report detailing the process to be followed in this review shall be provided to the Director for approval within one year of the date of this Licence."*

Manitoba Water Stewardship is interested in your views on the Red River Floodway rules of operation. You may provide your comments in writing by mail, [online](#), or by email prior to **September 1, 2010**.

Manitoba Water Stewardship Box 14, 200 Saulte aux Crescent Winnipeg MB R3J 3W3 ATTN: Review Floodway Rules Or E-mail: [ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca)

Manitoba Water Stewardship held a series of open houses to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on the Red River Floodway rules of operation.

Open houses were held at:

	Location	Date	Time
Selkirk	Selkirk Inn & Conference Centre, 162-168 Main Street	July 5, 2010	2 - 8 PM
Winnipeg	Holiday Inn Winnipeg South, 1330 Pembina Highway	July 6, 2010	2 - 8 PM
Rural Municipality of Ritchot	Howden Community Centre, 1078 Red River Drive	July 8, 2010	2 - 8 PM

Storyboards from the open houses can be found [here](#).

Detailed information on the Red River Floodway can be found through the following links.

- [Studies and reports](#)
- [The Red River Floodway Act](#)
- [Regulations under The Red River Floodway Act](#)
- [Spring Floodway Operation Reports](#)
- [Manitoba Floodway Authority](#)



APPENDIX D  
OPEN HOUSE STORY BOARDS

Manitoba Water Stewardship is pleased to welcome you to:

# A public review of the rules of operation for the **Red River Floodway**

Our purpose is to provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the Red River Floodway rules of operation.

## Why a Public Review?

- To comply with Clause 15 of *The Environment Act Licence # 2691*:

“The Department shall conduct a public review of the rules of operation of the Development not less than once every five years, commencing with the date of this Licence...”

Visit us online at:

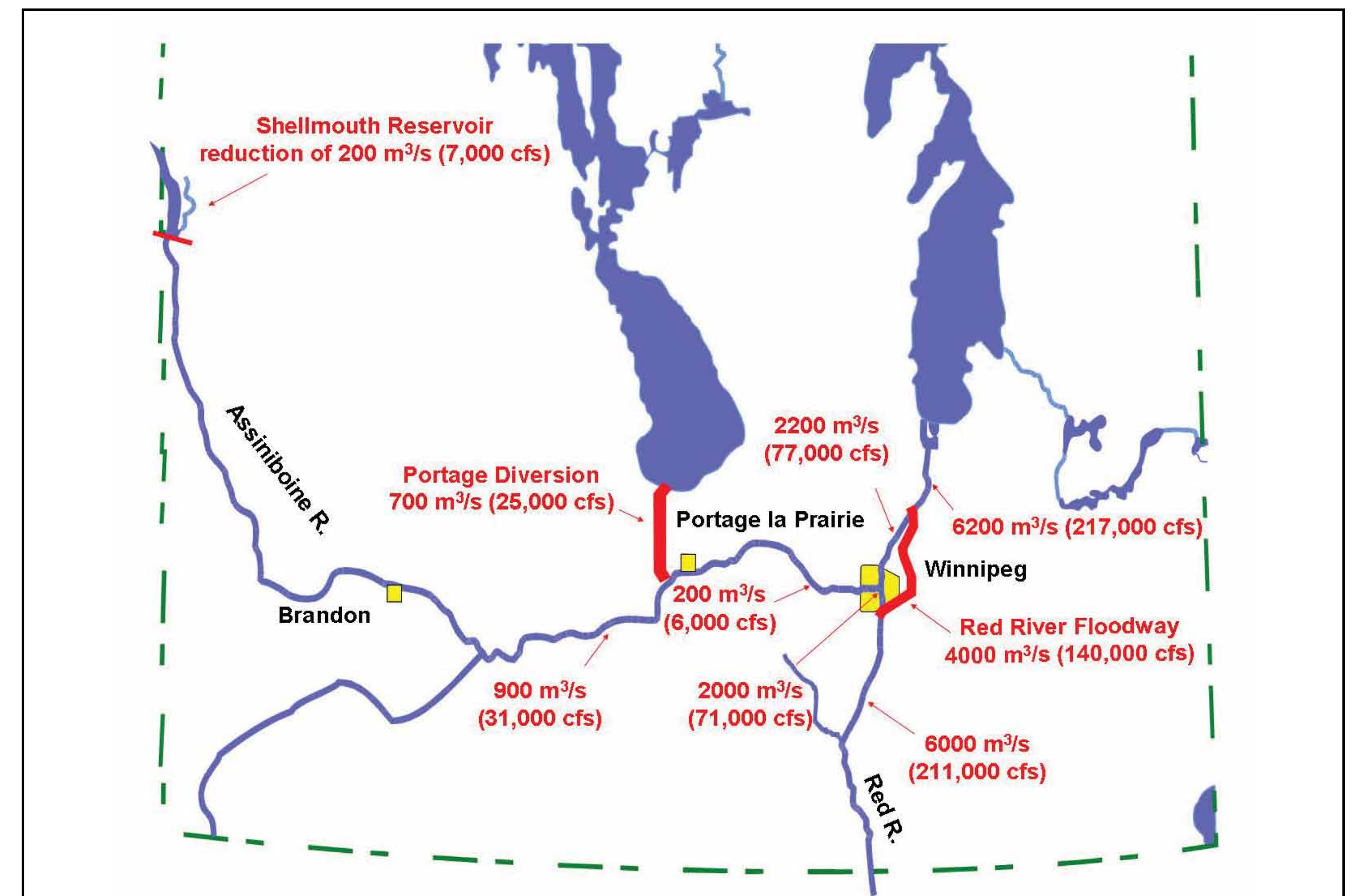
[manitoba.ca/waterstewardship](http://manitoba.ca/waterstewardship)



## Background

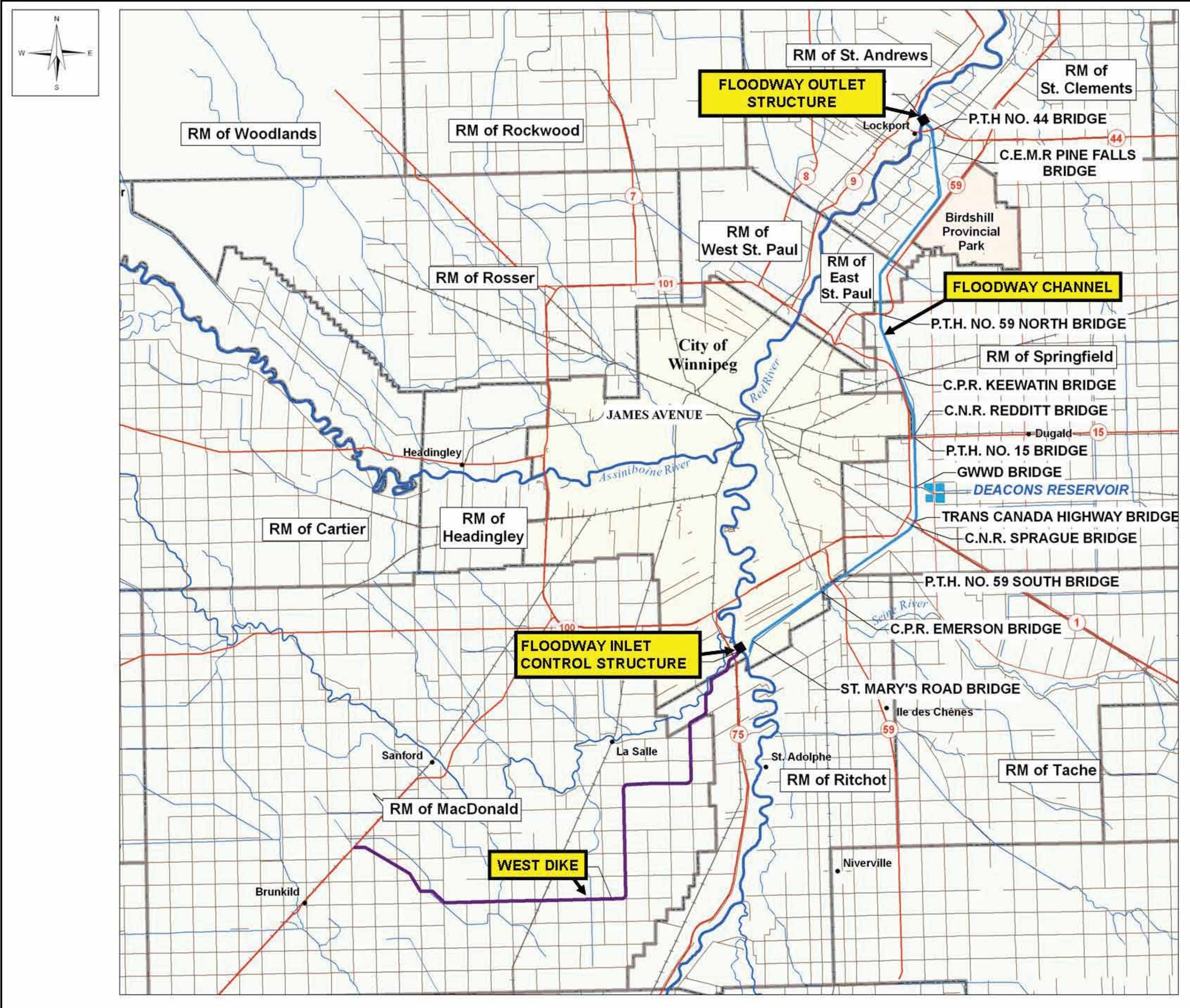
- The original floodway was built between 1962 and 1968; after the 1950 flood.
- It cost \$63 million and has saved Manitoba more than \$30 billion in flood damage.
- It was built to protect the City of Winnipeg from a 160-year flood.
- Flood protection measures also included the construction of the Portage Diversion (diverts flows up to 700 m<sup>3</sup>/s (25,000 cfs) from the Assiniboine River) and the Shellmouth Dam (reduction up to 200 m<sup>3</sup>/s (7,000 cfs) in Assiniboine River).
- The expansion of the current floodway system (including the West Dike and outlet expansions) began after the 1997 flood and was the most cost effective way to protect the City of Winnipeg from a 700-year flood.
- The original floodway earthwork project was larger than the Suez Canal, but smaller than the Panama Canal:
  - original Panama Canal excavation = 177 million cubic metres (currently being expanded)
  - original Suez Canal excavation = 75 million cubic metres (lengthened from 160 km to 190 km)
  - original floodway excavation = 76 million cubic metres
  - floodway expansion excavation = 21 million cubic metres

- total floodway excavation = 97 million cubic metres
- The floodway is recognized as one of 16 of the world's engineering marvels by the International Engineering Association.



Design flood flows shown.

# Floodway Components



Floodway outlet structure during 1997 flood



Floodway inlet control structure

# Floodway Expansion Measures

## Bridge modifications

- four of six highway bridges replaced
- four of six railway bridges replaced

## Channel widening

- widen on average from 35 m to 85 m (115 ft to 280 ft) for increased capacity
- excavation of up to 21 million m<sup>3</sup> of soil (original floodway, about 76 million m<sup>3</sup> of soil)

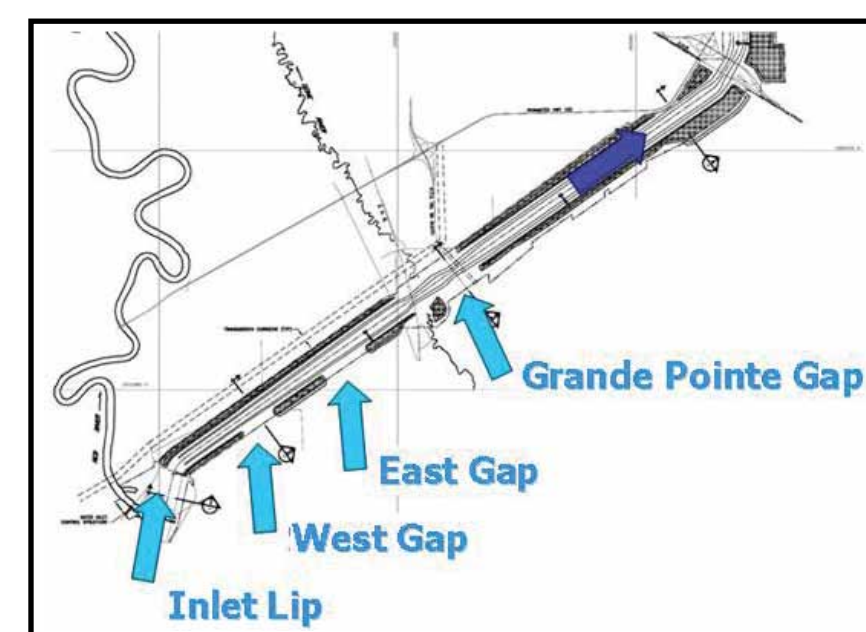
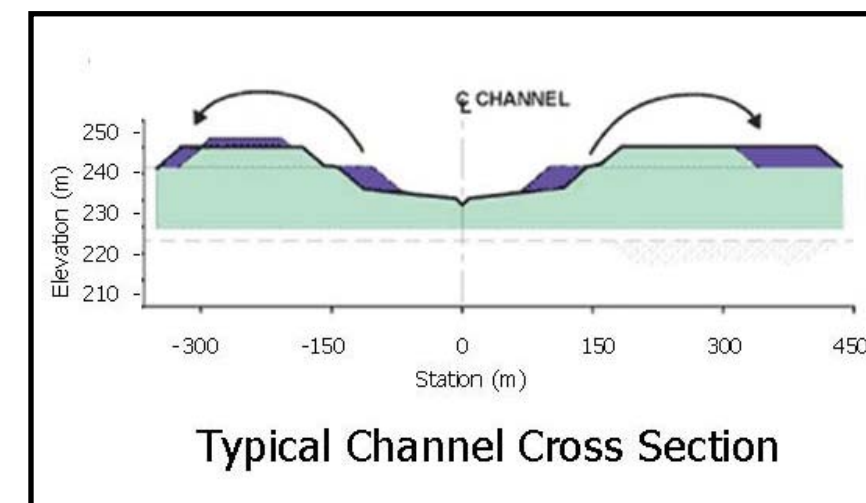
## Entrance improvements

- post 1997 flood
  - excavated west gap and east gap
- floodway expansion in 2005
  - improvements to west gap and east gap
  - excavated Grande Pointe gap
- post 2009 flood
  - improvements to west gap

## Inlet control structure improvements

- rock and riprap - erosion protection
- improved reliability - refurbish gates and system security upgrade

m<sup>3</sup> = cubic metres  
 m = metres  
 mi = miles  
 ft = feet  
 m<sup>3</sup>/s = cubic metres per second  
 km = kilometres  
 cfs = cubic feet per second



## Outlet structure expansion

- widened structure by 45 m (150 ft)
- crest raised by 1.35 m (4.4 ft)
- expanded downstream outlet channel on the north side
- improved erosion protection and energy dissipation



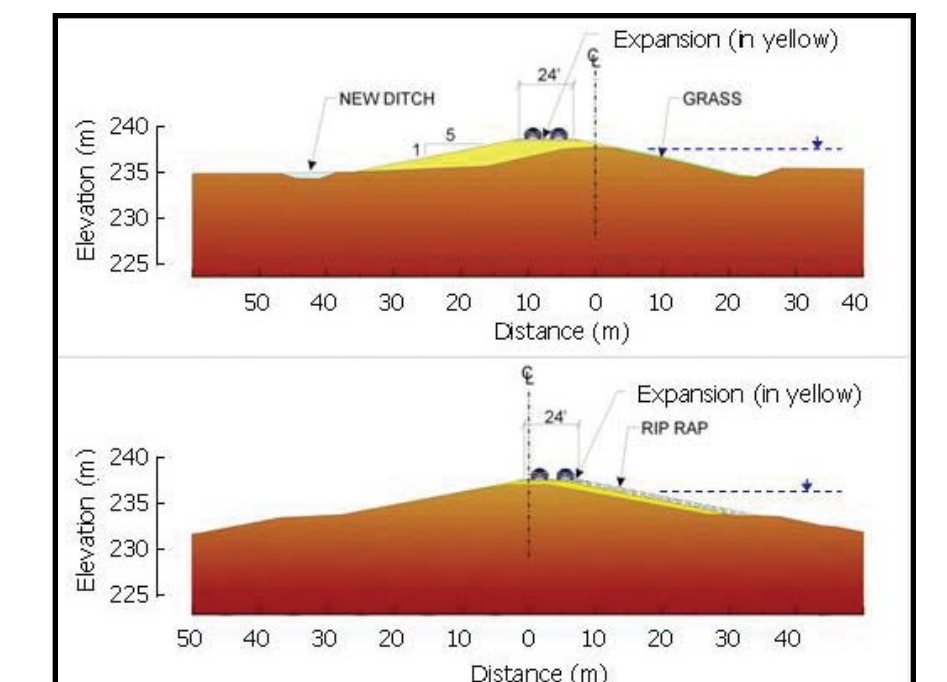
Pre-Expansion



Post-Expansion

## West Dike extension and raising

- increased protection to 700-year flood level
- increased freeboard from 0.6 m to 1.0 m (2 ft to 3.3 ft) for wind and waves
- dike lengthened by over 11 km (7 mi) after original construction
- improved erosion protection



	Original floodway	Expanded floodway
<b>Floodway design capacity</b>	1,700 m <sup>3</sup> /s (60,000 cfs)	4,000 m <sup>3</sup> /s (140,000 cfs)
<b>Level of Protection</b> (frequency of flood)	160-year (1968 analysis) 100-year (2009 analysis)	700-year
<b>Approximate cost of work</b>	\$63 Million	\$665 Million

