

**FLOOD REPORT FOR MANITOBA**

*April 18, 2020*

**The risk of ice pile up is moderate to moderately-high on the south shores of Lake Winnipeg (near Victoria Beach), Lake Manitoba and Dauphin Lake. A wind effect alert map for these areas is attached to the report.**

**Flood Warning\*:** - **Red River, from Emerson to the Red River Floodway Inlet Control Structure**

**High Water Advisory\*:** - **Red River, from Lockport to Netley Creek**

**Summary**

- All flow and water level information is based on data available at 7:00 am. Morning Conditions reports, with current water level data, are available on the department's website, and flood sheets with updated forecast information will be posted at [https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts\\_reports](https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts_reports).
- A flood warning is in place for the Red River from Emerson to the Red River Floodway inlet, just south of the City of Winnipeg as the Red River is spilling its banks in most of this area.
- A high water advisory is in place for the Red River from Lockport to Netley Creek as water levels remain high and will continue to rise as the peak moves down the river.
- The Red River at Emerson is near peak, and the peak between Letellier and the Red River Floodway inlet control structure is anticipated between April 19 and April 22. The forecast is tracking below 2006 spring levels at Emerson and Letellier, whereas areas north of Letellier are expected to peak marginally above 2019 spring levels. With the operation of the Floodway, the Red River level in Winnipeg at James Avenue is expected to peak between 19.0 feet and 19.5 feet between April 21 and April 23.
- A number of roads are impacted by high water levels. For detours and a complete list of road closures please call 511 or visit [www.manitoba511.ca](http://www.manitoba511.ca).
  - PR 217, from St. Jean Baptiste to PR 200, is closed.
  - PR 246, 1 km north of the PR 217 junction, is closed.
  - The northernmost extent of PR 320, 6 km north of PTH 4 is closed.
- Wind speeds are forecasted to gust from the northwest up to 55 km/hr today. This could create a risk of ice pile up at south shores of Lake Winnipeg (near Victoria Beach), Lake Manitoba and Dauphin Lake. A wind effect alert map for these areas is attached to the report.
- Any questions or concerns about flood mitigation should be directed first to the municipal authority. Questions about forecasts, water levels, provincial waterways, or provincial

water control infrastructure can be directed to 204-945-1165 or by email to [floodinfo@gov.mb.ca](mailto:floodinfo@gov.mb.ca).

### Weather

- There is no significant precipitation in the short term forecast. A minor precipitation event could bring up to 10 mm in central and northern Manitoba in the next five days, but it will have a minor impact on the flood risk on those areas.

### Red River Basin

- Water levels on most of the main stem of the Red River continue to rise and some areas are nearing peak. This morning's current water levels and the latest forecast information are summarized below. The forecast is tracking below 2006 spring levels at Emerson and Letellier, whereas areas north of Letellier are expected to peak marginally above 2019 spring levels. Conditions will continue to be monitored and the latest forecast information for the Red River is available online at [https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts\\_reports](https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts_reports).

	Today's level	Forecasted peak	
		Level	Date
Emerson	788.9 feet (240.45 m)	788.9 - 789.0 feet (240.45 - 240.50 m)	Near Peak
Letellier	783.8 feet (238.90 m)	783.8 - 784.1 feet (238.90 - 239.00 m)	April 18-19
St. Jean Baptiste	778.5 feet (237.29 m)	778.7 - 779.0 feet (237.35 - 237.45 m)	April 19-20
Morris – PTH 23	774.4 feet (236.04 m)	775.1 - 775.4 feet (236.25 - 236.35 m)	April 20-21
Ste. Agathe	765.7 feet (233.39 m)	766.6 - 766.9 feet (233.65 - 233.75 m)	April 20-21
St. Adolphe	762.0 feet (232.26 m)	762.5 - 763.0 feet (232.40 - 232.55 m)	April 21-22
Above Floodway Inlet	758.7 feet (231.25 m)	759.5 - 760.2 feet (231.50 - 231.70 m)	April 21-22

Note: water levels at Emerson and Ste Agathe will differ from those posted on the Water Survey of Canada website because different vertical datums are in use. For conversion information please see the most recent flood sheet.

- An inundation map for a portion of the Red River basin has been prepared by the Strategic Policy and Results Sector of Natural Resources Canada using data collected by the Canadian RADARSAT-2 observation satellite. This map is attached to the report and shows inundated areas as of the evening of Friday, April 17.
- Manitoba Infrastructure completed construction of a ramp on PTH 75 on the north side of Morris as part of efforts to keep the highway open for as long as possible. The peak water level on the Red River at Morris will determine if there is a need for a full closure over the next few days.
- Provincial crews are deployed in a number of communities in the Red River Valley preparing for and implementing ring dike closures. Pumping operations are underway at most ring dike communities. Flood response teams are observing recommended public health mitigation measures for COVID-19.

