

Cowichan Watershed Board

June 24, 2019



Cowichan River Updates

BC Salmon Restoration & Innovation Fund

- Staff briefed the Deputy Ministers June 14(ish)
- Prepped packages for both Ministers (Federal and Provincial) last week
- Decisions to be announced this week.



Our Supporters...

- Alistair McGregor, MP
- British Columbia Conservation Foundation
- British Columbia Wildlife Federation
- Cowichan Lake and River Stewardship Society
- Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable
- Doug Routley, MLA
- PPWC Local #2
- Recreational Canoeing Association of BC
- Sierra Club of BC
- Sonia Furstenau, MLA

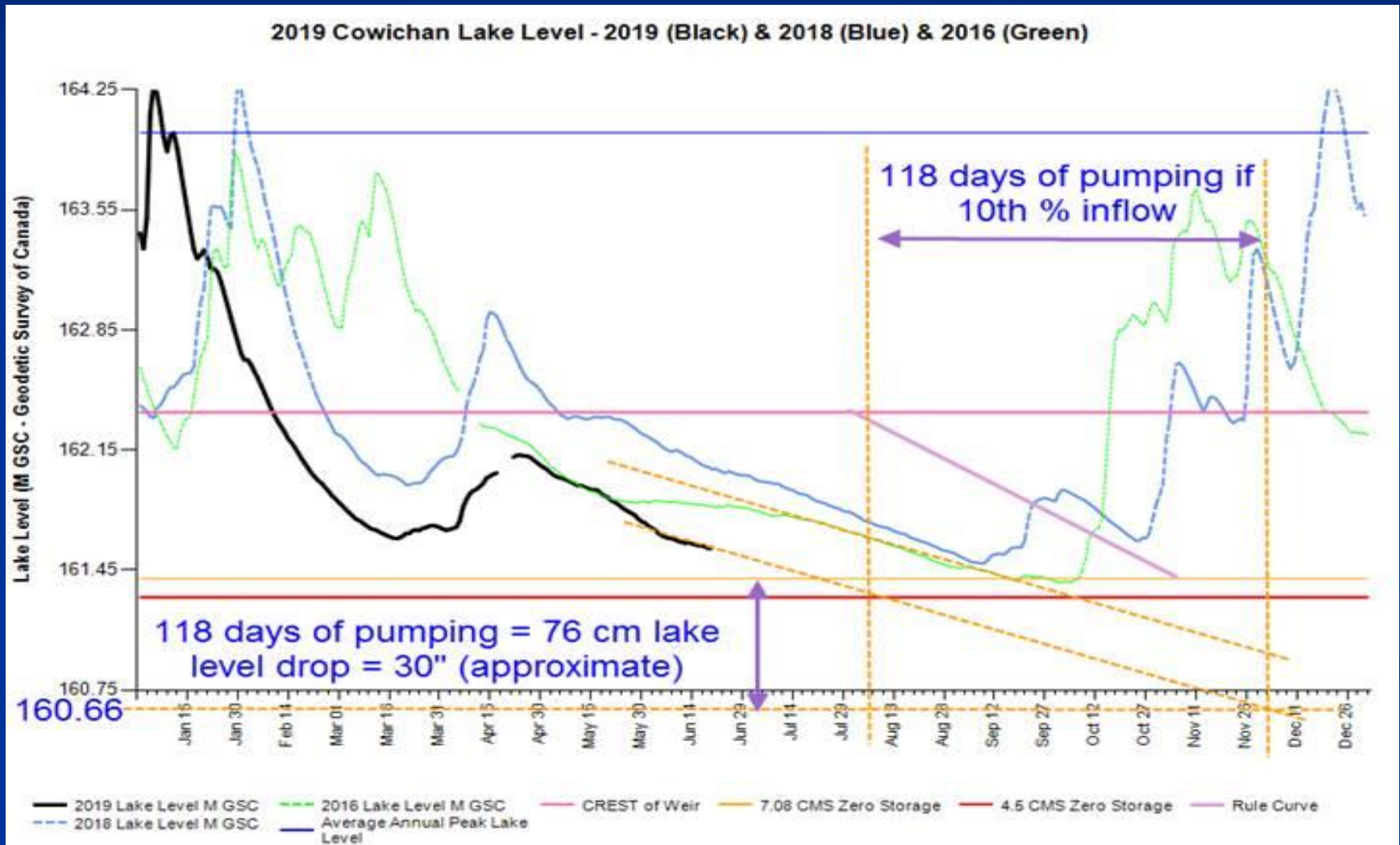


Cowichan Water Status

- Reduced from 15 CMS to 4.5 CMS by 1 CMS/day starting June 1
- No consensus
- River flow currently 4.5 CMS at weir, approx. 2.7 CMS below pump house
- Lake expected to reach 0 storage Aug. 8 without significant rainfall
- Pumping “negative storage” to begin then and extend until fall rains