## Floodway Components

### Floodway Channel

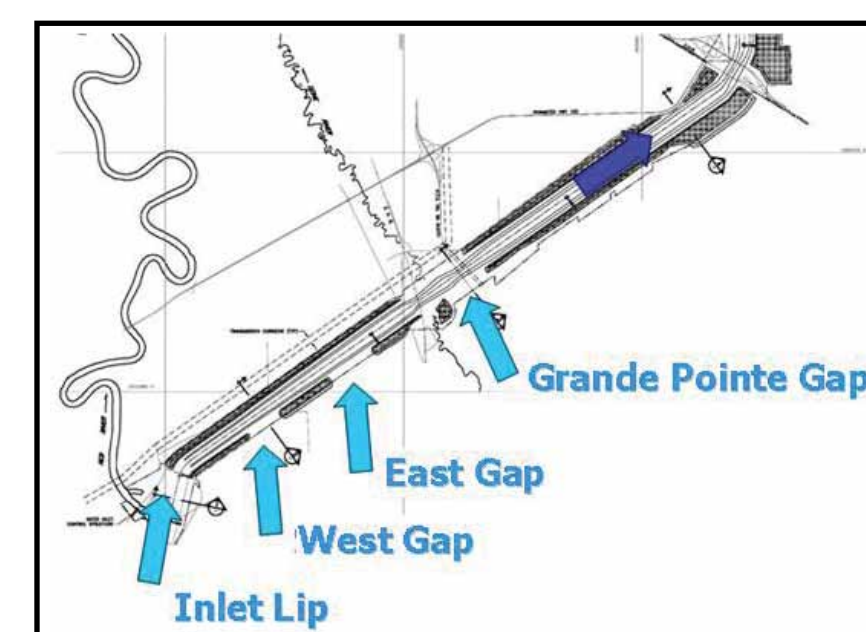
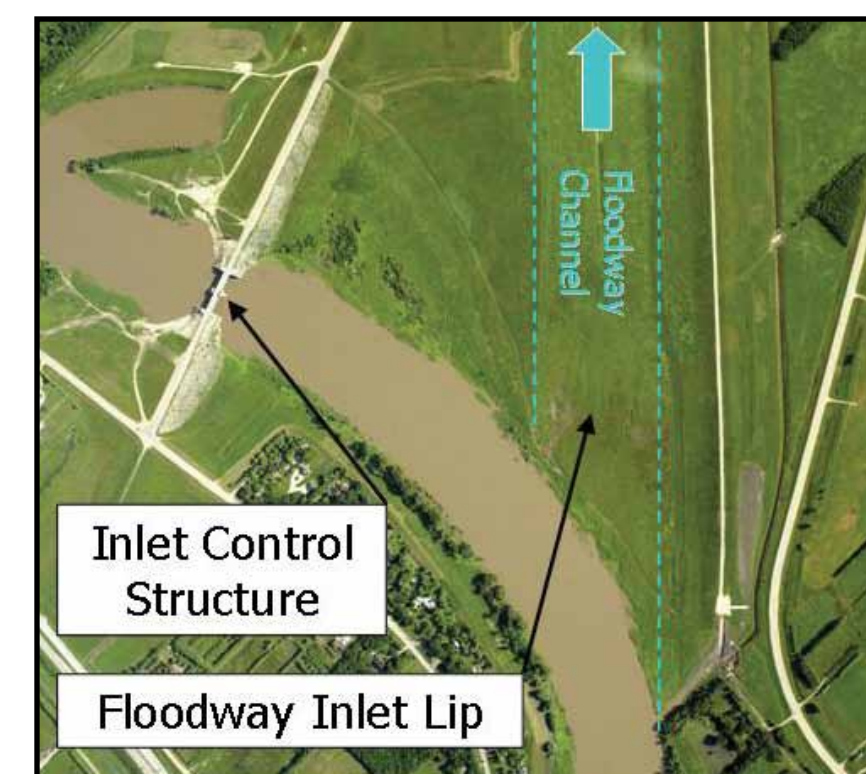
- 46 km (28.6 mi) long
- 150 to 250 m (490 ft to 820 ft) wide

### Floodway Channel Inlet Lip

- allows time for ice on Red River to start moving downstream before the water runs over the floodway channel inlet lip
- 228.6 m (750 ft) elevation
- 215 m (700 ft) wide

### Embankment Gaps and 700-year flood capacities

- West Gap:
  - 750 m (2450 ft) wide
  - 232.7 m (763.5 ft) elevation
  - 1,200 m<sup>3</sup>/s (42,000 cfs) capacity
- East Gap:
  - 750 m (2450 ft) wide
  - 233.8 m (767.1 ft) elevation
  - 1,700 m<sup>3</sup>/s (61,000 cfs) capacity
- Grande Pointe Gap:
  - 500 m (1640 ft) wide
  - 235.0 m (771 ft) elevation
  - 900 m<sup>3</sup>/s (31,000 cfs) capacity



m<sup>3</sup> = cubic metres  
 m = metres  
 mi = miles  
 ft = feet  
 m<sup>3</sup>/s = cubic metres per second  
 cfs = cubic feet per second

### Floodway Inlet Control Structure

- two 34.3 m (112 ft) wide submersible gates
- height of gates 10.6 m (34.8 ft)

### Floodway Outlet Structure

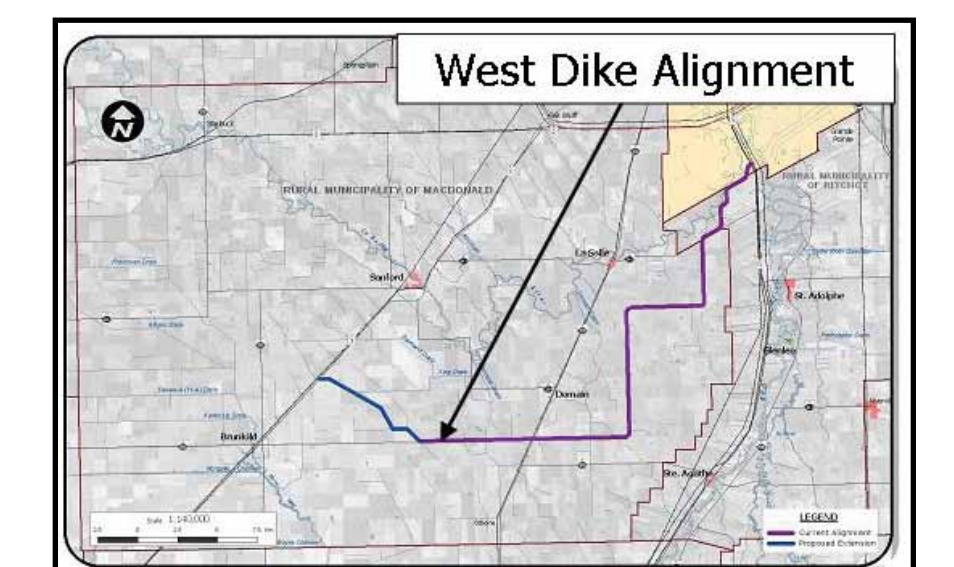
- controls the hydraulic gradient in the floodway channel
- provides erosion protection at the floodway channel exit
- 90 m (295 ft) wide
- crest elevation: 223.85 m (734.42 ft)

### West Dike

- prevents flood water from entering the City of Winnipeg from the west
- 45 km (28 mi) long
- varies in height from 0.6 m to 9 m (2 ft to 30 ft)

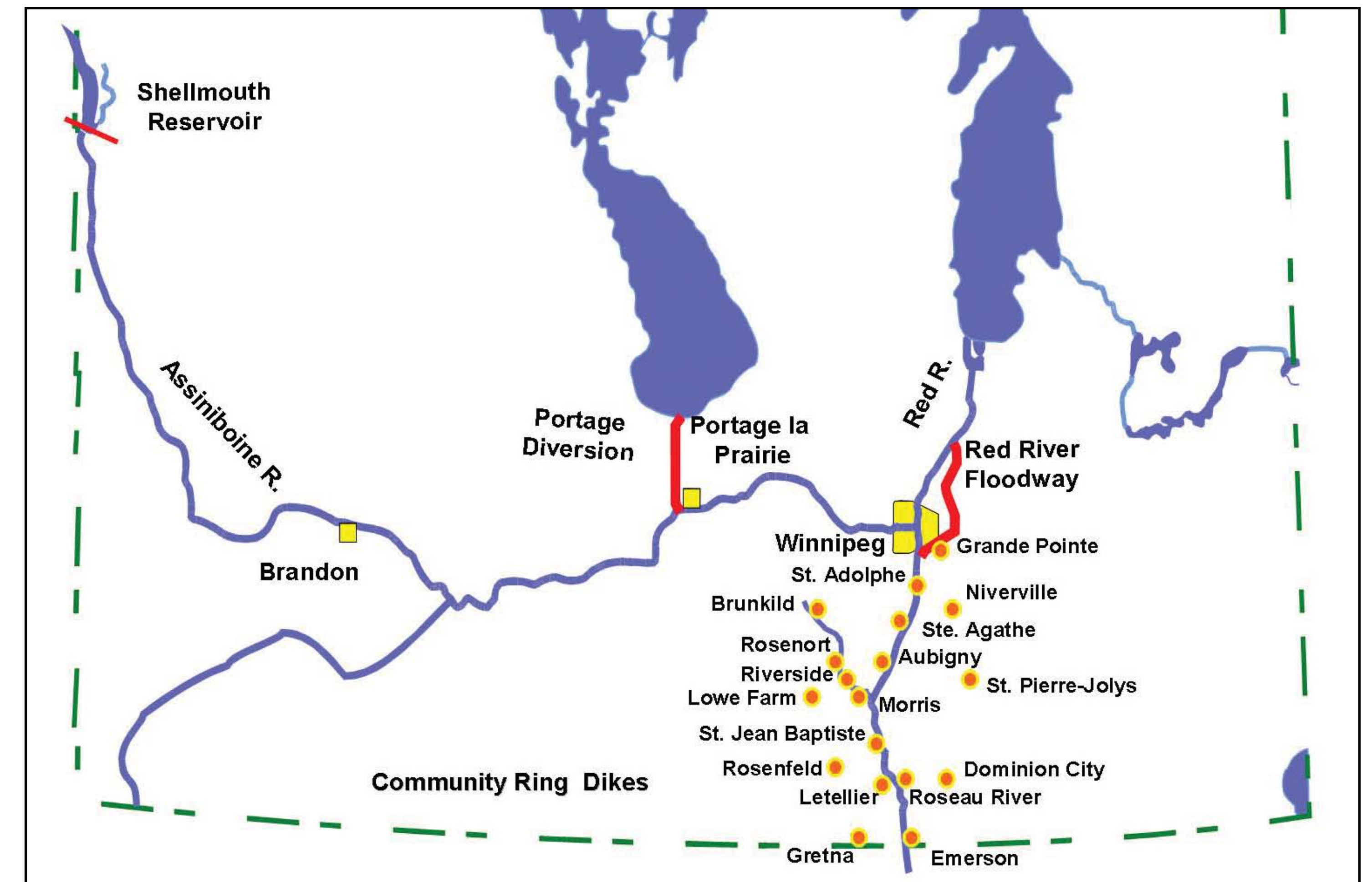
### Bridges and Crossings

- six railway bridges
- six highway bridges
- one low level crossing
- 22 overhead transmission lines
- two oil and gas pipelines
- two 1.6 m (5.4 ft) diameter water supply aqueducts



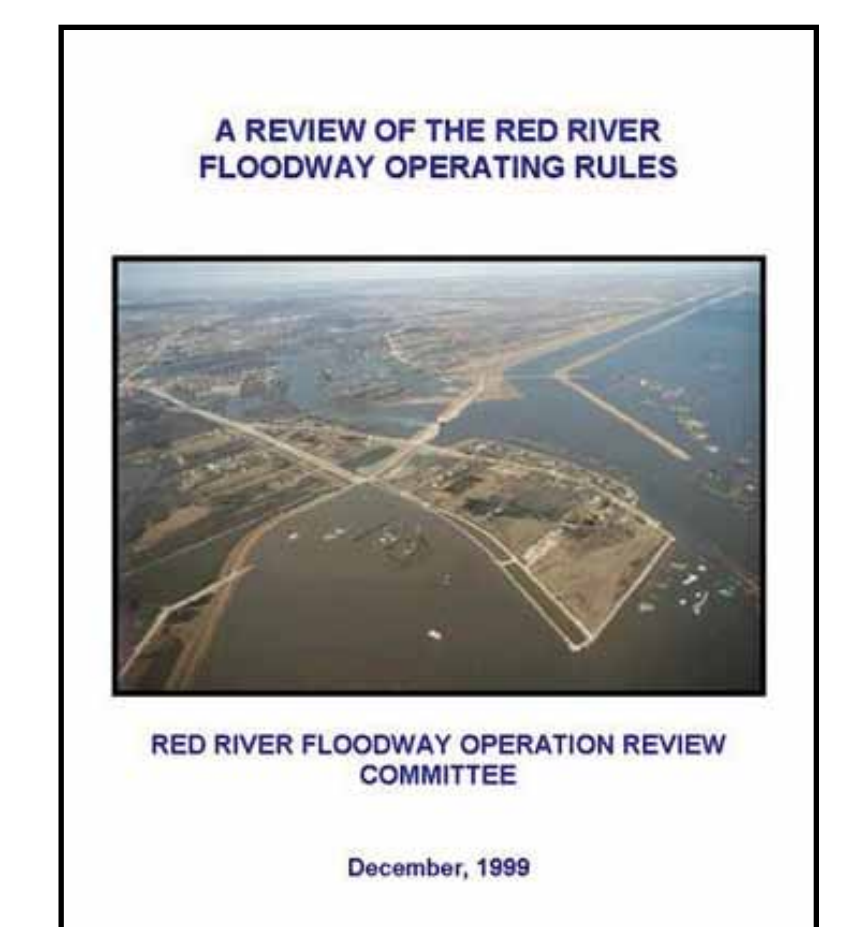
## Floodway Operation

- Specific rules of operation govern the operation of the floodway.
- Floodway operation is based on four rules of operation.
- Manitoba Water Stewardship operates the floodway.
- Floodway Operation Advisory Board provides advice on operation.



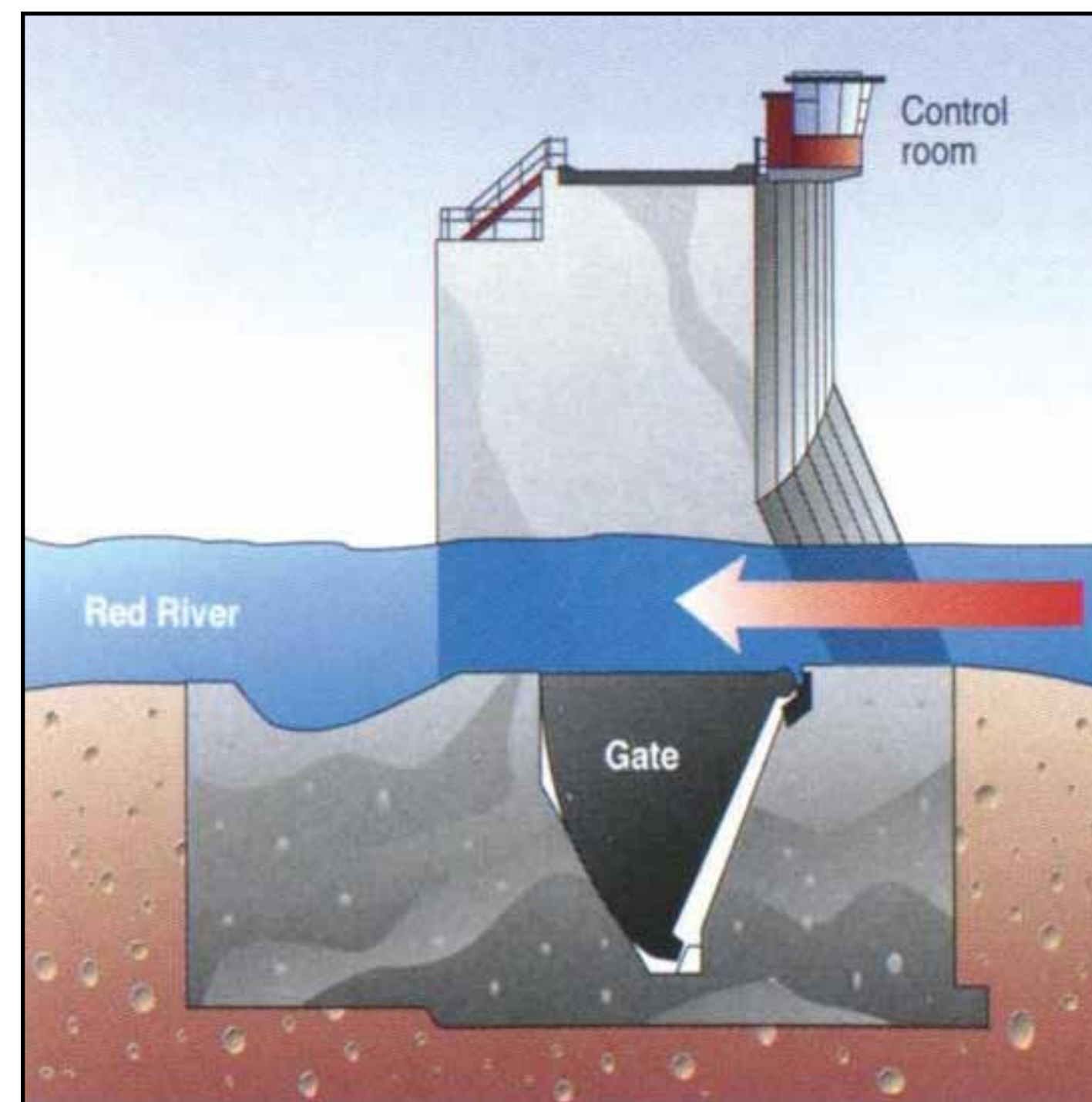
### Floodway operation advisory board members:

- Manitoba Water Stewardship
- Government of Canada
- Rural Municipality of Macdonald
- Rural Municipality of Morris
- Rural Municipality of Ritchot
- City of Winnipeg
- Selkirk and District Planning Board





# How Floodway Works



## Low flow conditions

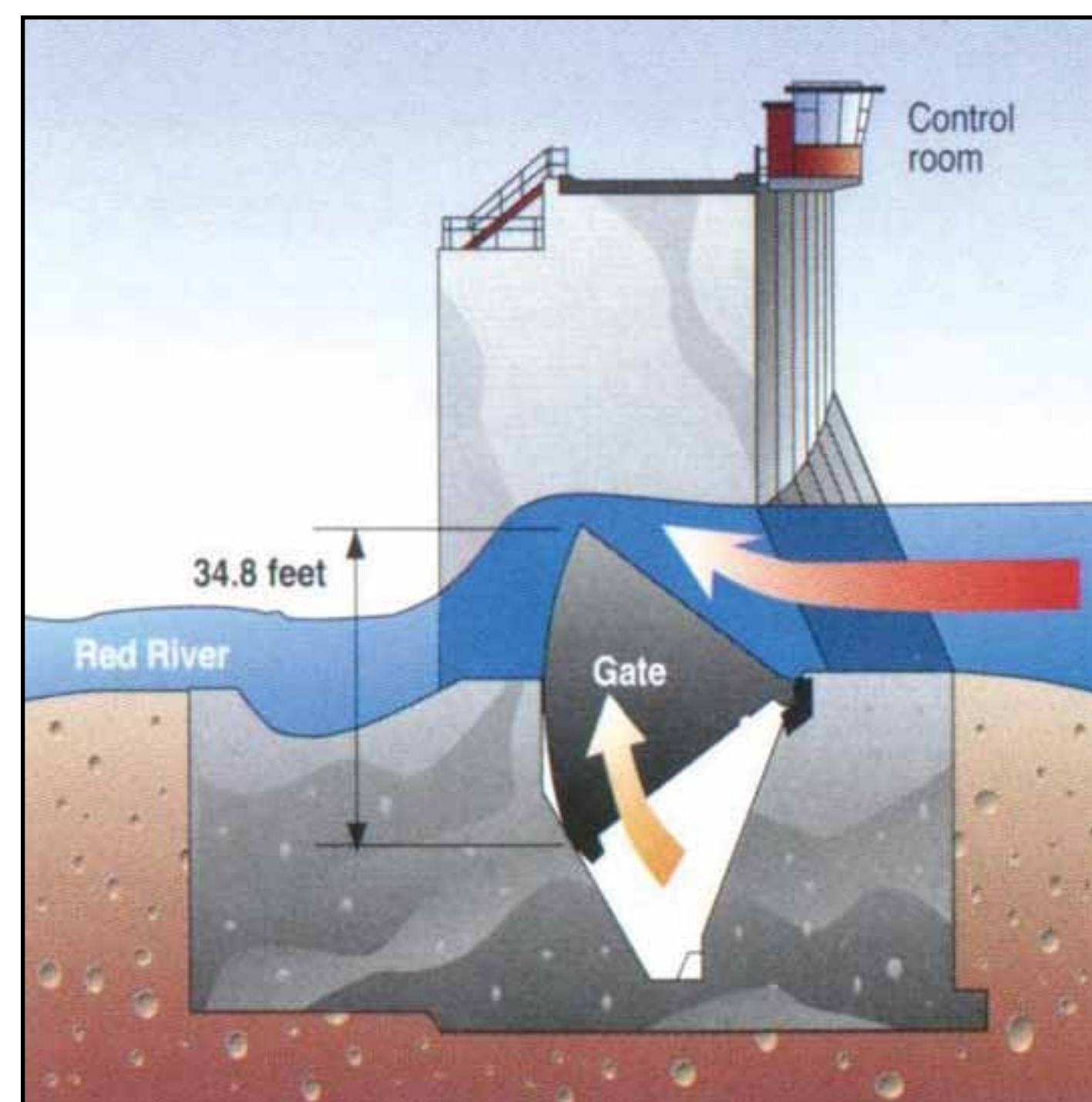
- The water level in the Red River is below the top of the floodway channel inlet lip.
- All of the Red River flow passes through the City of Winnipeg.

