

Reservoir Impoundment

For September 5, 2020

Reservoir Impoundment at Keeyask started August 31, 2020. Impoundment is the stage of the Keeyask Generation Project where water will be held back upstream of the site to create a reservoir.

The rise of water levels upstream - within the expected area - will be quite slow, averaging 0.5 metres (about two feet) per day. However, water will flow into lower areas as soon as their surrounding landscape will allow; these localized areas may fill in quickly as they become accessible to the rising water level. This means that localized areas may appear to show a more rapid rise in water level.

Water levels will continue to rise gradually until impoundment is complete. Impoundment is expected to last five to seven days.

Water Levels

Split Lake Level		
Sept 3	Sept 4	Forecast for Sept 5
168.30 m 552.2 ft	168.27 m 552.1 ft	168.17 to 168.27 m 551.7 to 552.1 ft

Clark Lake Level		
Sept 3	Sept 4	Forecast for Sept 5
167.77 m 550.2 ft	167.74 m 550.3 ft	167.68 to 167.75 m 550.1 to 550.4 ft

Gull Lake Level		
Sept 3	Sept 4	Forecast for Sept 5
158.15 m 518.9 ft	158.53 m 520.1 ft	158.5 to 159.0 m 520.0 to 521.7 ft

Level at Keeyask GS (inside the water-up area)		
Sept 3	Sept 4	Forecast for Sept 5
158.0m 518.4 ft	158.4 m 519.7 ft	158.5 to 159.0 m 520.0 to 521.7 ft

How are water levels raised during impoundment?