- Partial dike closures are in place at Emerson on both the Noyes and West Lynne dikes, both diked areas remain accessible by road. CN and CP railways are collaborating with provincial staff and attempting to keep rail lines open.
  - A partial dike closure on the east side of Letellier at PR 201 is in place.
  - A partial dike closure is in place on the east end of St. Jean Baptiste, the community remains accessible by PTH 75.
  - A ramped closure on the north side of St. Adolphe at PR 200 is in place. The highway ditches on the south end have been filled in to prevent water from backing up into town.
- The Red River Floodway continues to be operated under Rule 1, reducing water levels in Winnipeg while maintaining water levels upstream of the inlet control structure at or just below natural. Flow in the Floodway channel was 16,647 cfs (471 cms) this morning.
  - The current water level at James Ave is 18.5 feet (5.49 m). Water levels rose overnight as ice on the Assiniboine River continued to break up and moved through the city. With the operation of the Floodway, the Red River level in Winnipeg at James Avenue is expected to peak between 19.0 feet and 19.5 feet between April 21 and April 23.

#### **Assiniboine River Basin**

- The water level on the Shellmouth Dam Reservoir is 1,396.1 feet (425.53 m). Inflow increased to 659 cfs (19 cms) and outflow remain at 25 cfs (0.7 cms). As part of the normal spring operation plan, the next Shellmouth Reservoir Regulation Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Most sections of the lower Assiniboine River are now open. Flow on the lower Assiniboine River is 4,838 cfs (137 cms) and flow down the Portage Diversion channel is currently 1,875 cfs (53 cms). The flow on the Portage Diversion will be decreased over the next couple of days.

#### **Northern Manitoba**

- A minor precipitation event could bring up to 10 mm in central and northern Manitoba, but it will have a minor impact on the flood risk on those areas.
- Temperature forecasts indicate that snow melt could start in late April in northern Manitoba regions, including the Saskatchewan and Carrot Rivers.
- Due to the near normal to slightly lower than normal snow content in many northern Manitoba basins, the rivers are expected to remain within the banks at most locations. The flood risk is generally low for northern Manitoba basins.
- As in previous years, there is a risk of ice pile up and ice jamming that could create a sudden rise of levels on these basins in a short period of time.

#### **Manitoba Lakes**

- Manitoba's major lakes remain largely ice covered. The largest lakes are reported at 80% or greater ice coverage, with some smaller lakes in southern Manitoba showing 50% or greater ice coverage.

- Wind speeds are forecasted to gust NW up to 55 km/hr for today. This could create a risk of ice pile up at south shores of Lake Winnipeg (near Victoria Beach), Lake Manitoba and Dauphin Lake.
- The water levels on Manitoba's major lakes are relatively stable and within normal or desirable ranges. Lake levels will be posted later today at [https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts\\_reports](https://gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/#forecasts_reports).