## Flow split begins

- The water level in the Red River is just above the top of the floodway channel inlet lip.
- Most of the Red River flow passes through the City of Winnipeg.
- Some of the flow starts going down the floodway channel.
- Inlet control structure is not operated.

## Initial gate operation

- The water level in the Red River rises above the top of the floodway channel inlet lip.
- The Red River flow is split, passing through the City of Winnipeg and the floodway channel.
- The water level upstream of the floodway inlet control structure falls below natural levels.
- The gates at the inlet control structure are operated.
- The water level upstream of the floodway inlet control structure returns to natural levels.



## Flood control

- The water level in the Red River continues to rise, well above the top of the floodway channel inlet lip.
- As the water levels get higher, water starts entering the floodway channel through the east embankment gaps.
- The gates at the inlet control structure continue to be operated.
- During extreme floods, the water levels upstream of the floodway inlet control structure rises above natural levels.
- Most of the Red River water passes through the floodway channel.
- Some of the water still passes through the City of Winnipeg.

## Floodway Operation

- The rules are issued under the authority of *The Water Resources Administration Act*.
- The rules are a condition of *The Environment Act Licence #2691*.
- The intent of the spring operating rules is to maintain water levels upstream of the inlet control structure at, or below, what is known as the natural level, until the dikes in Winnipeg are in danger.

**The term natural refers to the level that would have occurred in the absence of the flood control works, with the level of urban development in place at the time of the construction of these works.**

## Summary of the Red River Floodway rules of operation

**Normal operation (Rule 1)** – Maintain natural levels upstream of the inlet control structure, until the James Avenue level reaches 7.47 m (24.5 ft).

**Major flood operation (Rule 2)** – Keep the levels in Winnipeg at safe levels while allowing water to rise above natural levels upstream of the inlet control structure.

**Extreme flood operation (Rule 3)** – Maintain river level at floodway inlet control structure below the maximum level of the floodway west embankment and the West Dike. Additional water is allowed to go through Winnipeg.

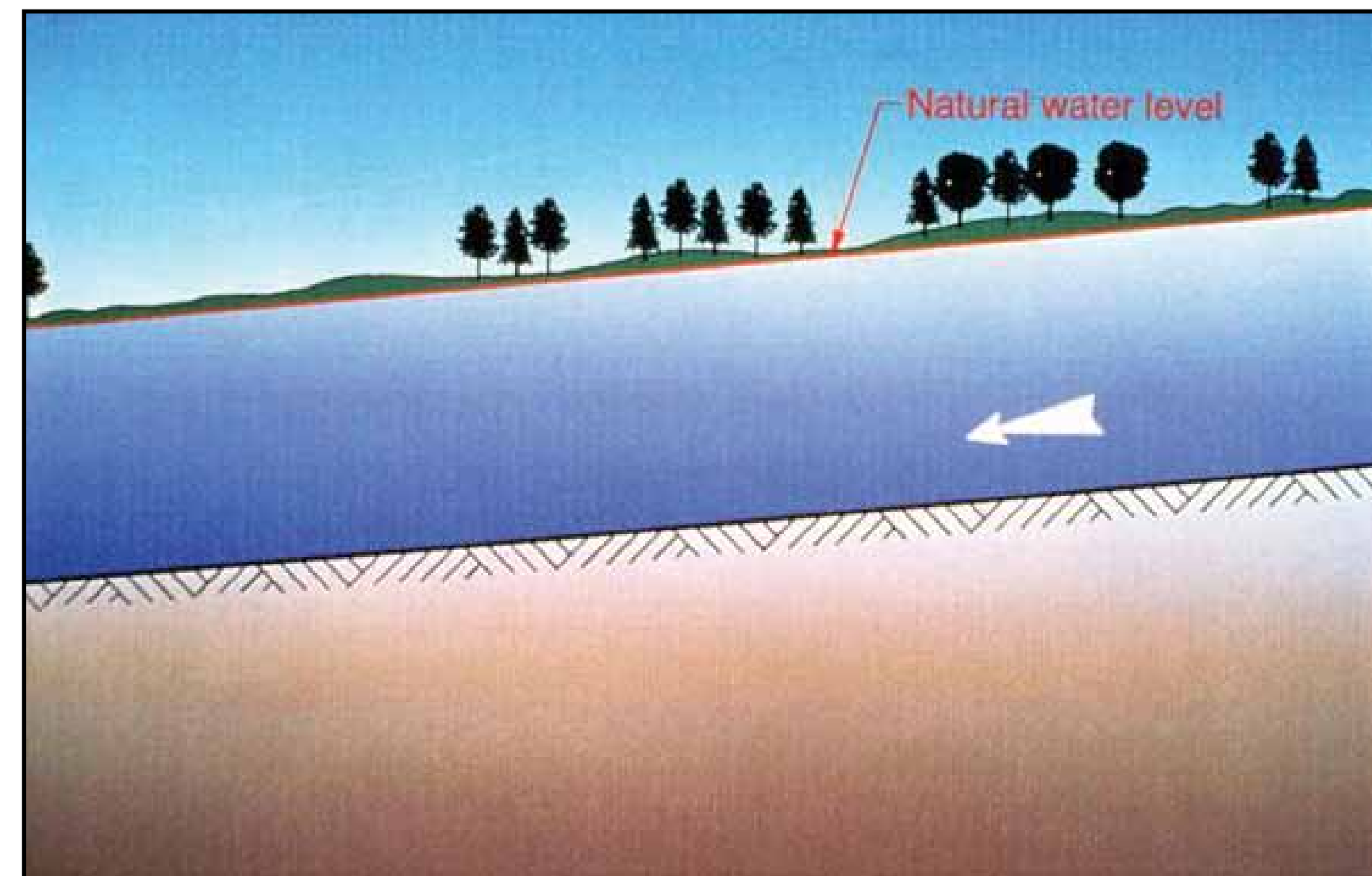
**Summer operation (Rule 4)** – Operate inlet control structure to reduce the risk of widespread basement flooding, health risks and damage to Winnipeg. This is to be done without raising river levels immediately upstream of the inlet control structure higher than 760 feet above sea level.

**Initial gate operation** – Does not start until ice is moving in the vicinity of inlet control structure.

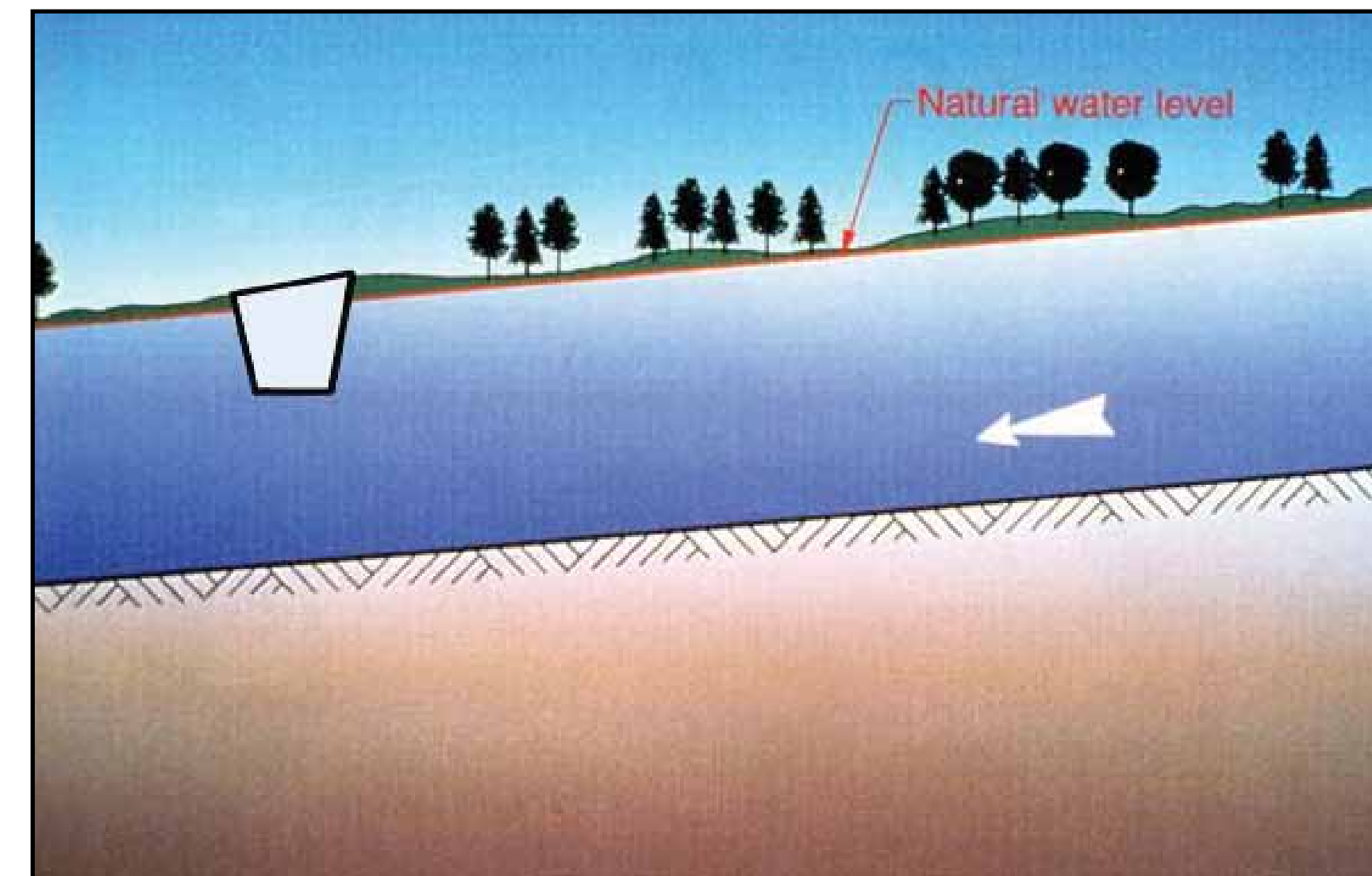
**Final drop of gate** – Done in consultation with the City of Winnipeg.

**Horn operation** – Done a half hour before the first gate operation.

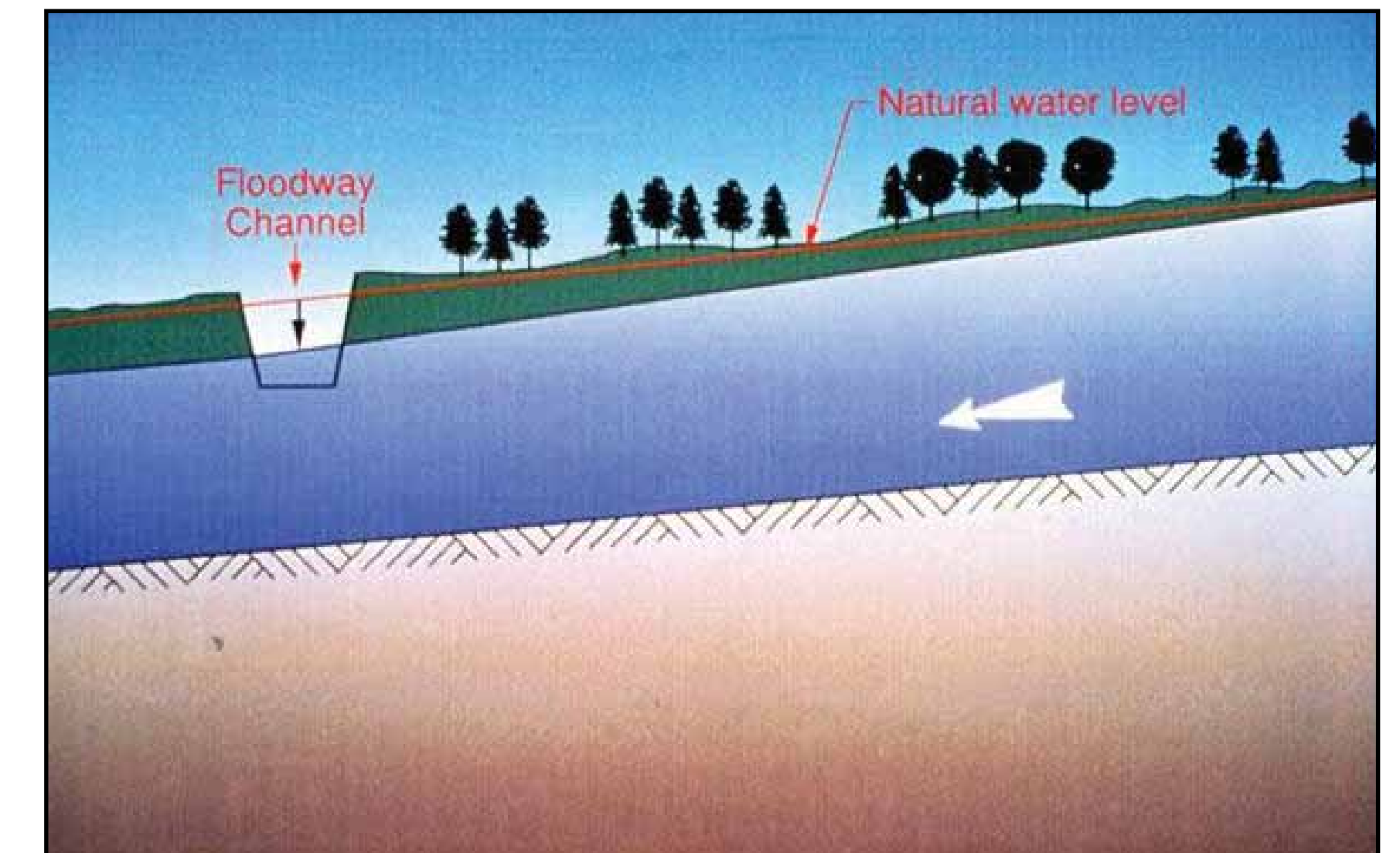
# Natural Levels



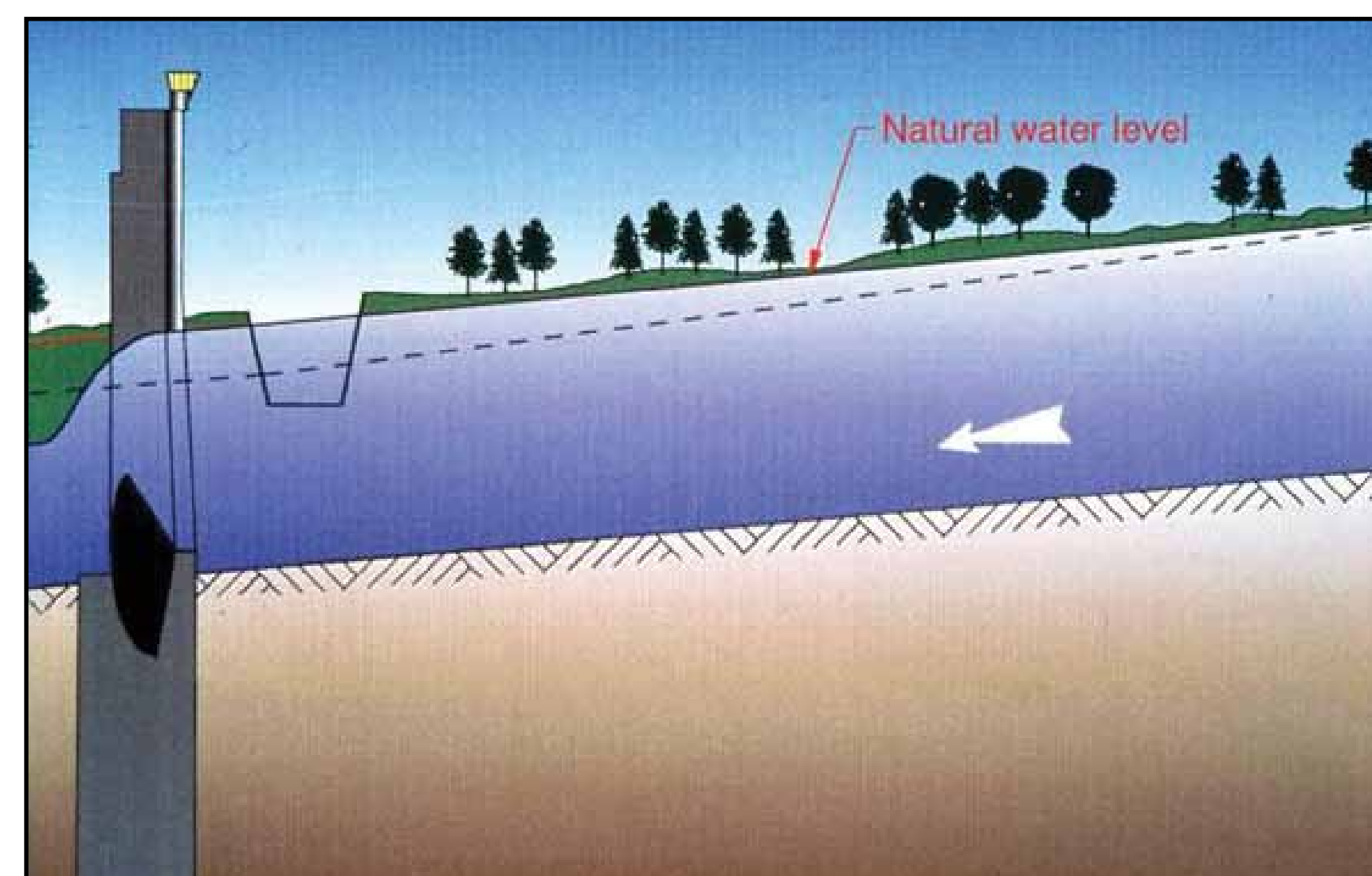
Natural flood level – before the floodway



