

**VERMONT NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD
WATER RESOURCES PANEL**

RULES DETERMINING MEAN WATER LEVELS

As amended, effective December 30, 2011

"Mean water level" for purposes of 29 V.S.A. §401 and "normal mean water level" for purposes of 10 V.S.A. §1422(8) shall be referenced to National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29), and shall be determined according to the following rules:

Rule 1. For Lake Champlain, the mean water level shall be 95.5 feet NGVD 29.

Rule 2. For those lakes and ponds that have an artificial structure which controls the flow of water at the outlet, the mean water level shall be the elevation of the spillway plus the mean depth of flowage over the spillway as measured during the period June 1 to September 15 or, if water does not consistently flow over the spillway, the mean water level that has customarily maintained during said period.

Rule 3. For those lakes and ponds that have natural outlets, exclusive of Lake Champlain, the mean water level shall be the elevation of the low point in the natural control section plus the mean depth of flowage over it as measured during the period June 1 to September 15.

Rule 4. Rules 2 and 3 above do not apply to lakes and ponds for which the former Water Resources Board or Water Resources Panel has promulgated rules or may in the future promulgate rules pursuant to 10 V.S.A. § 6025(d)(1). For such lakes and ponds the mean water level shall be the highest of any such levels established by the Board or Panel to be maintained during the period June 1 to September 15.

Rule 5. The Department of Environmental Conservation shall collect water level data on lakes and ponds and shall determine mean water levels pursuant to these rules, based on that data, hydrologic or hydraulic analyses, watermarks, or similar data or methods.

**GOVERNING SURFACE LEVELS OF LAKES AND
PONDS WHICH ARE PUBLIC WATERS OF VERMONT
10 V.S.A. § 905(2)**

LAKE OR POND Town/County Date Adopted	SURFACE LEVELS ESTABLISHED Dates - Elevation (datum)	REMARKS
LAKE BOMOSEEN Castleton/Rutland September 7, 1982 Effective: May 5, 1983	All year Maintain at gage zero (0) plus or minus three (3) inches, with the desired level on the plus side in the summer.	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> Town of Castleton <u>Regulating Works:</u> 2- spillways with stop logs 2- gates (1 motorized) <u>Gage 'zero':</u> 0" 409.9' m.s.l. spillway crest</p>
BURR POND Sudbury/Rutland July 26, 1965 Rev. November 17, 1980	All year 498.0' (local datum) 5 Year Drawdown* Commence no earlier than September 15. Replacement of stop logs no later than October 15. Secretary of ANR to receive minimum of two weeks notice and written authorization from Owner of dam if by Agent.	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> Amy Shornstein <u>Operated by:</u> Owner <u>Datum:</u> 498.0' = spillway crest <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section-sill elev. = 496.0' *5 Year Drawdown: No more frequently than once in any consecutive 5 year period except may be lowered to the extent necessary to allow for alterations or repairs to the dam.</p>
LAKE CARM Franklin/Franklin November 25, 1964 July 2, 1970	June 1 - Sept 15 435.48' (m.s.l.) Sept. 15 - June 1 433.69'	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> 435.00' m.s.l. = spillway crest <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section (double column). Top elev. = 436.50' (crest of dam) Sill elev. = 431.00'</p>
COLES POND Walden/Caledonia August 7, 1962	All year 2191.85' (m.s.l.)	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DFW <u>Operated by:</u> VT DFW <u>Datum:</u> 2191.85' m.s.l. = spillway crest <u>Regulating Works:</u> Unregulated spillway (fixed crest weir). Two small drains (capped) <u>Bench Mark:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> metal peg, set in concrete a large outcrop near the outlet: elev. = 2194.65' m.s.l.</p>