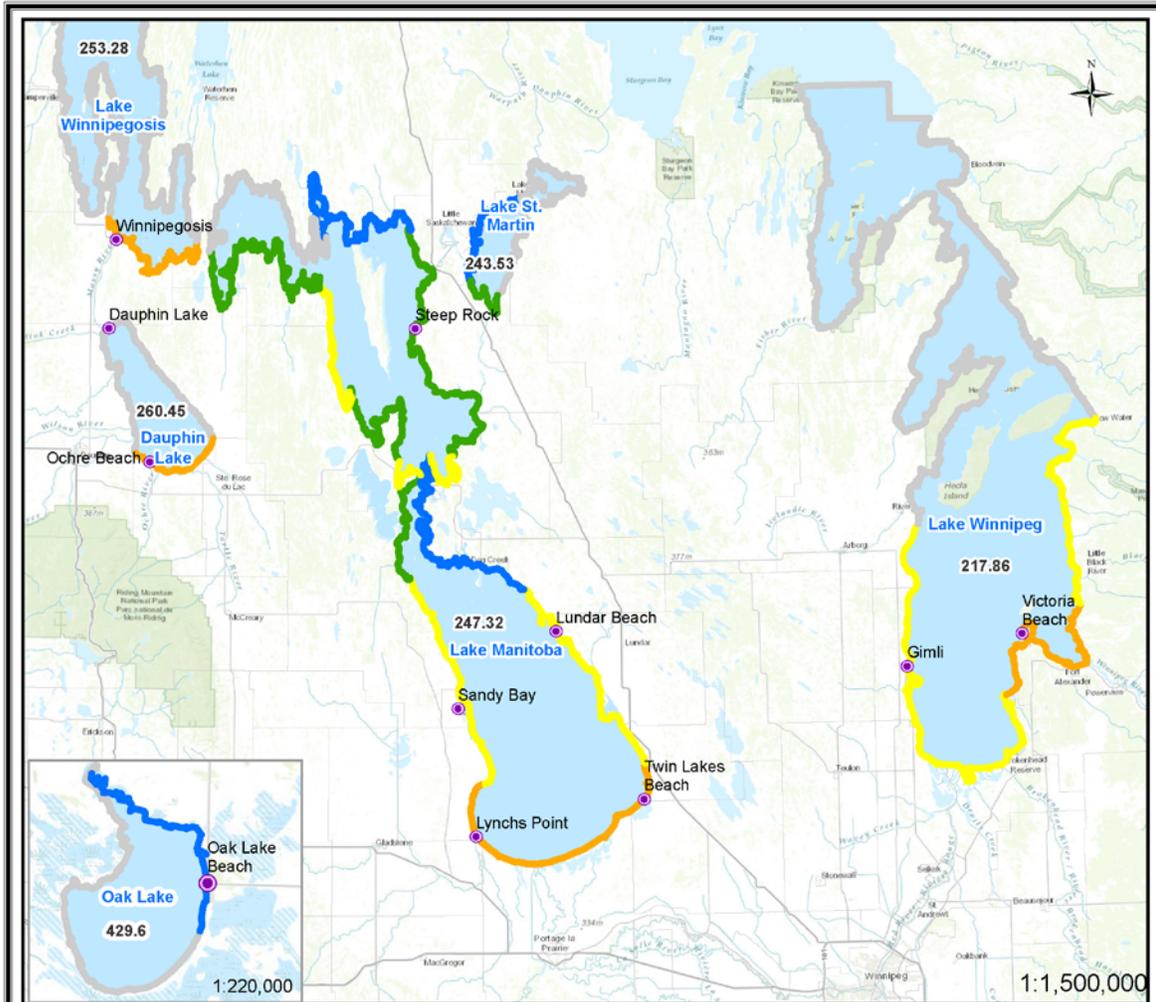
**\*Definitions**

Flood Warning: A flood warning is issued when river or lake levels are exceeding or are expected to be exceeding flood stage within the next 24 hours.

Flood Watch: A flood watch is issued when river or lake levels are approaching and likely to reach flood stage, but likely not within the next 24 hours.

High Water Advisory: A high water advisory is issued when a heavy storm or high flows are expected and may cause water levels to rise, but not necessarily reach flood stage. A high water advisory can be an early indicator for conditions that may lead to a flood watch or flood warning.