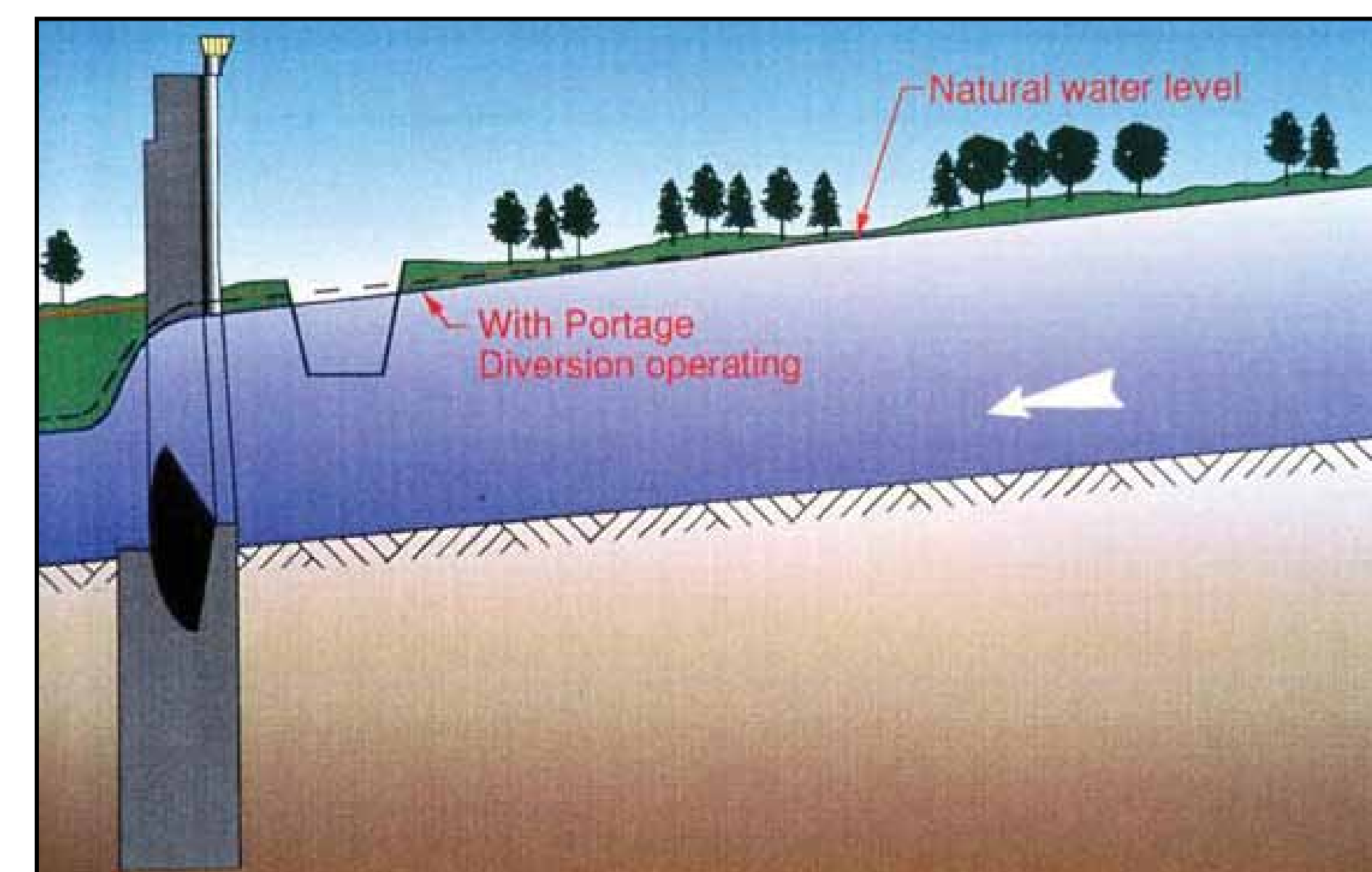
Natural flood levels – with floodway channel location shown but no water in the floodway channel



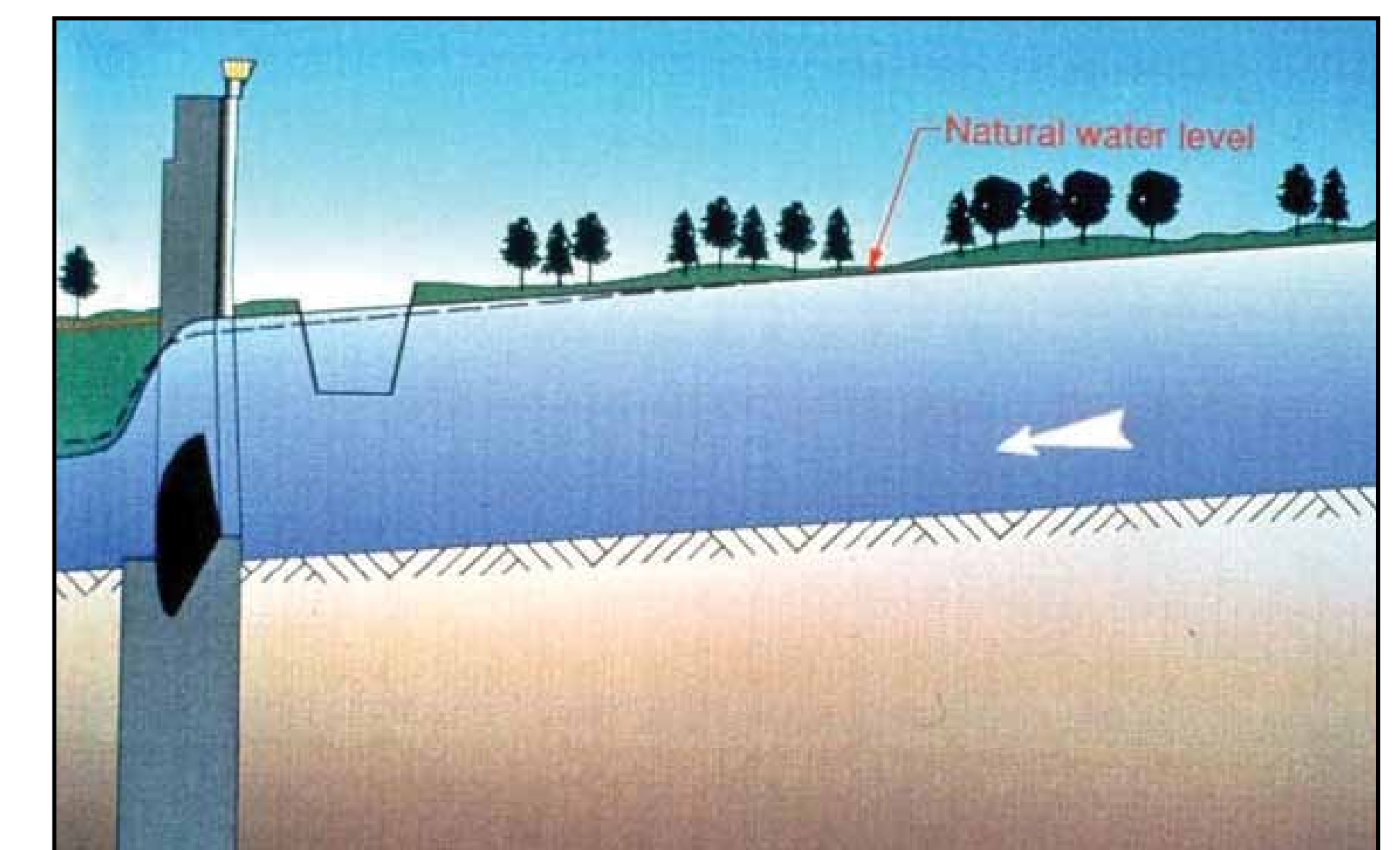
Water flow split with floodway channel in place, carrying Red River flood water – upstream water level below natural levels



Floodway inlet structure gates operating – water levels upstream restored to natural levels



Effects of Portage Diversion and Shellmouth Dam – water levels below natural with Portage Diversion flow and Shellmouth Dam flood water storage



Effects of Portage Diversion and Shellmouth Dam – gates raised and water restored to natural levels

## Rule 1 – Normal Operation

Maintain natural levels at inlet until the James Avenue level reaches 7.47 m (24.5 ft).

Maintain natural water levels on the Red River at the entrance to the floodway channel, until the water surface elevation at James Avenue reaches 24.5 feet (7.46 metres), or the river level anywhere along the Red River within the City of Winnipeg reaches two feet below the flood protection level of 27.83 feet (8.48 metres).

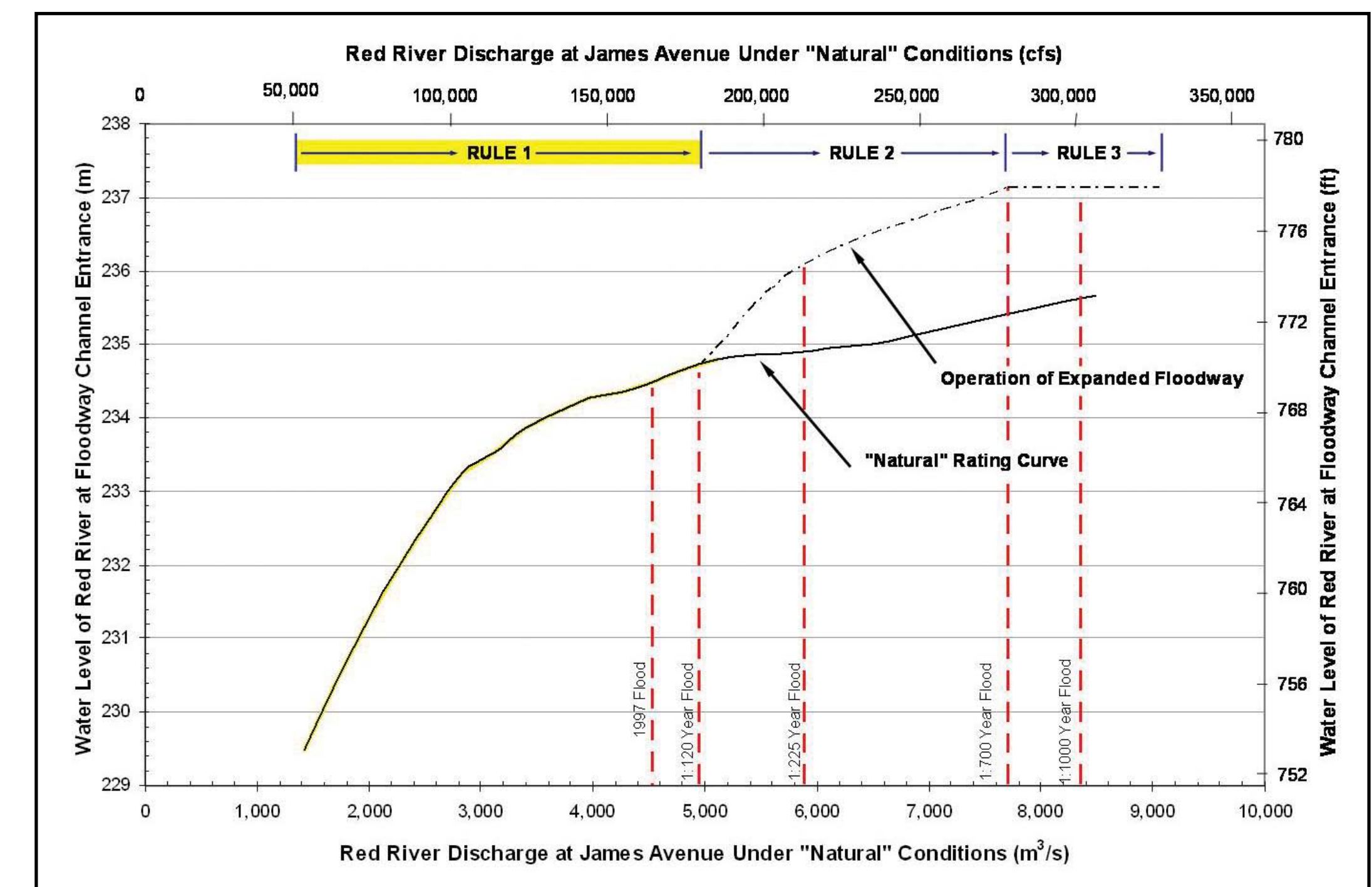


Table of Responsibilities for Rule 1

Province of Manitoba	City of Winnipeg	Municipalities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide warnings and public alerts</li> <li>• flood forecasting and monitoring</li> <li>• community ring dikes operation</li> <li>• ice jam mitigation</li> <li>• operate flood control works (floodway, Portage Diversion...)</li> <li>• deploy flood tubes</li> <li>• monitor groundwater</li> <li>• protect well and surface water</li> <li>• recommend movement and evacuation of grain and livestock</li> <li>• close roads and set up emergency access</li> <li>• provide and distribute provincial sandbags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide warnings and public alerts</li> <li>• close and check storm sewer gates</li> <li>• seal manholes in low lying locations</li> <li>• provide and distribute sandbags</li> <li>• activate flood pumping stations</li> <li>• set up temporary pumping locations</li> <li>• alert external agencies</li> <li>• raise secondary dikes</li> <li>• arrange for evacuation</li> <li>• arrange for the shut down of utilities and services in evacuated areas</li> <li>• set up minor road closures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide warnings and public alerts</li> <li>• make preliminary arrangements for dike operation and flood fighting efforts</li> <li>• provide and distribute sandbags</li> <li>• patrol existing infrastructure and property in flooded areas</li> <li>• set up road closures</li> <li>• provide emergency access</li> <li>• arrange shut down of utilities and services in evacuated areas</li> <li>• arrange evacuation</li> <li>• arrange movement and evacuation of grain and livestock</li> </ul>

## Rule 2 – Major flood operation\*

Keep the water levels in Winnipeg at safe levels while allowing water to rise above natural upstream of floodway inlet control structure.

Once the river levels within Winnipeg reach the limits described in Rule 1, the level in Winnipeg should be held constant while levels south of the control structure continue to rise. Furthermore, if forecasts indicate that levels at the entrance to the floodway channel will rise more than two feet (0.6 metres) above natural, the City of Winnipeg must proceed with emergency raising of the dikes and temporary protection measures on the sewer systems in accordance with the flood level forecasts within Winnipeg. The levels in Winnipeg should be permitted to rise as construction proceeds, but not so as to encroach on the freeboard of the dikes or compromise the emergency measures undertaken for protecting the sewer systems. At the same time, the Province should consider the possibility of an emergency increase in the height of the floodway embankments and the west dike. At no time will the water level at the floodway channel's entrance be allowed to rise to a level that infringes on the allowable freeboard on the floodway west embankment (Winnipeg side) and the west dike.

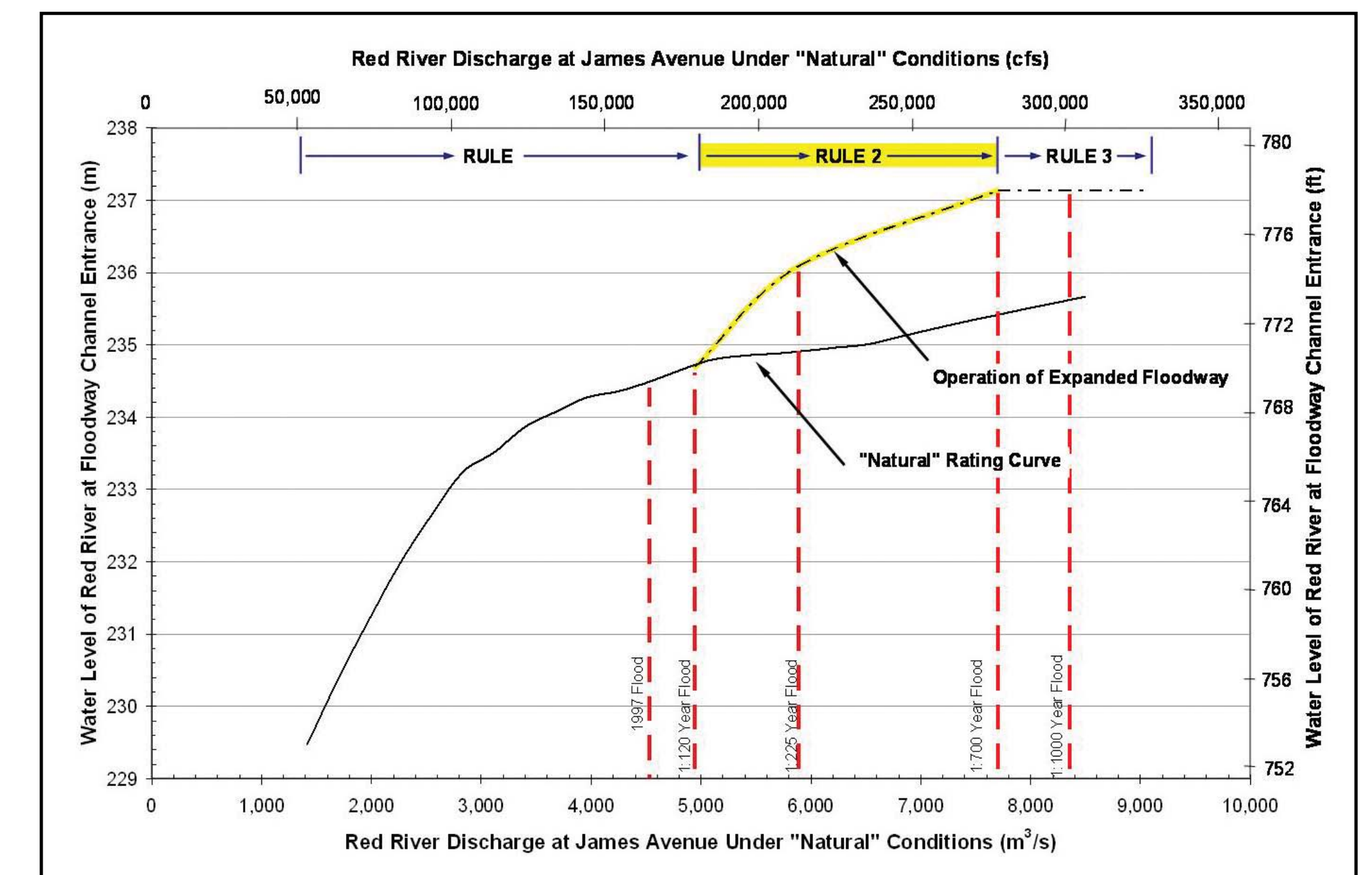


Table of Additional Responsibilities for Rule 2

Province of Manitoba	City of Winnipeg	Municipalities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raise community ring dikes</li> <li>floodway ditch and road closures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>raise primary dikes</li> <li>road closures</li> </ul>	

