

The International Joint Commission's Osoyoos Lake Board of Control One Part of the Picture

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International Joint Commission

 Established by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909



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• Prevent and resolve disputes that may arise over use of surface waters shared by Canada and the United States

International Joint Commission

- To prevent and resolve issues, the Commission...
 - Undertakes hydrologic investigations
 - Holds public hearings
 - Facilitates management of shared water bodies
 - Orders of Approval
 - Boards of Control



IJC and Osoyoos Lake

- Water level controlled by Zosel Dam
- IJC issued Orders of Approval for managing lake levels (1982, 1985)
- Appointed Osoyoos Lake Board of Control to monitor provisions of the Orders



Current Zosel Dam, constructed in 1987

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- Kirk Johnstone
 Environment Canada
 Glen Davidson
- BC Ministry of FLNRO • Brian Symonds
- BC Ministry of FLNRO
- Cynthia Barton
 US Geological Survey
 Col. Bruce Estok
 US Army Corps of Engineers
 Kris Kauffman
- Water Resources Engineer



Orders Renewal

- Osoyoos Lake Orders expire February 22, 2013
- A Plan of Study was developed
- Eight studies identified



Plan of Study for Renewal of the International Joint Commission Osoyoos Lake Orders

Preparatory studies

- 1. Most suitable water levels for Osoyoos Lake
- 2. Evaluation of criteria for declaring drought
- 3. Review of the dates for summer and winter operation
- 4. Influence of Zosel Dam operation on water quality in Osoyoos Lake



Preparatory studies

- 5. An evaluation of including ecosystem requirements in the Orders
- 6. Climate Change & implications for managing lake levels
- 7. Factors that govern lake levels during floods
- 8. Methods for monitoring flow capacity of the outlet channel



Next Steps

- Share study results with the public
- Seek a new application from Washington State
- Establish Orders renewal timeline from present to February 2013



Osoyoos Board members