<p>CRYSTAL LAKE Barton/Orleans July 14, 1966 January 31, 1967*</p>	<p>All year 944.82' (m.s.l.) Special Water Rights* E.M. Brown & Son, Inc. may draw the lake down no lower than 943.82' for water power use.</p>	<p>Dam Owner: Operated by: Datum: Regulating Works: *Special Water Rights:</p> <p>VT DEC VT DEC 944.82' m.s.l. = low flow crest of spillway Unregulated stepped spillway One gate (hand operated) Non transferable. Terminates should Brown no longer make use of water power.</p>
<p>LAKE EDEN Eden/Lamoille February 6, 1959</p>	<p>June 1 - Sept. 15 maintain substantially at 14" below spillway crest. Remainder of year may be manipulated for fisheries purposes after written notification by DFW to Water Resources Board*</p>	<p>Dam Owner: Operated by: Datum: Regulating Works: *Manipulation:</p> <p>VT DFW VT DFW Spillway crest Stop log section (4' deep) double section WRB notified by DFW on 3/2/60 that it will manipulate water level each spring to control perch reproduction</p>
<p>GREAT HOSMER POND Craftsbury/Orleans March 29, 1954</p>	<p>No Rules Adopted Trial period ordered by WRB in 1954. Water level to be allowed to fluctuate naturally with top of stop logs set at 1.1' below East abutment of dam. (1.5' below West abutment). No end to trial period stated.* Practice has been to try to keep water level at -1.1' since 1954.</p>	<p>Dam Owner: Operated by: Datum: Regulating Works:</p> <p>VT DEC VT DEC East abutment of dam Stop logs Trial period stop log elevation noted in R.W. Thieme's letter to Fenton Chester 10/20/64. Not given in WRB's Findings of Fact dated 3/29/54.</p>
<p>LAKE GROTON Groton/Caledonia December 16, 1965- Rev. 10/10/78 Rev. 03/14/85</p>	<p>Temporary Drawdown May be annual temporary lowering of water level as much as 10"; must occur during the month of November-also, may be lowered to the extent necessary to allow for maintenance of the dam. Drawdowns must be approved and under the supervision of ANR or his/her designee. 5 Year Drawdown 10 cfs refill calendar year 0 + 5 2nd Tuesday after Labor Day, 3' drawdown; 21 days later start refill to normal winter level, 10 cfs min.</p>	<p>Dam Owner: Operated by: Datum: Regulating Works:</p> <p>VT DEC VT DEC 1077.1' m.s.l. = spillway crest. Stop logs (double column). Sill elevation = 1072.0' m.s.</p>

<p>HARVEYS LAKE Barnet/Caledonia September 18, 1970</p>	<p><u>No rules in effect. Trial period expired.</u> <u>Trial Period (9/70-9/73)</u> May 15 - Sept. 15 at spillway crest Sept. 15 - Oct. 15 1.0 to 2.5' below spillway crest Oct. 15 to onset of spring runoff not less than 1.0' below spillway crest - dam should be managed to prevent damage from spring runoff</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> Town of Barnet <u>Operated by:</u> Town of Barnet <u>Datum:</u> Spillway crest (low flow section) 892.28' m.s.l. per R.M. Downer <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop logs: sill elevation = 888.5' m.s.l.; sluice gate; and fish ladder <u>Trial Period:</u> Expired Sept. 1973</p>
<p>LAKE HORTONIA Hubbardton/Rutland February 1, 1955</p>	<p>All year Water level variation not to exceed 2.5' <u>Note:</u> Variation is not referenced to any elevation. Order says DFW to provide a plan to maintain levels within 2.5' after new dam was built (1955)</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DFW <u>Operated by:</u> VT DFW <u>Datum:</u> Spillway crest = 487.50' (local) <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop logs section. 24" drain</p>
<p>KEISER POND Peacham/Caledonia April 16, 1964</p>	<p>May 1 - Sept. 15 94.0' (local) Sept. 15 - May 1 may be lowered below 94.0' by DFW as necessary</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DFW <u>Operated by:</u> VT DFW <u>Datum:</u> Crest of low flow spillway section 94.25' <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section (single col)</p>
<p>LITTLE HOSMER POND Craftsbury/Orleans October 16, 1968</p>	<p>All year 1065.7' (local)</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Crest of low flow spillway section 1066.5' <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section: sill elev. 1062.5'</p>
<p>MILES POND Concord/Essex March 18, 1969</p>	<p>May 15 - Oct. 15 98.50' (local) Oct. 15 - May 15 96.50' to 97.00' <u>Temporary Drawdown</u> Temporary lowering of level for maintenance, cleanup, etc. at a time mutually agreeable to majority of affected parties and upon written direction of WRB</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Spillway crest = 99.00' <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section (double col)</p>
<p>LAKE MOREY Fairlee/Orange December 20, 1954</p>	<p><u>No Rules Adopted.</u> Trial period ordered by WRB in 1954. Summer 32" (415.65' m.s.l.) above floor of main outlet Winter about October 15 lower to desirable winter level. (Exact date to be agreeable to Lake Morey Protective Assn. & WRB.)</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Spillway floor = 412.98' m.s.l. <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section <u>Bench Mark:</u> TBM - NE corner of top of west wall at spillway (opposite stop logs) 419.35' m.s.l.</p>