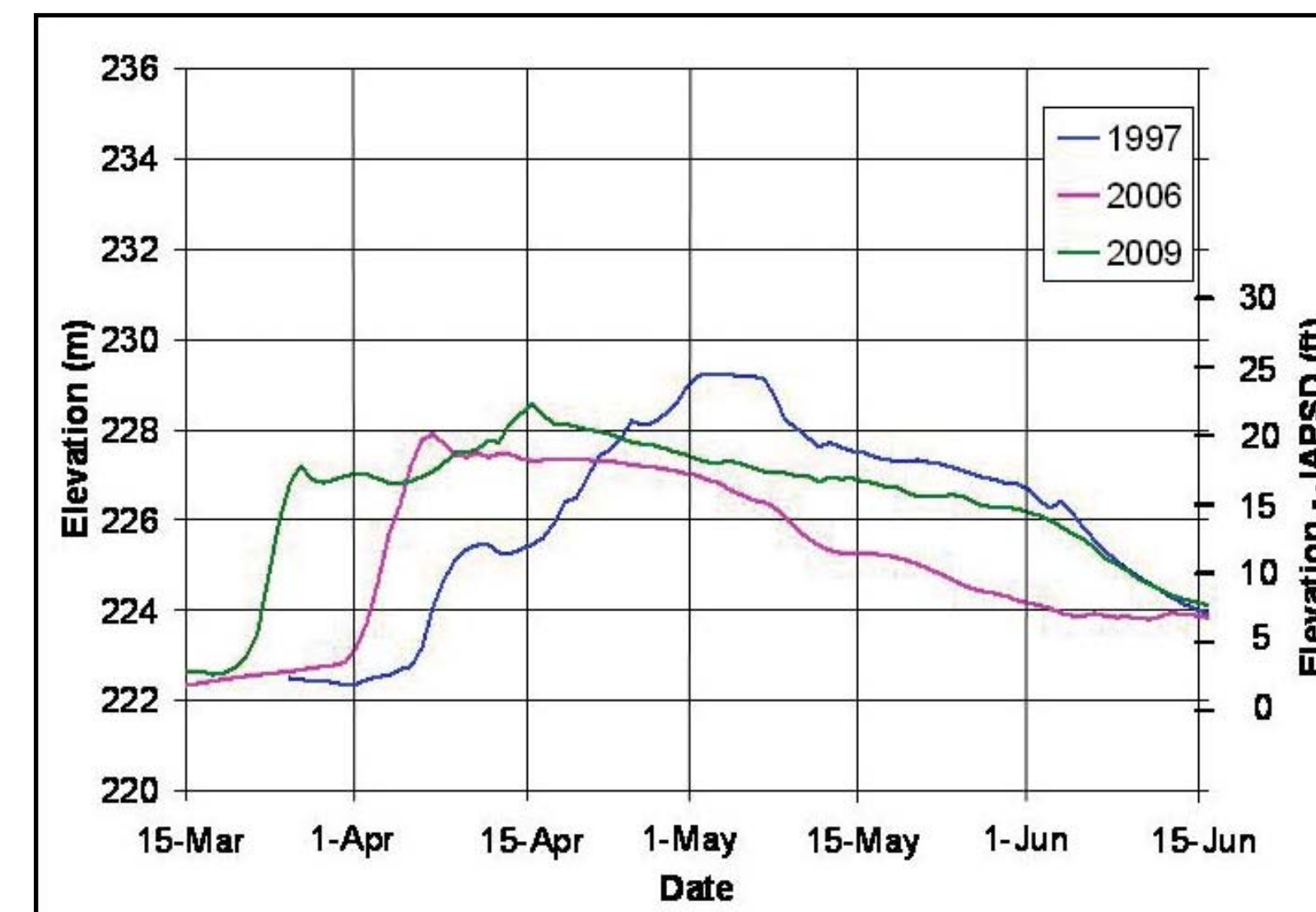
\*Used only in 1997 with pre-expanded floodway

## Summary of Floodway Operations under Rule 1 and 2

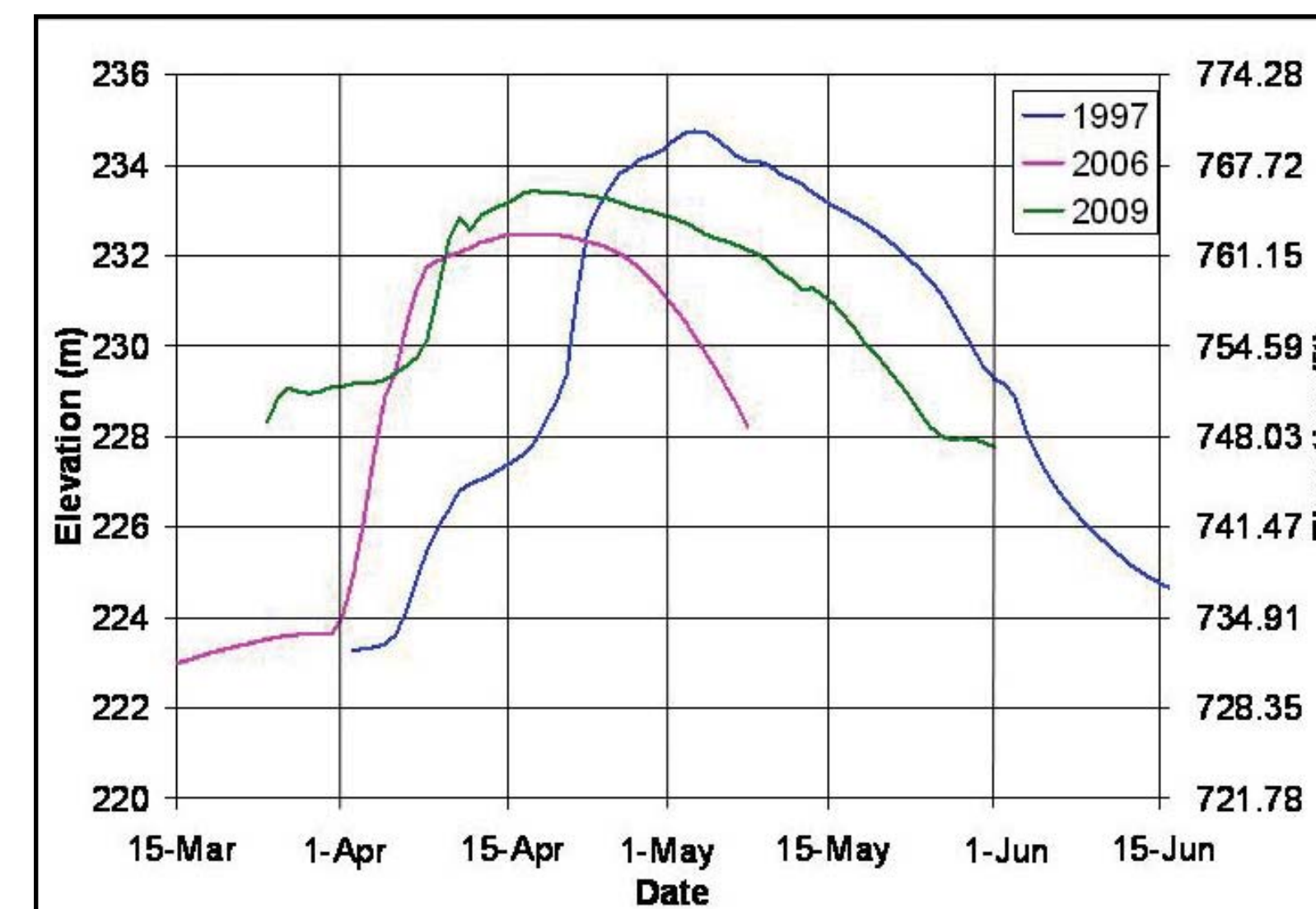
### Events Where James Avenue Natural Above 25 Ft Highlighted

Year	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE			JAMES AVENUE				PORTAGE DIVERSION	
	Peak Flow in Floodway (cfs)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (ft)	James Ave Natural Peak Flow (cfs)	James Ave Natural Peak level (ft)	Frequency of Flood (Years)	James Ave Actual Peak level (ft)	Portage Diversion Effect at Peak (cfs)
1969	22,100	May 3	April 13	May 17	35	-	78,000	24.1		18.5	0
1970	22,800	May 1	April 19	May 20	31	759.6	80,500	24.7		18.9	8,230
1971	9,100	April 14	April 11	April 21	10	754.0	53,900	18.6		16.6	420
1972	1,200	April 18	April 16	April 20	4	751.2	56,100	19.0		16.6	3,920
1973	-	-	-	-	-	742.4	18,700	11.5		11.6	-
1974	36,700	April 24 & 25	April 18	May 18	30	764.6	96,000	28.0	16	19.2	17,600
1975	9,400	May 7 & 8	April 30	May 11	11	754.4	59,000	19.8		15.8	5,100
1976	10,300	April 11	April 7	April 25	18	754.8	63,800	20.8		15.8	10,000
1977	-	-	-	-	-	734.4	6,600	7.0		7.0	-
1978	18,100	April 16	April 9	May 3	24	758.1	62,000	20.4		17.3	0
1979	42,000	May 9	April 20	May 29	39	764.9	107,000	30.3	21	19.1	6,300
1980	-	-	-	-	-	745.6	31,100	12.6		12.7	-
1981	-	-	-	-	-	735.4	5,600	7.0		7.0	-
1982	600	April 18	April 16	April 21	5	751.3	51,500	18.4		16.1	6,145
1983	900	April 11	April 10	April 13	3	751.7	49,200	17.9		16.8	3,800
1984	-	-	-	-	-	748.9	39,000	14.6		14.0	-
1985	-	-	-	-	-	747.0	37,000	14.0		14.5	-
1986	9,800	April 3	March 31	April 14	14	754.8	64,000	20.9		17.8	9,600
1987	17,900	April 10	April 7	April 18	11	758.3	82,600	25.1	11	18.6	9,400
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,900	8.6		8.5	-
1989	4,800	April 24	April 21	May 1	10	752.8	49,000	17.4		16.2	0
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,200	6.9		6.9	-
1991	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,800	6.4		6.4	-
1992	3,600	April 8	April 6	April 10	4	752.7	49,400	17.5		15.5	4,000
1993	-	-	-	-	-	746.9	46,000	16.7		16.5	-
1994	-	-	-	-	-	-	40,000	15.0		14.6	-
1995	13,700	March 29	March 24	April 25	32	757.4	66,200	21.5		17.7	750
1996	38,800	April 30 & May 1 & 2	April 19	June 8	50	764.6	108,000	30.3	22	19.2	12,000
1997	66,400	May 3 & 4	April 22	June 3	42	771.5	163,000	34.4	98	24.5	10,500
1998	6,700	April 1	March 29	April 5	7	754.1	55,000	18.8		16.8	0
1999	15,700	April 16	April 4	May 1	27	758.2	77,100	23.5		17.2	6,500
2000	-	-	-	-	-	749.8	44,300	15.7		15.7	-
2001	21,100	April 28	April 7	May 20	43	760.0	82,000	25.0	10	17.9	9,200
2002	3,200	June 19	June 18	June 25	7	752.9	53,800	18.1		17.3	-
2003	-	-	-	-	-	738.7	16,900	7.8		7.6	-
2004	15,800	April 5	April 1	April 19	18	780.0	79,700	24.4		18.9	6,000
2005	15,300	April 8	April 5	April 20	15	759.3	84,400	25.5	11	18.9	2,900
2005	23,400	July 4	June 30	July 27	27	762.4	89,500	26.5	100 (est)	20.1	9,900
2006	33,200	April 15	April 5	May 9	34	763.4	96,700	28.5	16	20.2	8,300
2007	4,200	April 12	April 3	April 17	14	753.6	61,000	19.6		17.7	5,400
2008	-	-	-	-	-	744.7	16,000	11.5		11.4	-
2009	43,100	April 18 to 21	April 8	May 24	47	767.1	128,000	32.5	39	22.3	21,000
2010	16,000	April 6	March 28	April 22	25	759.1	69,000	22.3		18.5	3,600
2010	7,000	June 2	May 30	June 3	4	756.0	62,100	20.1		18.3	1,600

NOTE: In 2005, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 4 to Rule 1 on June 30.  
In 2010, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 1 to Rule 4 on June 3.



Red River hydrograph at James Avenue



Red River hydrograph at inlet

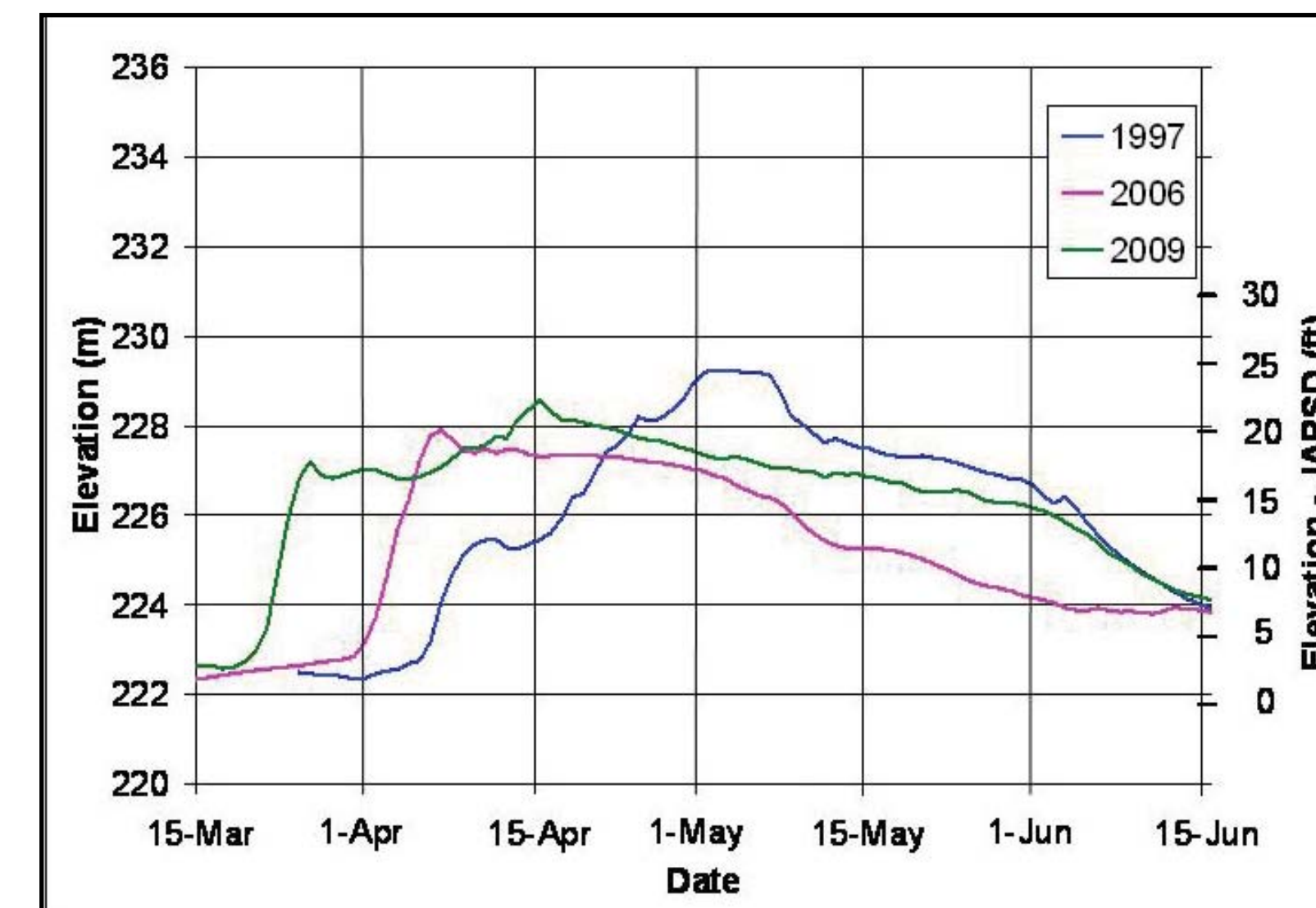
- The floodway has operated for spring floods 27 times since 1968 or about twice every three years.
- The floodway can now accommodate a greater flood event without going above the natural levels of the Red River. This is due to floodway channel expansion and the improvements to the floodway gaps.

## Summary of Floodway Operations under Rule 1 and 2

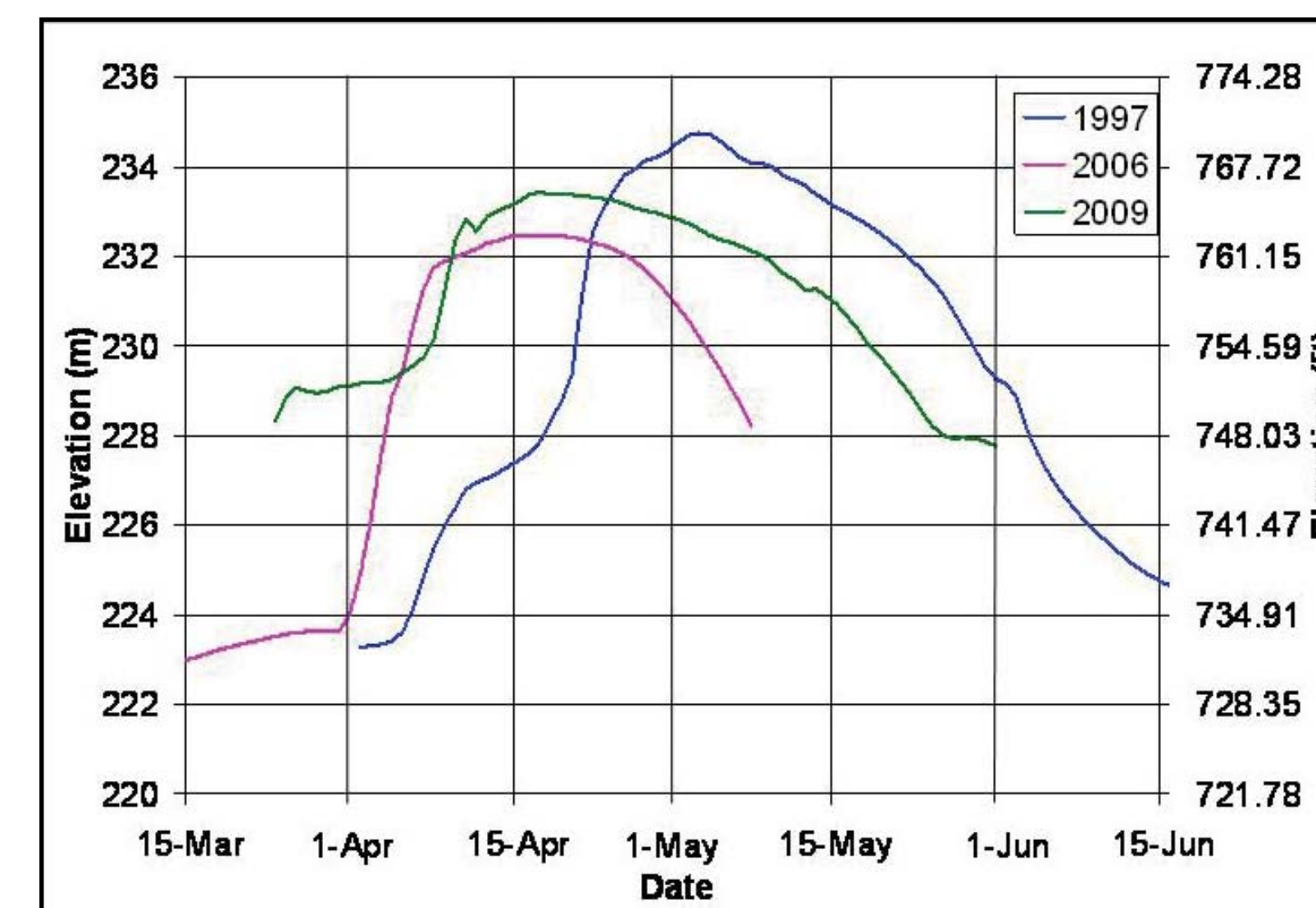
### Events Where James Avenue Natural Above 25 Ft Highlighted