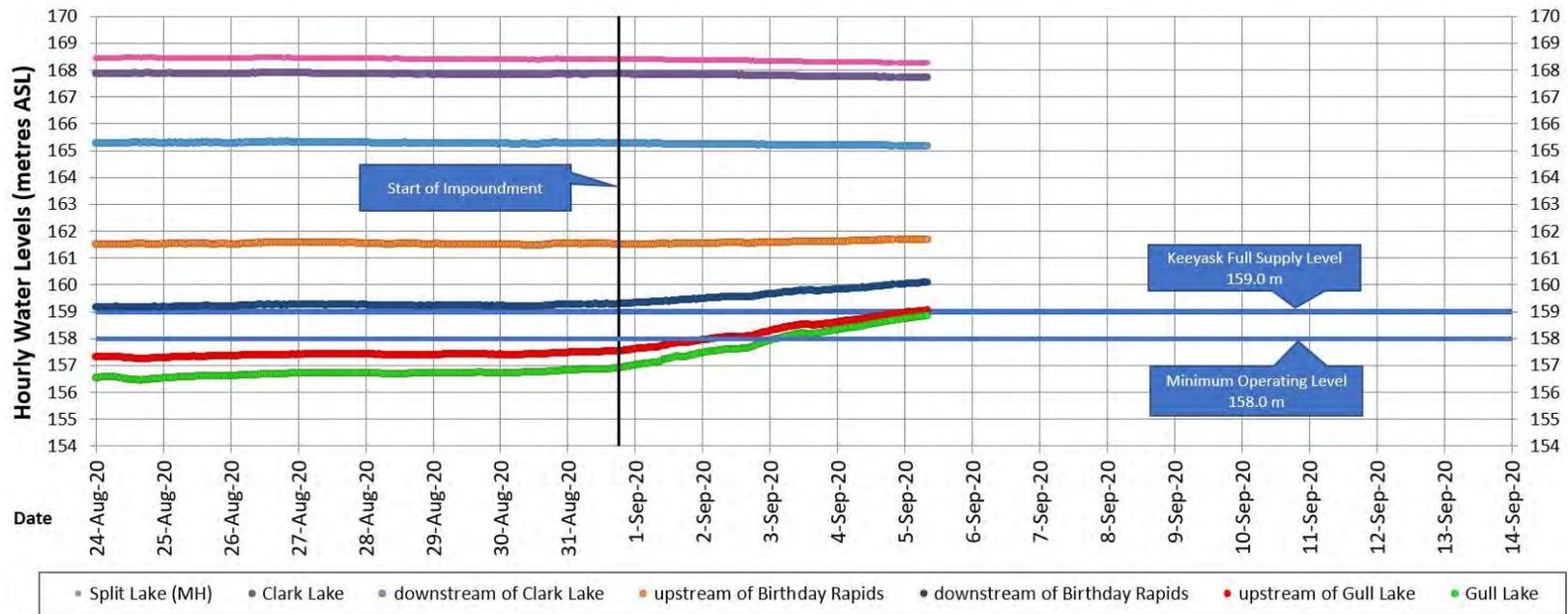
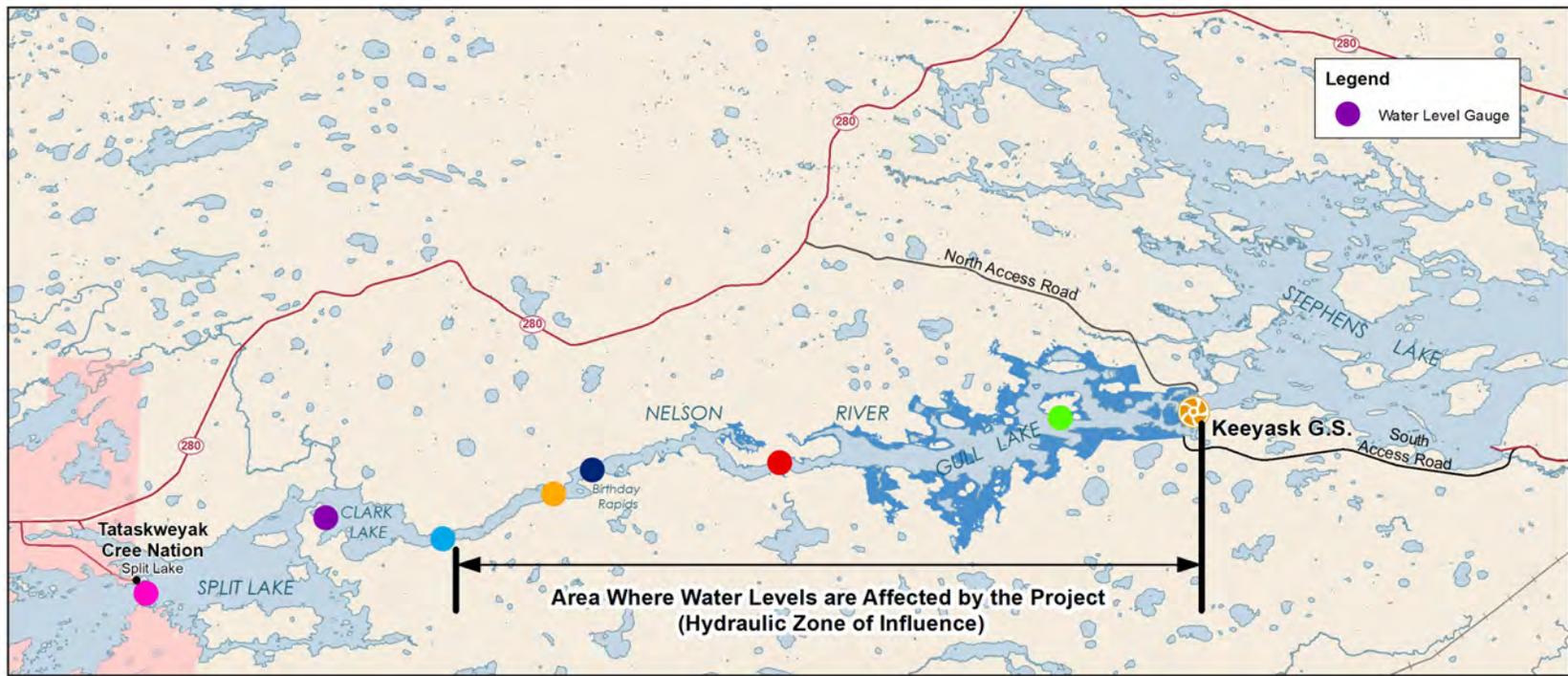
The flow of the Nelson River has been passing through the Keeyask spillway since August 2018. Water levels upstream of the spillway and in Gull Lake are controlled by the spillway gates. The gates will be lowered during impoundment to reduce the flow resulting in a slow increase in water levels on Gull Lake to create the planned reservoir. Increases will be smaller at locations further upstream of Gull Lake with **no increases expected on Clark Lake or Split Lake.**

How are water levels monitored?

Water levels are monitored at seven sites from Split Lake to the Keeyask Generating Station. Water levels are shown on the following page and will be updated daily.

STAY SAFE: Due to rapidly changing conditions avoid all travel on the Nelson River from Clark Lake outlet to the Keeyask Site during and immediately after impoundment.





After impoundment, the reservoir will extend approximately 42 kilometres from the Keyask Generating Station to about 3 kilometres downstream of the outlet of Clark Lake.

Reservoir Impoundment Monitoring

The water level in the Keeyask forebay (Gull Lake) is within the normal operating range of 158 to 159 metres (518.4 to 521.7 feet). It is expected that the forebay water level will fluctuate within this range going forward. **Water level monitoring data show that there has been no changes to water levels on Split Lake and Clark Lake due to the impoundment of the Keeyask Generating Station reservoir.** Water levels on Split Lake, Clark Lake and immediately downstream of Clark Lake have dropped slightly during impoundment as flows into Split Lake have decreased during this time.

