

MNRF Water Level Update – October 24, 2016: Water levels are slightly below target for this time of year but we are keeping some space for fall rains as runoff is often amplified by reduced evapotranspiration and saturated soils as we move later into the fall. So far this month we have received about 80mm of rain which is about 30% lower than normal for October in general so far. However, I'm looking at data from the Beatrice climate station which is located about 14km south west of the centre of Lake of Bays so it's quite possible the rain recorded there didn't make it to Lake of Bays given the isolated nature of many rain events.

MNRF Water Level Update – October 13, 2016: The cooperative weather lately has allowed us to follow the target operating levels for most lakes without too much trouble this fall to date. Lake of Bays water levels are currently on target for this time of year. From September 15th to October 15th the operating range on Lake of Bays trends downward as part of the annual fall drawdown. The fall draw down is scheduled to provide optimum conditions for lake trout spawning and egg survival. Lake Muskoka, Rosseau/Joseph, Huntsville, Mary, Tasso, Camp and Kawagama have similar draw down schedules. The drawdown is also creates some storage for fall rains that have typically arrived later in October through November – the lake will rise again as we begin to get more rain through the fall. Discharge from the dam is currently running at about 14cms which is slightly below average based on the period of record from 1942 to present.