Year	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE			JAMES AVENUE				PORTAGE DIVERSION	
	Peak Flow in Floodway (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (m)	James Ave Natural Peak Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	James Ave Natural Peak level (ft)	Frequency of Flood (Years)	James Ave Actual Peak level (ft)	Portage Diversion Effect at Peak (m <sup>3</sup> /s)
1969	626	May 3	April 13	May 17	35	-	2,209	24.1		18.5	0
1970	646	May 1	April 19	May 20	31	231.5	2,279	24.7		18.9	233
1971	258	April 14	April 11	April 21	10	229.8	1,526	18.6		16.6	12
1972	34	April 18	April 16	April 20	4	229.0	1,589	19.0		16.6	111
1973	-	-	-	-	-	226.3	530	11.5		11.6	-
1974	1,039	April 24 & 25	April 18	May 18	30	233.1	2,718	28.0	16	19.2	498
1975	266	May 7 & 8	April 30	May 11	11	229.9	1,671	19.8		15.8	144
1976	292	April 11	April 7	April 25	18	230.1	1,807	20.8		15.8	283
1977	-	-	-	-	-	223.8	187	7.0		7.0	-
1978	513	April 16	April 9	May 3	24	231.1	1,756	20.4		17.3	0
1979	1,189	May 9	April 20	May 29	39	233.1	3,030	30.3	21	19.1	178
1980	-	-	-	-	-	227.3	881	12.6		12.7	-
1981	-	-	-	-	-	224.1	159	7.0		7.0	-
1982	17	April 18	April 16	April 21	5	229.0	1,458	18.4		16.1	174
1983	25	April 11	April 10	April 13	3	229.1	1,393	17.9		16.8	108
1984	-	-	-	-	-	228.3	1,104	14.6		14.0	-
1985	-	-	-	-	-	227.7	1,048	14.0		14.5	-
1986	278	April 3	March 31	April 14	14	230.1	1,812	20.9		17.8	272
1987	507	April 10	April 7	April 18	11	231.1	2,339	25.1	11	18.6	266
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-	563	8.6		8.5	-
1989	136	April 24	April 21	May 1	10	229.5	1,388	17.4		16.2	0
1990	-	-	-	-	-	-	402	6.9		6.9	-
1991	-	-	-	-	-	-	278	6.4		6.4	-
1992	102	April 8	April 6	April 10	4	229.4	1,399	17.5		15.5	113
1993	-	-	-	-	-	227.7	1,303	16.7		16.5	-
1994	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,133	15.0		14.6	-
1995	388	March 29	March 24	April 25	32	230.9	1,875	21.5		17.7	21
1996	1,099	April 30 & May 1 & 2	April 19	June 8	50	233.1	3,058	30.3	22	19.2	340
1997	1,880	May 3 & 4	April 22	June 3	42	235.2	4,616	34.4	98	24.5	297
1998	190	April 1	March 29	April 5	7	229.8	1,557	18.8		16.8	0
1999	445	April 16	April 4	May 1	27	231.1	2,183	23.5		17.2	184
2000	-	-	-	-	-	228.5	1,254	7.1		7.2	-
2001	597	April 28	April 7	May 20	43	231.6	2,322	25.0	10	17.9	261
2002	91	June 19	June 18	June 25	7	229.5	1,523	17.3		17.3	-
2003	-	-	-	-	-	225.2	479	7.8		7.6	-
2004	447	April 5	April 1	April 19	18	231.6	2,257	24.4		18.9	170
2005	433	April 8	April 5	April 20	15	231.4	2,390	25.5	11	18.9	82
2005	663	July 4	June 30	July 27	27	232.4	2,534	26.5	100 (est)	20.1	280
2006	940	April 15	April 5	May 9	34	232.7	2,738	28.5	16	20.2	235
2007	119	April 12	April 3	April 17	14	229.7	1,727	19.6		17.7	153
2008	-	-	-	-	-	227.0	453	11.5		11.4	-
2009	1,220	April 18 to 21	April 8	May 24	47	233.8	3,625	32.5	39	22.3	595
2010	453	April 6	March 28	April 22	25	231.4	1,954	22.3		18.5	102
2010	198	June 2	May 30	June 3	4	230.4	1,758	20.1		17.7	45

NOTE: In 2005, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 4 to Rule 1 on June 30.  
In 2010, operation of floodway inlet structure moved from Rule 1 to Rule 4 on June 3.



Red River hydrograph at James Avenue



Red River hydrograph at inlet

- The floodway has operated for spring floods 27 times since 1968 or about twice every three years.
- The floodway can now accommodate a greater flood event without going above the natural levels of the Red River. This is due to floodway channel expansion and the improvements to the floodway gaps.

## Rule 3 – Extreme flood operation\*

Maintain river level at floodway inlet control structure below the maximum level that the floodway west embankment and the west dike can hold. Additional water allowed to go through Winnipeg.

For extreme floods, where the water level at the floodway channel's entrance reaches the maximum level that can be held by the floodway west embankment and the west dike, the river level must not be permitted to exceed that level. All additional flows must be passed through Winnipeg.

\*Never been used

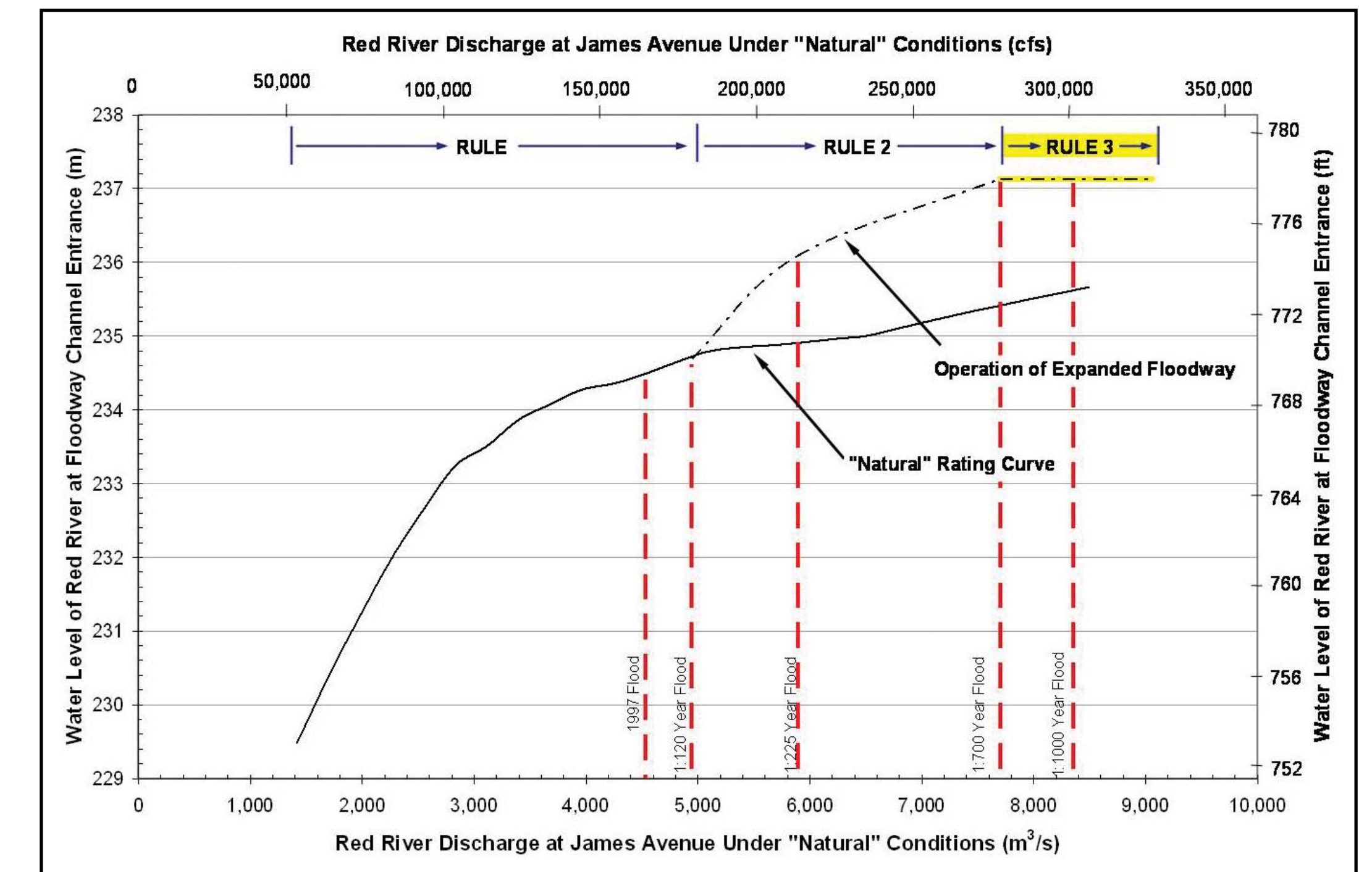


Table of Additional Responsibilities for Rule 3

Province of Manitoba	City of Winnipeg	Municipalities
<b>Emergency Response Plan for all levels of government</b>		



## Before operation

- Send news release on the February and March flood outlooks which are posted on the Manitoba Water Stewardship website
- Flood outlooks and floodway operation plans are given to the Red River Floodway Operation Advisory Board.
- The board provides input, guidance and advice to the Minister of Water Stewardship:
  - on the operation of the floodway control gates
  - in accordance with the approved rules of operation during floods on the Red River
- The board provides a link between local residents and government agencies:
  - about gate operations
  - regarding the impact on residents

## Start of operation

- Gate operation begins when ice is moving freely.
- Province sends a news release within one hour of operation.
- Province sounds the horn a half hour before first operation.
- Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization relays information to municipal emergency coordinators.

## Ongoing operation

- Floodway gates operation posted on flood information line (1-866-883-5663 or 284-4550 in Winnipeg).
- Daily flood reports posted on Manitoba Water Stewardship website.
- Daily Red River water level and forecast sheets posted on Manitoba Water Stewardship website.
- Provide City of Winnipeg with 5-day flow forecasts as required by the city.
- Press release when floodway operations cease
- All news releases posted on **manitoba.ca**.

## Spring flood compensation

### **The Red River Floodway Act**

- In March 2004, Manitoba introduced *The Red River Floodway Act*.
- Sets compensation for artificial spring flood damage under Rules 2 and 3.
- Goal is to restore Manitobans to their former financial, pre-flood positions.
- Not retroactive.

### **Program Criteria**

- Everyone who has artificial flood damages is eligible including individuals, farms, businesses, non-profit organizations, and local authorities.
- Covers a broader range of damage and loss than the Disaster Financial Assistance program.
- Covers financial loss due to inability to work or carry on a business.
- There is no claim limit and no deductible.
- Claims are assessed on proof of loss rather than proof of repair.
- Claimants are expected to make reasonable

efforts to avoid or reduce damage and loss.

- Claimants have to show compliance with applicable flood proofing criteria.

### **Program Administration**

- The program must be fairly administered in a timely, cost-effective manner.
- Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization has an integrated, one stop claims procedure.
- The Disaster Assistance Board reviews disputed claims using the rules of the legislation.

### **Assistance**

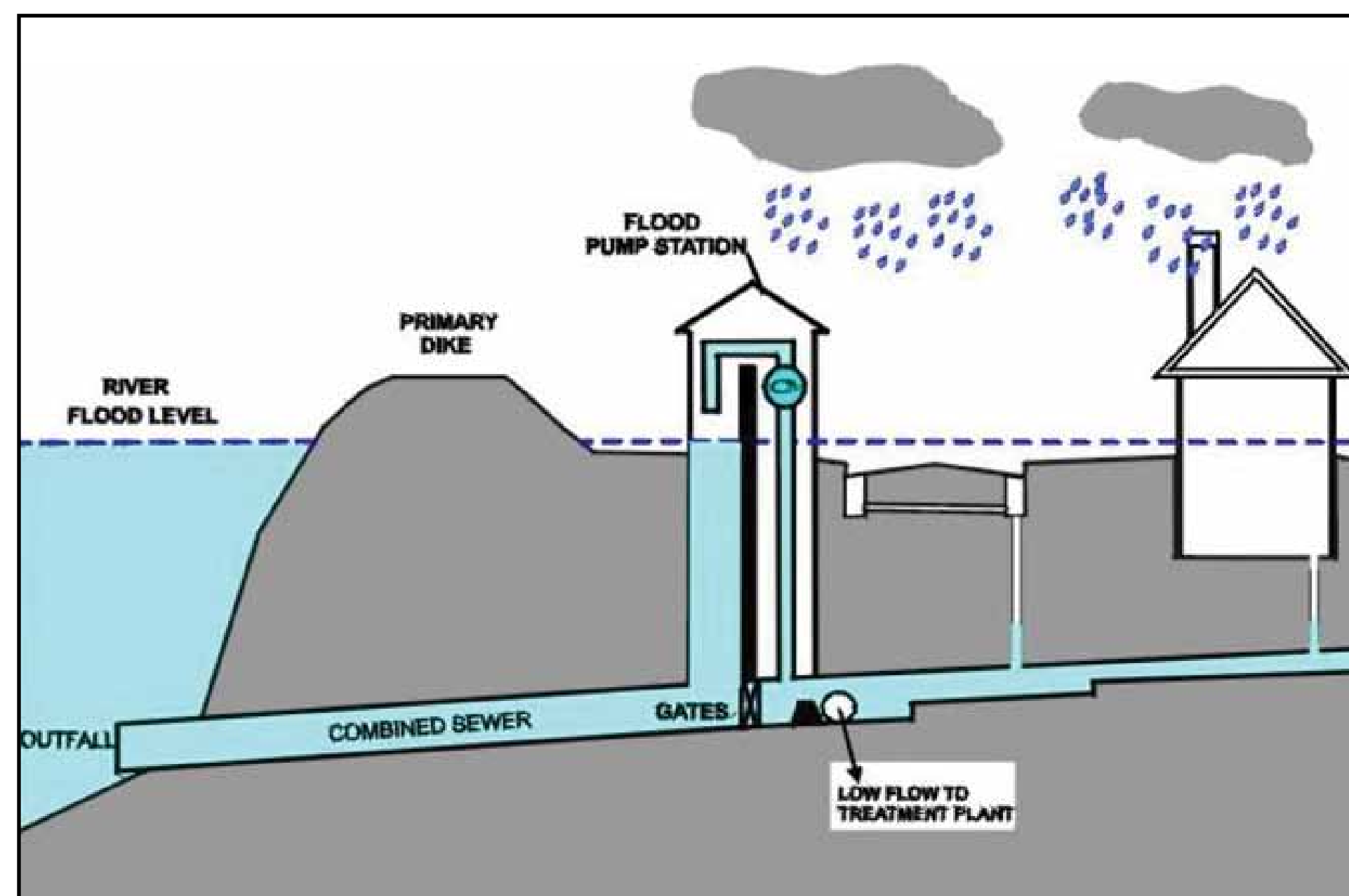
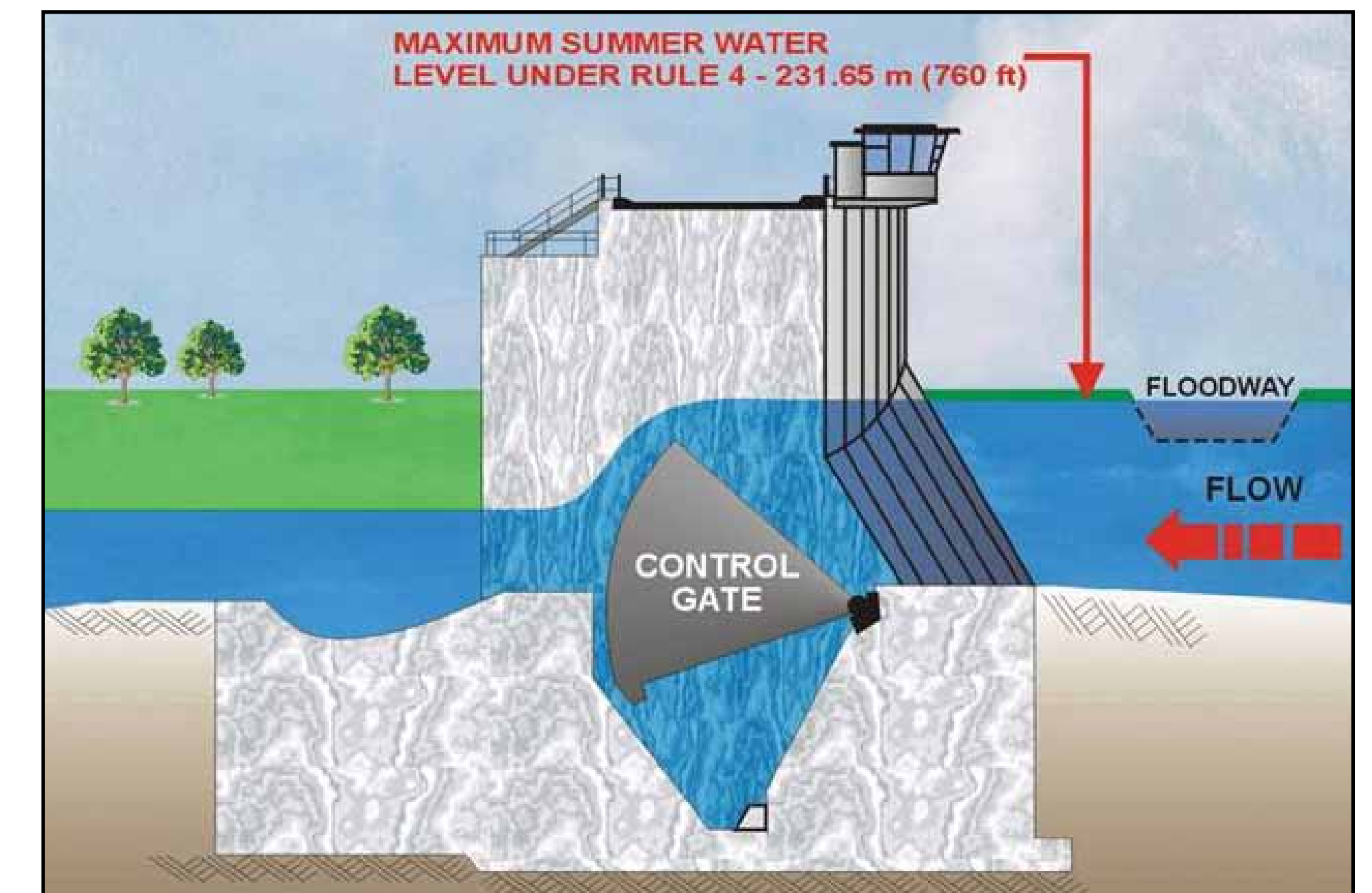
- Help to cope with flooding at the natural water levels will likely continue to be provided by the Disaster Financial Assistance program.
- Additional disaster assistance programs may be developed by the provincial and federal governments for each flood.