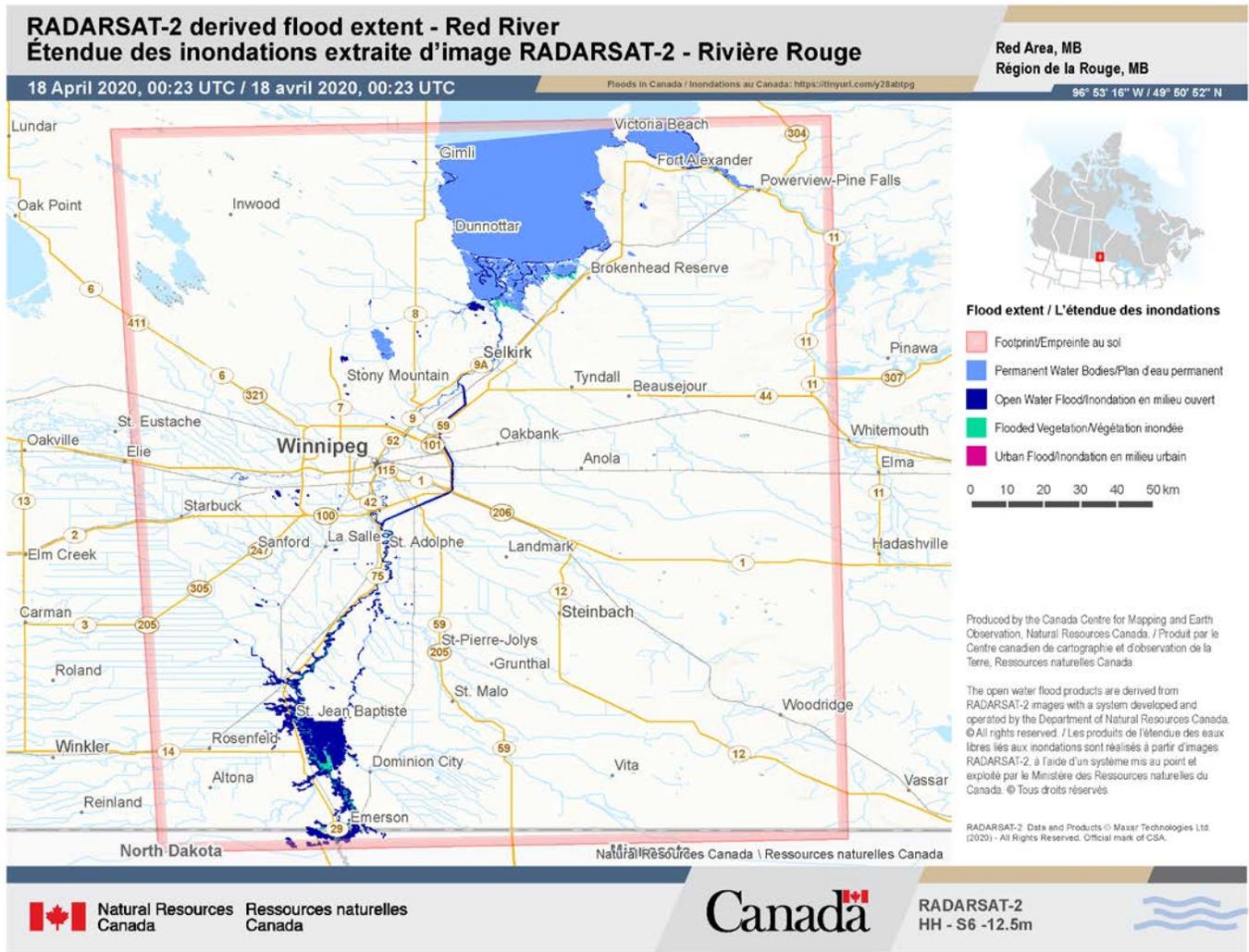
# Manitoba Lake Wind Effect Forecast for April 18 PM, 2020



Location	Ave.Dir.from North (degree)	Ave. Speed (km/h)	Location	Ave.Dir.from North (degree)	Ave. Speed (km/h)	Wind Effect Alert Categories	
Dauphin Lake	N (351)	33	Manitogo area	N (345)	28	Severe	Crest level increase will be greater than 1.5 meters; Wave action will be very significant and forceful.
MB Lake west side - Sandy Bay	N (350)	40	Crane River area	N (344)	26		
MB Lake south side - Twin Beaches	NW (337)	39	Wog Lake - Victoria Beach	N (340)	33	High	Crest level increase will be in a range 0.9 ~ 1.5 meters; Wave action will be significant.
MB Lake middle - Vogar/The Narrows	N (347)	35	Wog Lake - Gimli Beach	N (347)	27		
MB Lake east side - Lunder Beach	N (347)	32	Wog Lake - Alberta Beach	NW (337)	28	Moderate-High	Crest level increase will be in a range 0.6 ~ 0.9 meters; Wave action will be considerable.
Northend 1	N (350)	21	Wog Lake - O'Hanly	NW (337)	25		
Northend 2	N (345)	22	Wog Lake south side	N (345)	31	Moderate	Crest level increase will be in a range 0.3 ~ 0.6 meters; Wave action will be moderate.
Guymer	N (347)	28	Lake Winnipegosis south side	N (353)	28		
The Bluff	N (351)	30	Oak Lake east side community	NW (329)	31	Low	Crest level increase will be less than 0.3 meters; Wave action will be low.
Wapah area	N (351)	32	Oak Lake north side community	NW (329)	31		
Dolly Creek area	N (351)	32	Lake St. Martin north side	N (2)	22	No Alert	Wind set-up and wave action are predicted to be light.
Matheson's Point	N (356)	29	Lake St. Martin west side	N (1)	21		
Sleep rock	N (352)	25	Lake St. Martin southwest side	N (3)	25	No Data	Wind effect data not available.
Fairford area	N (350)	21	Lake St. Martin south Side	N (3)	25		

**Note: All water levels labeled within the lakes are current wind eliminated lake levels provided in meters**  
 Hydrologic Forecasting and Water Management of Manitoba Infrastructure





The flood extent products are derived from satellite images and ancillary data with a system developed and operated by the Strategic Policy and Innovation Sector of Natural Resources Canada © Department of Natural Resources Canada. All rights reserved