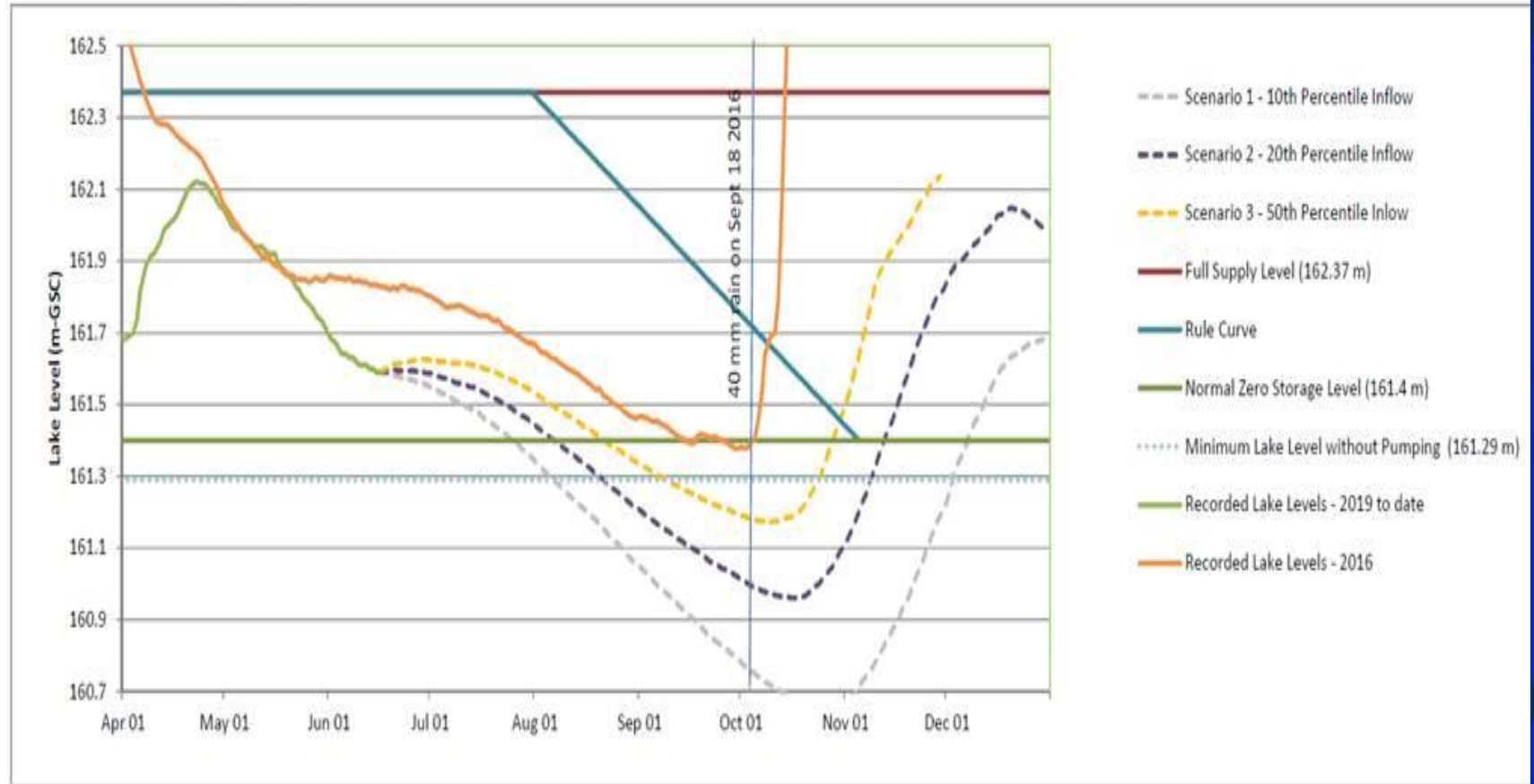


Current and Forecast Lake Levels



Forecast Lake Levels

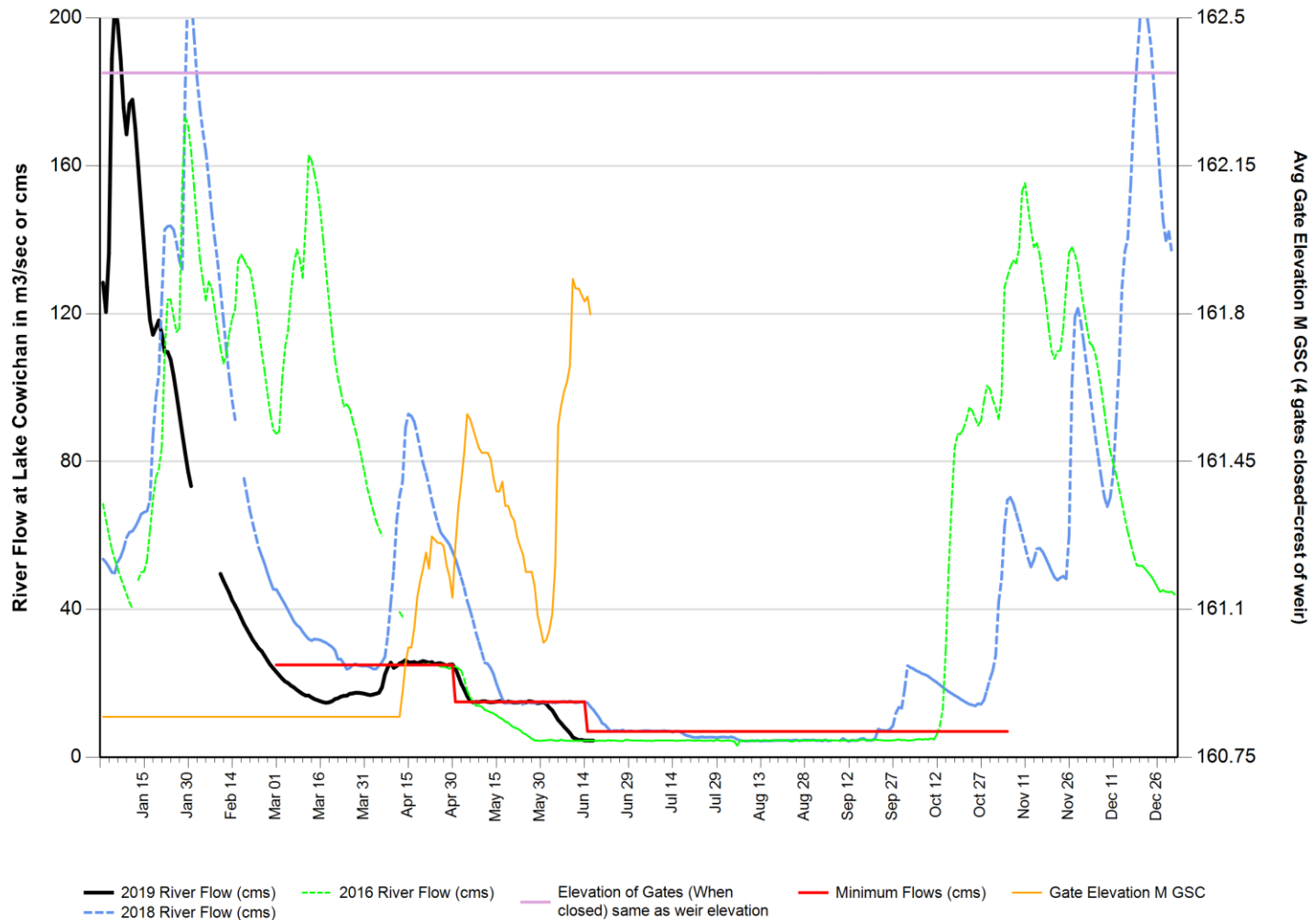
Figure 1 - Forecast Cowichan Lake Water Levels



Note: Normal Zero Storage Level is the minimum lake level at which 7 m³/s can be maintained in Cowichan River
Minimum Lake Level without pumping is the lowest lake level at which 4.5 m³/s can be maintained in Cowichan River without pumping
Projected lake levels below the minimum assume pumping at a rate of 4.5 m³/s.

Current River Flows

2019 Cowichan River Flow - 2019 (Black) & 2018 (Blue) & 2016 (Green)



Questions?