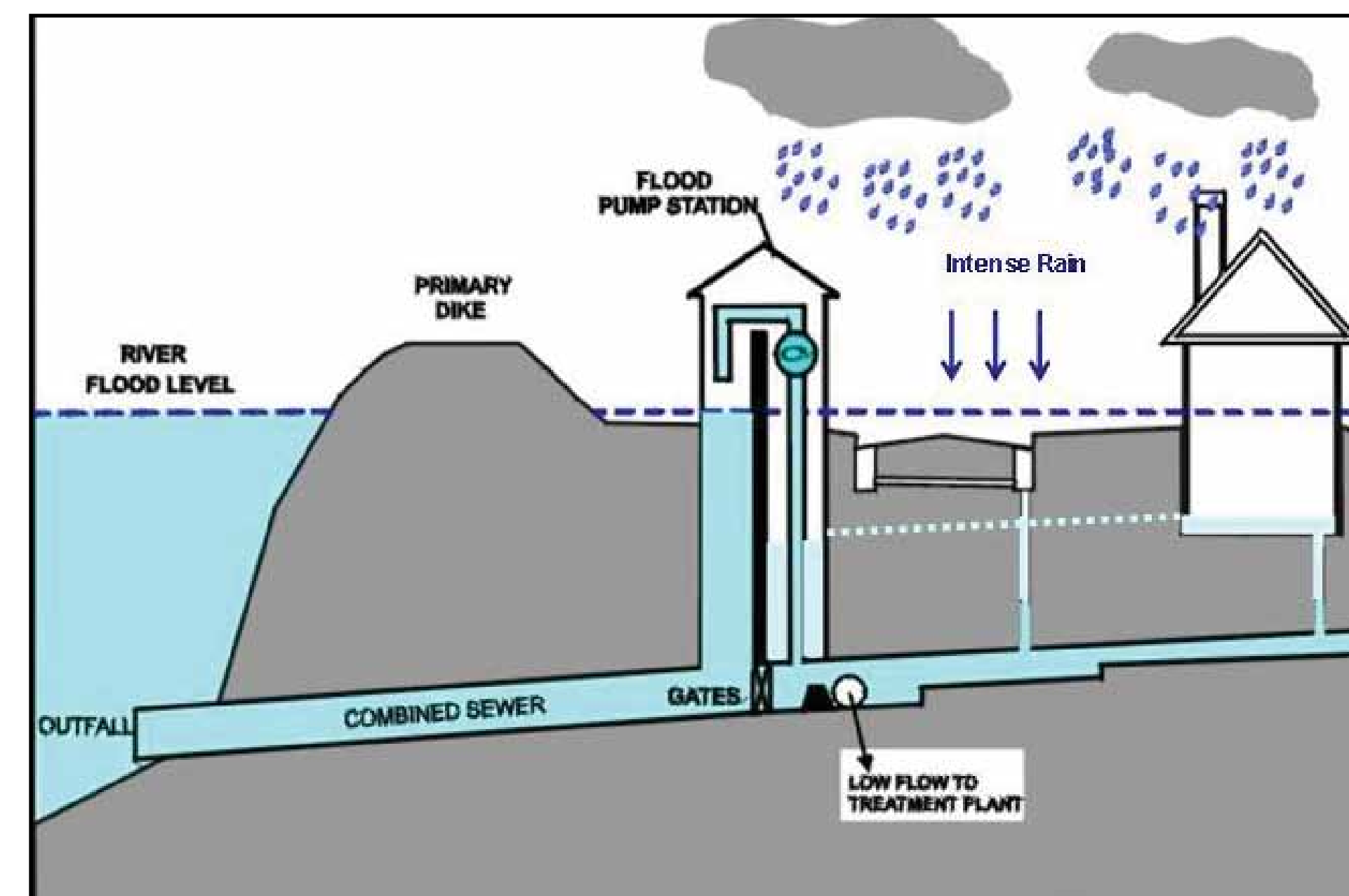
## Rule 4 – Emergency operation

### Benefits

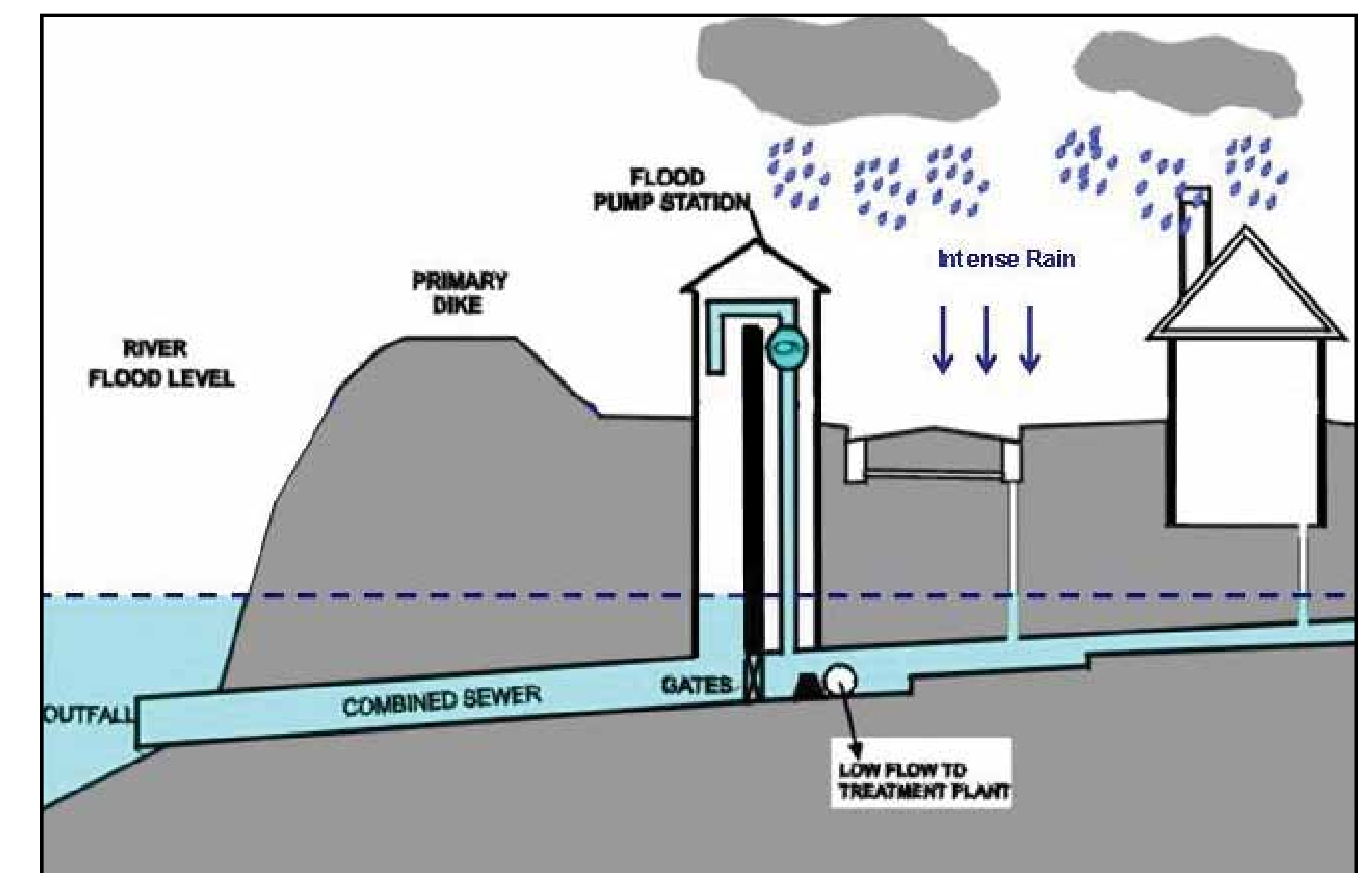
- reduces basement flooding in Winnipeg
  - lower river levels increase the sewer capacity to handle rainfall.
  - increased sewer capacity reduces the risk of basement flooding during major rainstorms.
- reduces health risk
  - high river levels can contribute to sewer back-up and increase the risk of water borne disease.
- reduces risk of property damage in Winnipeg.



Sewer flap gates closed when river levels are high. Gravity flow cannot occur. Flood pump station is operated.



Flood pump station has limited capacity. During periods of intense rain and high river levels basement flooding can result.



Capacity is increased in the city sewer system with lower river levels that occur during floodway operation under Rule 4.

## Rule 4 Operation

### Upstream impacts

- Water is raised above natural levels.
- Causes artificial flooding.
- River is below the main prairie level.

### Summer operation restrictions

- Maximum water level is 231.65 m (760 ft) above sea level at entrance to floodway channel.
- Inlet control structure should not be operated to keep the river level at less than 9 ft at James Avenue.
- Except in circumstances of extreme urgency, river levels are not to be lowered by more than 1 ft per day.

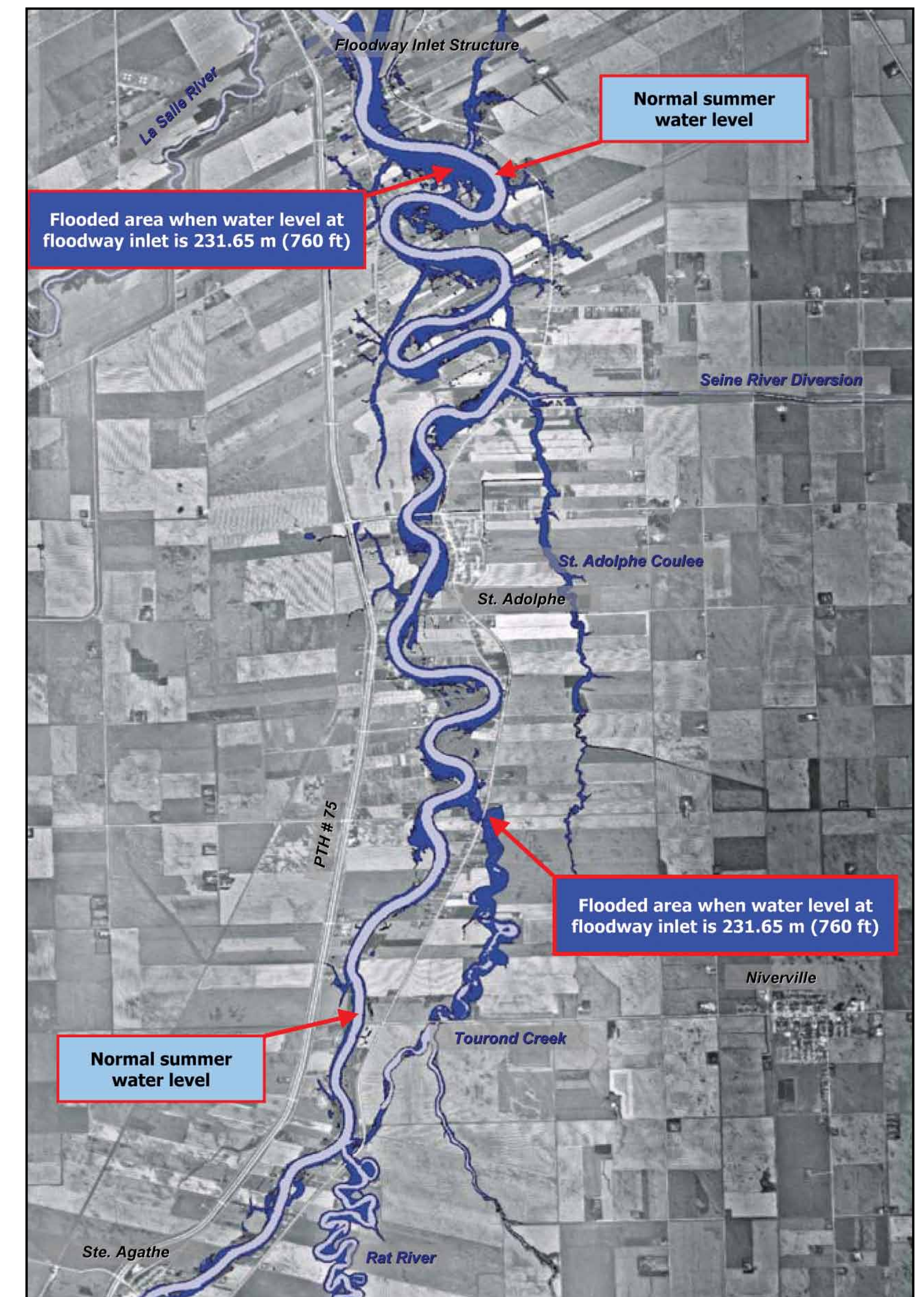
### Other requirements

- Horn sounded half an hour before first operation.
- News release to be sent out at least 24 hours before operation starts.
- A reasonable effort must be made to notify affected landowners personally.
- There must be a compensation program for affected landowners.

### 2005 compensation

- There were 119 residents who received flood compensation.
- Total compensation paid was \$1.11 million.

Before Rule 4 came into effect, basement flood damages in the 1993 intense rainfall event in Winnipeg were \$140 million.



## Rule 4 – Emergency summer operation

### Background

- Floodway inlet control structure was used for summer flooding for the first time in 2002.
- Rule 4 was established in 2005.
- Gates used in the summers of 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2010.
- Compensation for artificial flood damage was provided to the land owners when gates used under Rule 4.
- St. Andrews lock and dam are wide open during summer floods to reduce water levels upstream and through Winnipeg.
- The Forks walkway cannot be protected under Rule 4. The rule does not allow gate operation to keep the river level less than 9 ft at James Avenue. The walkway is at approximately 8 ft.
- The cost/benefit analysis done prior to operation includes:
  - damage caused by artificial flooding south of the inlet control structure
  - risk to the health of Winnipeg residents from sewer back-up

### Conditions for Rule 4 Operation

- After the spring snowmelt crests.
- If levels for the next 10 days are forecast above 14 ft. at James Avenue.
- Dependent on weather forecast.
- Risk of high intensity rainstorms threatening basement flooding.

### Summary of Floodway Operations

Year	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE			
	Peak Flow in Floodway (cfs)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (ft)
2002	7,800	July 6	July 4	August 4	31	754.5
2004	9,000	June 11	June 10	July 31	51	756.6
2005	15,700	June 30	June 14	June 30	16	760.0
2010	12,200	June 4	June 3	June 30 (est)	27 (est)	758.3

### Note:

- In 2005, floodway control structure operations changed from Rule 4 to Rule 1 on June 30 (see History of Operation board).
- In 2010, floodway control structure operations changed from Rule 1 to Rule 4 on June 3.
- Flow over floodway inlet lip also occurred in the summers of 1993 and 2007 without gate operation.

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### Summary of Floodway Operations

Year	FLOODWAY		INLET STRUCTURE			
	Peak Flow in Floodway (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Date of Peak Flow	Start of Operation	End of Operation	No. of Days of Operation	Peak Water Level Upstream at Inlet (m)
2002	221	July 6	July 4	August 4	31	230.1
2004	255	June 11	June 10	July 31	51	230.7
2005	445	June 30	June 14	June 30	16	231.6
2010	345	June 4	June 3	June 30 (est)	27 (est)	231.0

### Note:

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- Flow over floodway inlet lip also occurred in the summers of 1993 and 2007 without gate operation.

# Supporting Regulations Programs and Activities

## Provincial flood outlook and forecast

- The spring flood outlooks are issued the third week of February and the third week of March.
- City of Winnipeg flood outlooks are sent out as needed.
- Daily flood forecasts are widely distributed.

## Environment Canada's role

- Manage the hydrometric gauging network.
- Publish and archive hydrometric data.
- Provide real-time hydrometric data.
- Forecast the weather.

## The City of Winnipeg Act

- Regulates development within the floodway fringe, which is the flood prone area outside the main flow path.
- Province designates flow areas along the rivers that are needed to convey the design flood flows through the city.
- No development that could impede the river flow is allowed in the designated flow area.

## The Diking Commissioner Act

- Ensures the primary dikes in Winnipeg are maintained.
- Requires that new primary dikes be built to provincial standards.

## The Water Resources Administration Act

- Controls development in the designated flood area south of Winnipeg (to the 1997 level plus 0.6 m (2 ft)).
- Allows operation and maintenance of community ring dikes, floodway, and other provincial flood control structures.

## The Manitoba Floodway Authority Act

- Allows floodway expansion.
- Establishes responsibility for floodway maintenance.

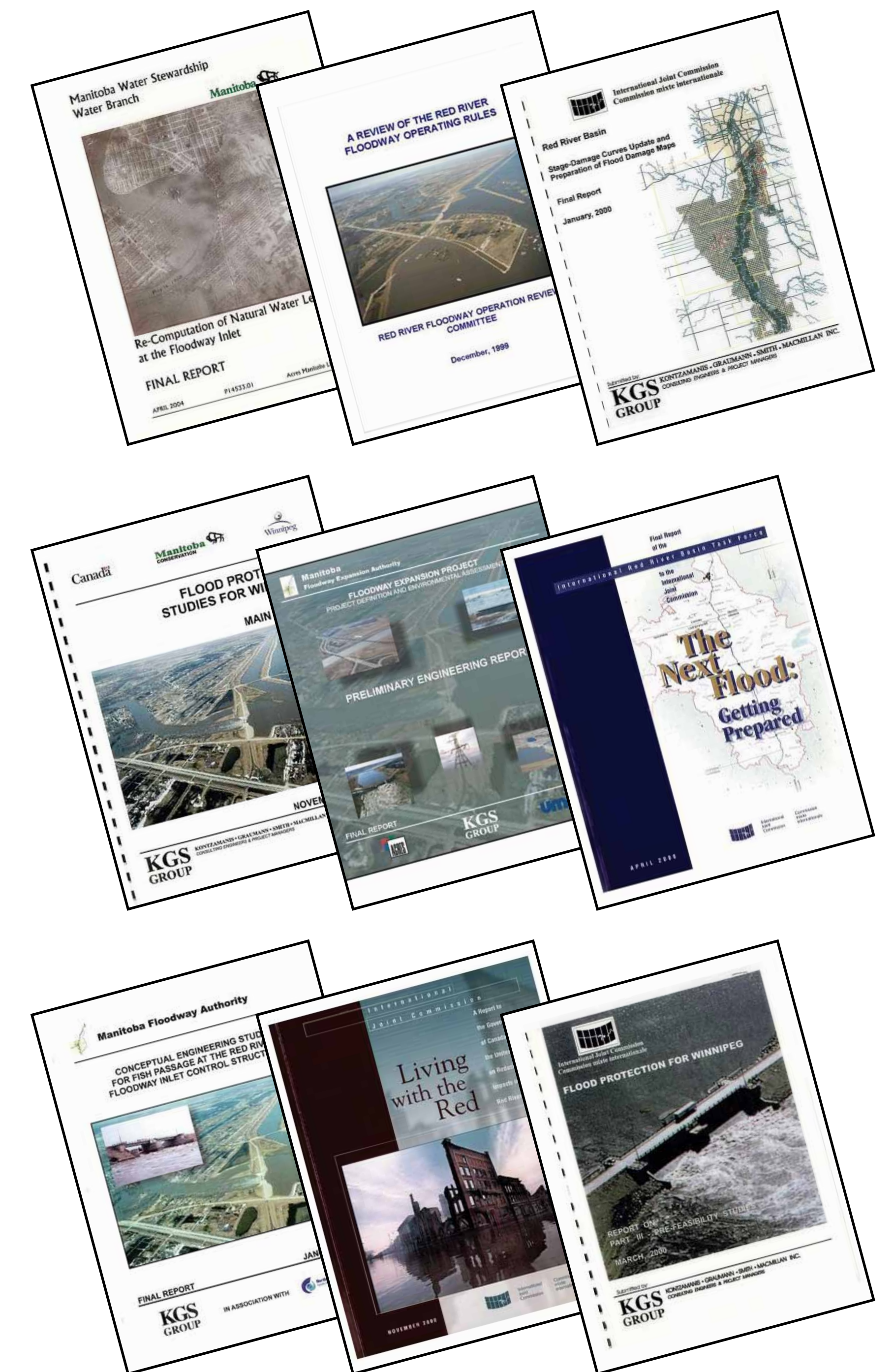
## The Red River Floodway Act

- Sets compensation for spring artificial flooding (Rules 2 and 3).
- Requires preparation of an operation report after each spring operation.

m = metres  
ft = feet

## List of studies and reports after the 1997 flood:

- *Flood Protection for Winnipeg*; International Joint Commission, December 1999
- *A Review Of The Red River Floodway Operating Rules*; Red River Floodway Operation Review Committee, December 1999
- *Stage-Damage Curves Update and Preparation of Flood Damage Maps*, KGS Group, January 2000
- *Ice-Jam Effects on Red River Flooding and Possible Mitigation Methods*, report prepared for the International Red River Basin Task Force, International Joint Commission by S. Beltaos, R. Pomerleau and R. A. Halliday, March 2000
- *The Next Flood: Getting Prepared*, International Joint Commission, April 2000
- *Living on the Red*, International Joint Commission, November 2000
- *Flood Protection Studies for Winnipeg*, KGS Group, November 2001
- *Investigation of the Merits of Management of Red River Summer Water Levels in the City Of Winnipeg*, KGS Group, November 2003
- *Re-Computation of Natural Water Levels at the Floodway Inlet*; Acres Manitoba Ltd., April 2004
- *Evaluation of the Effects of Expansion of the Winnipeg Floodway on Ice-Related Water Levels Downstream of Floodway Outlet*, Northwest Hydraulics, 2005
- *Implementation and Administration of Compensation Program of Damages Caused by Rule 4 Operation of the Red River Floodway - Manitoba Water Stewardship*, July 2006
- *Conceptual Engineering Study for Fish Passage at the Red River Floodway Inlet Control Structure*; KGS Group and North-South Consultants, January 2008
- *Human Health Risk Assessment Red River Floodway Expansion Project*, Jacques Whitford Limited, 2008
- *Wildlife Studies*, TetrES consulting (in-progress)
- *Impact of Artificial Flooding Related to the Operation of the Red River Floodway*, MMM Group (in-progress)
- *Monitoring of River Bank Stability in the Vicinity of the Control Structure*, KGS Group (in-progress)





# History Of Major Ice Jamming Downstream Of Floodway Outlet



**April 25, 1884 – The Selkirk Herald**  
 "...first move below Sugar Point this year took place last Sunday... jam at Sugar Island...water rose steadily...overcome the jam...another jam...water commenced to rise and overflow the flats...jam held until late Tuesday...although water covered the flats and reached a considerable height no damage was done..."

