

Muskrat Falls Generation Project Stakeholder Update – July 7, 2017

At Nalcor, we are committed to sharing information with the communities and individuals who are impacted by our work and operations. It is important that we keep the public informed in a timely manner by providing information on topics that are important to our stakeholders.

Mitigation activities

We are continuing to progress mitigation activities within the Muskrat Falls reservoir below the 25 m elevation level.

In keeping with the commitment for further mitigation, in late fall 2016 Nalcor cleared about 6.5 hectares in the reservoir. At the end of 2016, around 1,750 hectares were cleared within the reservoir.

We have further reviewed the opportunities for mitigation around the reservoir and have determined that Edwards Island, located about 26 km upstream of the Muskrat Falls construction site on the river, offers a significant opportunity for further mitigation. There is approximately 40 hectares of vegetation to clear on Edwards Island and associated access roads and river banks. Forty hectares is about four times the size of the Mealy Mountain Collegiate Sports Complex in Happy Valley-Goose Bay.

Clearing work for Edwards Island is expected to be completed by late August 2017.

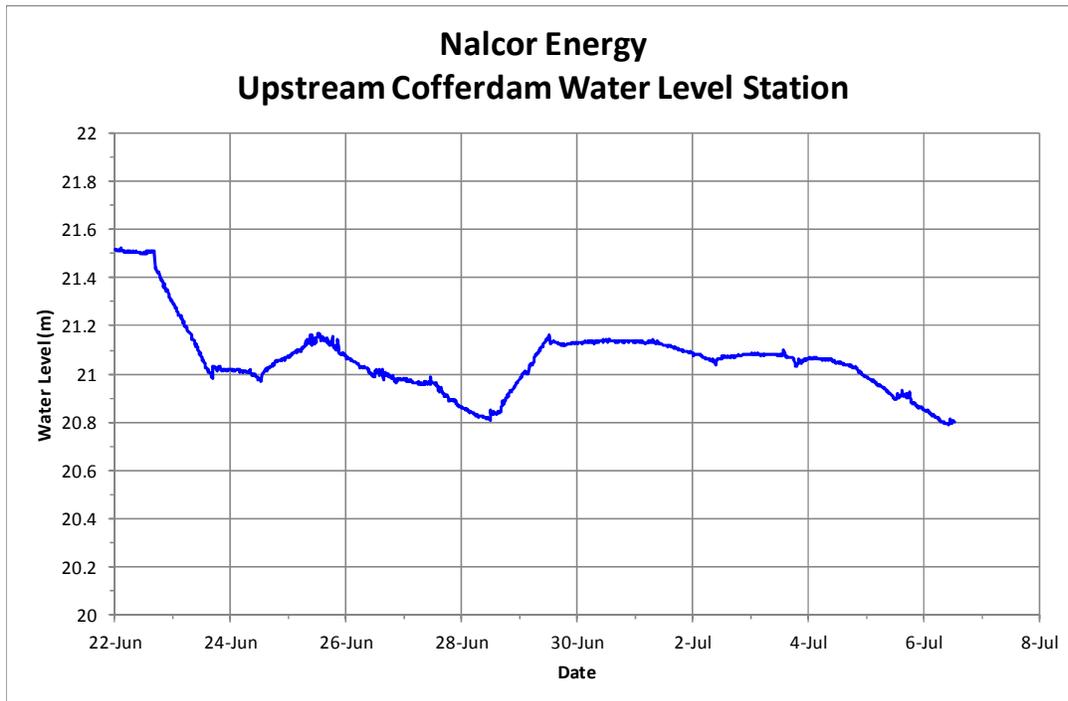
Lowering water levels in the Muskrat Falls reservoir

We continue to slowly lower the water levels in the Muskrat Falls reservoir from the peak level of 22.5 m above sea level this past spring. This is being done in a controlled and gradual manner. We are currently at an elevation of approximately 21.0 m and continue to gradually lower water levels.

Government of Canada provides information to the public on water levels in various locations on the lower Churchill River. Here's a link to view the Churchill River Mid Pool Station (03OE015) which is slightly upstream of the Muskrat Falls reservoir:

https://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/report/real_time_e.html?stn=03OE015

In early May 2017, Nalcor installed a water level monitoring instrument on the Muskrat Falls cofferdam. The water level data from June 30 to July 6 is provided in the image below.



River safety

Nalcor wants to ensure people are safe when taking part in recreational activities on the Churchill River. While the water levels in the river are being lowered, people are advised not to use the lower Churchill River near the Muskrat Falls facility as there are increased safety concerns during the dewatering process. Boaters are advised to exit the river near Edwards Island.

If you are interested in receiving our ongoing stakeholder updates via email, please send along your email address to lowerchurchill@nalcorenergy.com and we'll add you to our email list.