Surveys by helicopter, boat, and truck were done in the days leading up to impoundment, and are being continued during impoundment, to monitor wildlife and waterway conditions in the future reservoir area. To date, no unexpected effects to wildlife have been noted.

Monitoring of beaver lodges within the reservoir area continued. A large number of waterfowl were present in the reservoir area, and about 25 bald eagles were observed during the daily surveys.

All four partner community ATK monitoring staff participated in a number of helicopter surveys during impoundment. FLCN ATK monitoring staff were also able to participate in boat and truck monitoring at site with technical science monitoring staff (within the current site and community pandemic protocols).



Upstream boat launch at Keeyask site prior to impoundment.
Photo taken Aug 26, 2020



Upstream boat launch at Keeyask site near end of impoundment.
Photo taken Sept 4, 2020



Aerial view of Caribou Island, looking downstream.
Photo taken Sept 4, 2020



Aerial view of Keeyask Project Site and impounded reservoir (at elevation 158.5 metres).
Photo taken Sept 4, 2020



ATK monitoring staff from FLCN doing a ground survey (left), and a boat survey (below) thanks to boat driver from TCN.

Photo taken Sept 4 2020



Red fox along the North Dyke.
Photo taken Sept 3, 2020

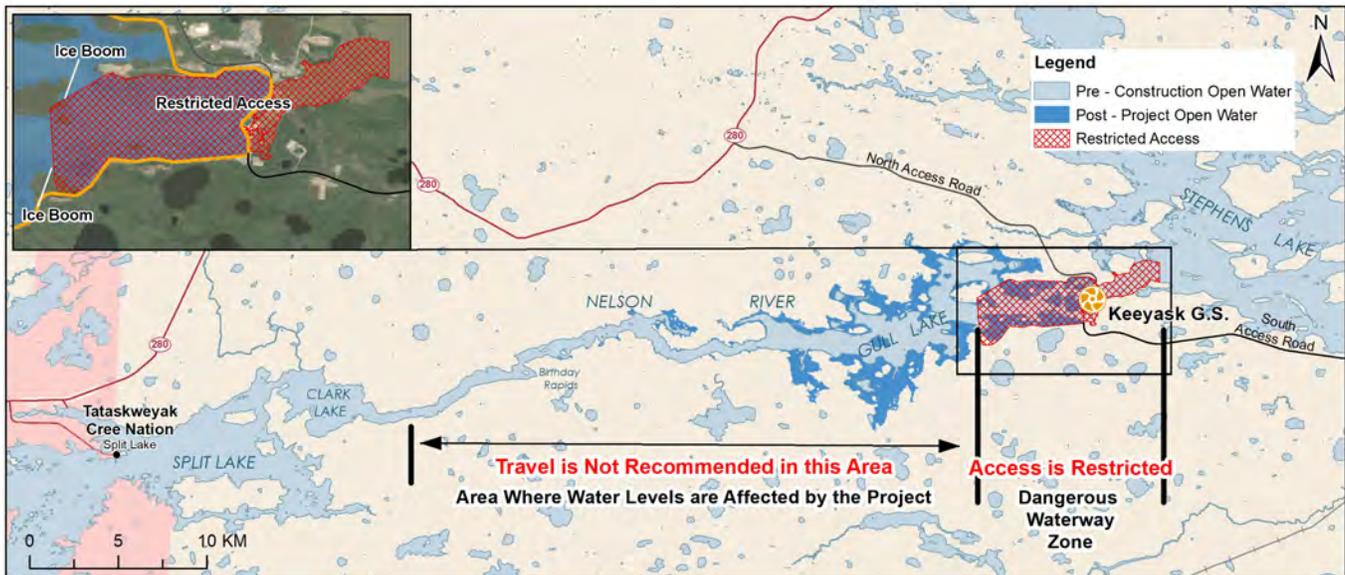


Beaver lodge east of Little Gull Lake.
Photo taken Sept 4, 2020



Constructed island for gull and tern nesting habitat, now surrounded by water.
Photo taken Sept 4, 2020

Stay Safe: Travel is not recommended in the area shown below during and immediately after impoundment.



Visit these websites for more information on:

Impoundment: keeyask.com

Water levels and flows: www.hydro.mb.ca/waterlevels

Weather: https://weather.gc.ca/forecast/canada/index_e.html?id=MB

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your KCN Site Rep or Diana Mager at dmager@hydro.mb.ca