**April 15, 1943 – The Selkirk Record**  
 "...ice jammed at Sugar Island...water attained its highest point since 1916...reported to be 11 1/2 feet above summer level. ...ice rose to within a couple of feet of the top of the concrete piers under the bridge...Mr. Zegil's farm was completely under water...caused by blockade of ice which formed Saturday night for a distance of eight miles to the mouth of the river, at Ramsay Point."



**April 15, 1959 – The Selkirk Record**  
 "Water and ice flow over Selkirk dock as an ice-jam occurs at Sugar Island, just north of town."

**April 20 1960 – "Ice jam at Selkirk Bridge then Sugar Island 'Worst Ice Jam since 1927'"**

**April 13, 1966 – The Selkirk Enterprise**  
 "Ice jams on the Red, five miles north of Selkirk were blasted by an E.MO. crew... water levels at Selkirk and north to the river mouth exceeded 1950 flood levels by 3.6 ft. ...powerful aircraft hovering over the ice, exerting a 70 mph air stream on the sluggish areas was successful in assisting the packed ice on its way to Lake Winnipeg...ice jam near the St. John's School for Boys."

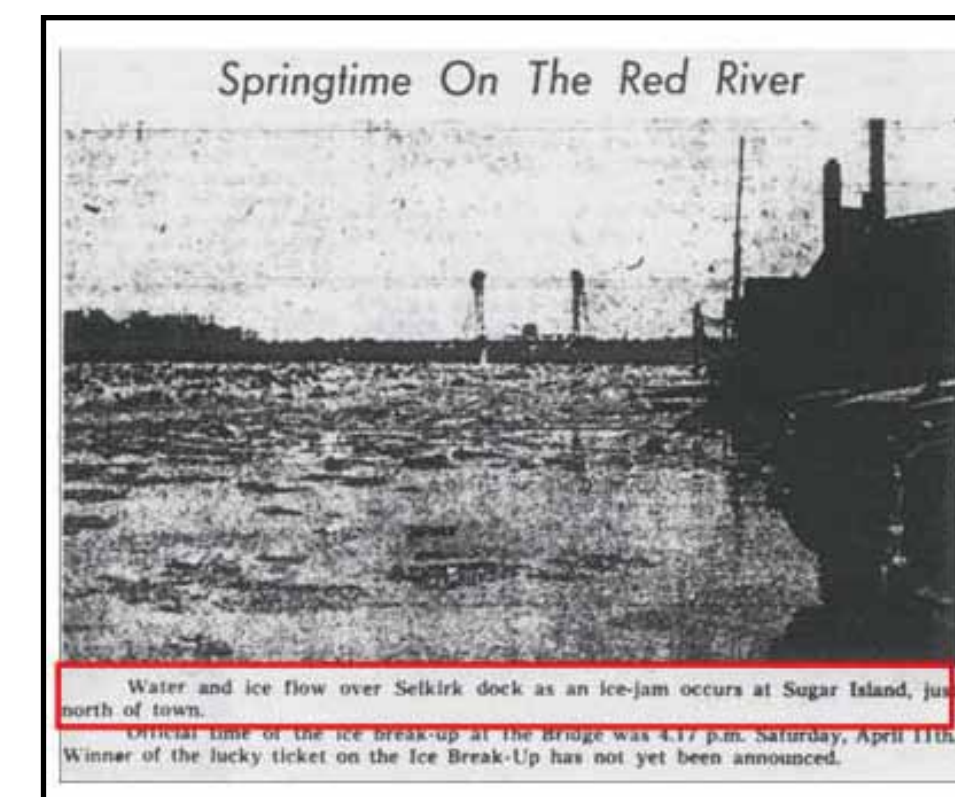


**April 12, 1967 – The Selkirk Enterprise**  
 "...early break-up dumped millions of tons of ice on Selkirk... ice jam was bad...the ice jam at our bridge let go...slid down to a point north of the Boys' School where it immediately jammed again. ...second jam let go and moved five miles north of Selkirk where it stopped for the third time..."

## Extracts from Sandford Fleming Report to the CPR:

**May 1852 – Mr. Alexander Ross**

"On the breaking up of the river, the channel got choked up with ice, which caused the water to rise seven feet in an hour or two..."



**January 1880 – ED. R. Abell**

"I have seen the break up of the ice on the Red River...for the last fifteen consecutive seasons. ...but have known it to jam several times at Sugar Point...I have also known the ice to jam at the first point below the village of Selkirk, causing the water to overflow the low land on the east side of the river to a depth of ten feet and forcing the ice back up the creek..."

**January 1880 – WM. Flett**

"The highest that I have seen the water at this place was on the 24th of April 1876, when it came to 15 feet from the top of the bank. This was occasioned ...from a stopping of the ice at the Sugar Point...in close proximity to Selkirk and...The ice jams it may be said every year more or less."

**January 1880 – James X. French**

"...rise is caused partly if not altogether by the ice jamming at a place called Sugar Point, and at a point further down. And the ice jamming at Sugar Point is a yearly occurrence."

# Ice Jamming Mitigation Downstream Of Floodway Outlet



Amphibex

## Causes of ice jams

- Ice jams form when floating ice is blocked from moving downstream.
- Typical blocks:
  - downstream ice cover that has not broken up
  - sharp bends in rivers or blocking structures (for example bridge piers)
  - grounding in shallow areas
- In the Red River, floodwaters run north into solid unbroken ice. The river flow slows down as the river gradient flattens towards Lake Winnipeg.



Ice cutting machinery

## History

- There have been ice jams in this area throughout recorded history. Ice jams are an on-going problem.
- Several areas are prone to ice jams:
  - Selkirk Bridge
  - Sugar Island
  - areas north of PTH 4
- Ice jams have formed before, after, and almost simultaneously with operation of the floodway inlet control structure.
- A 2005 independent study by Northwest Hydraulics on ice jams downstream of Winnipeg concluded that the floodway does not increase ice jam flooding downstream of the floodway.



April 3, 2004

## Improvements

- Since 2008, ice cutting machinery has been used to cut ice on Red River.
- Since 2006, amphibexes used to break ice on the Red River.
- The Manitoba Government has purchased the most flood-prone properties.

# Recent Ice Jamming Downstream Of Floodway Outlet

## From Section 8.1.4 of the Clean Environment Commission report on Floodway Expansion...

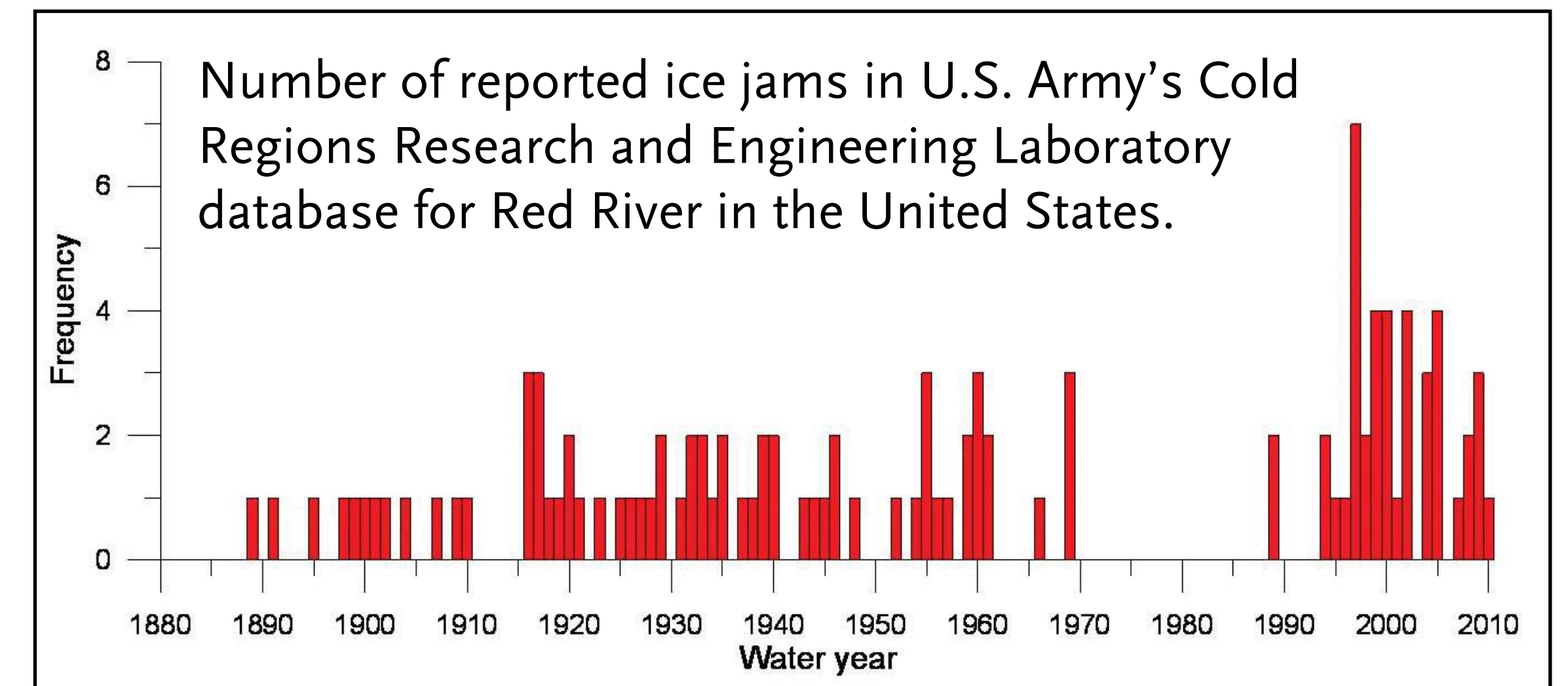
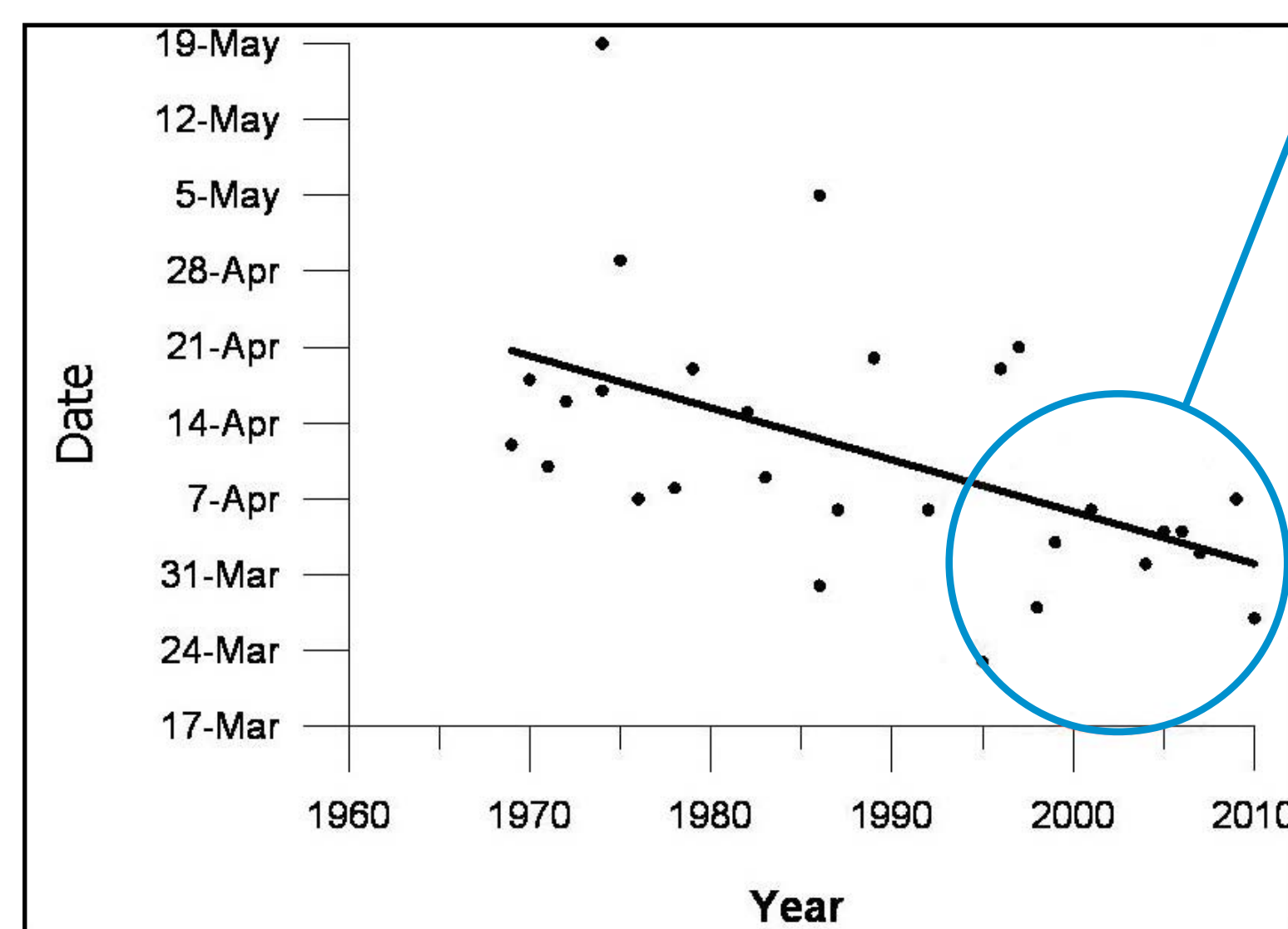
- “ The Commission accepts the argument that floodway operations do not exacerbate ice jams downstream of the floodway outlet. The floodway does not increase flows downstream of the outlet except at very high flows, when ice has already been cleared from the river channel, and thus cannot have an impact on the ice regime downstream.”

## Recent Ice Jams

- More severe ice jams are currently reported more often.

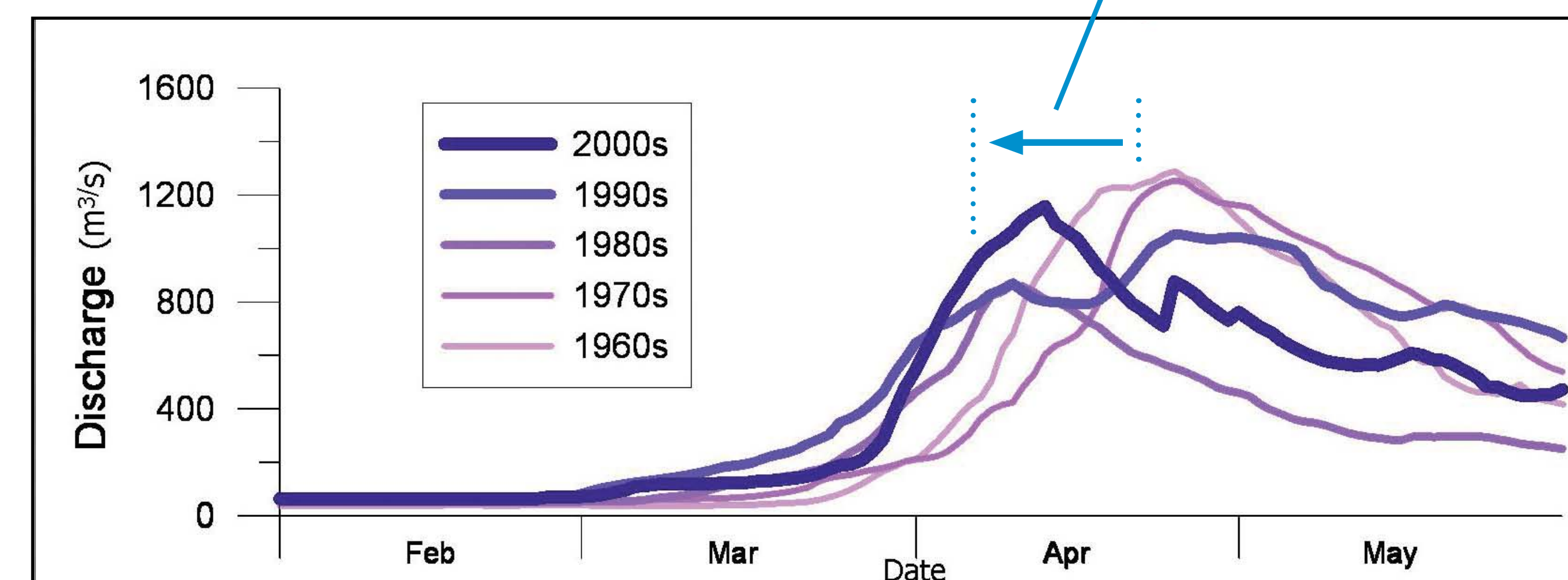
- River ice is breaking up earlier in the year (as evidenced by the earlier dates of initial floodway operation)
  - ice has less time to melt and deteriorate by warming temperatures
  - ice is thicker and stronger

## Start Day of Floodway Operation



- Flood waters are occurring earlier in the year
  - ice is stronger and more resistant to breakup
  - ice jams are more severe

## Average discharge in Red River at Lockport



m<sup>3</sup>/s = cubic metres per second

If you would like to comment on the rules of operation for the Red River Floodway please use one of our forms to provide written comments.

# Thank You!

# We welcome your comments and suggestions

Additional written comments will be accepted until  
September 1, 2010 at:

**Manitoba Water Stewardship**

Box 14, 200 Saulteaux Crescent

Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3

ATTN: Floodway Rules of Operation Review

Email: [ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca](mailto:ReviewFloodwayRules@gov.mb.ca)