<p>LAKE PARKER Glover/Orleans November 6, 1974 Amended Jan. 10, 1975)</p>	<p>Normal camping season 97.4' (local) Water Level Manipulation Normal camping season - only with approval of Secretary ANR. Non-camping season - Secretary ANR may order Town of Glover to manipulate levels for fisheries management</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> Town of Glover <u>Operated by:</u> Town of Glover <u>Datum:</u> Low flow spillway crest = 97.3' <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section. Sill elev. 94.0' <u>Bench Mark:</u> TBM - □ in concrete at southerly end of stop log section = 98.4' (local)</p>
<p>PERCH POND Beuson/Rutland June 4, 1965</p>	<p>May 1 - Oct. 1 99.4' (local) Oct. 1 - May 1 DFW may draw down to minimum of 97.0'</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DFW <u>Operated by:</u> VT DFW <u>Datum:</u> Spillway crest = 100.0' per revised plans* <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section. Sill elev. = 97.5' per field inspection.* *Note: As built may not agree with plans.</p>
<p>LAKE SADA WGA Whittingham/Windham September 18, 1964</p>	<p>May 1 - Oct. 1 96.2' (local) Oct. 1 - May 1 92.2' minimum for fisheries management</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DFW <u>Operated by:</u> VT DFW <u>Datum:</u> Top of I-beam imbedded in spillway 100.0' <u>Regulating Works:</u> 2 spillways, low flow crest elev. 96.2' 1 drain (42")</p>
<p>SILVER LAKE Barnard/Windsor June 7, 1968 Amended effective December 30, 2011</p>	<p>For 2011 - 2014 Summer recreation season 1307.5' National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD 29) Winter season 1306.0' NGVD 29 The lake shall be drawn down and allowed to refill in accordance with the following schedule: a. For 2011 and 2012 1. Stoplogs in the principal spillway section at Silver Lake Dam will be restored to an elevation so that the lake level will be 1307.5 feet NGVD 29 by May 15. 2. Stoplogs will be removed to an elevation so that the lake level will be 1306.0 feet NGVD 29 after October 15. 3. Removal and restoration of stoplogs will be at the discretion of the State of Vermont Dam Safety Engineer and may be instituted during times of concern regarding</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Top SE corner of drop inlet of principal spillway = 1310.0' m.s.l. <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop logs structures</p>

	<p>public health and safety.</p> <p>b. For 2013</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stoplogs in the principal spillway section at Silver Lake Dam will be restored to an elevation so that the lake level will be 1307.5 feet NGVD 29 by May 15. 2. Stoplogs will be removed to an elevation so that the lake level will be 1306.0 feet NGVD 29 after Labor Day to allow for recapping of the concrete pier at Silver Lake State Park and to allow shoreline owners to take necessary steps to prevent their properties from possible ice damage; 3. Removal and restoration of stoplogs will be at the discretion of the State of Vermont Dam Safety Engineer and may be instituted during times of concern regarding public health and safety. <p>c. For 2014 and following years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stoplogs in the principal spillway section at Silver Lake Dam will be restored to an elevation so that the lake level will be 1307.5 feet NGVD 29 by May 15, 2014. 2. Winter drawdown will be suspended; principal spillway crest will be maintained at a fixed elevation so that the lake level will be 1307.5 feet NGVD 29. 3. Restoration of stoplogs in 2014 will be at the discretion of the State of Vermont Dam Safety Engineer if a delay is warranted based on public health and safety concerns. 	
<p>SUNRISE LAKE Benson/Rutland October 9, 1963</p> <p>SUNSET LAKE Benson/Rutland October 9, 1963</p>	<p><u>No Rules Adopted.</u></p> <p>Findings of Fact - No Order</p> <p><u>No Rules Adopted.</u></p> <p>Findings of Fact - No Order</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> BSA <u>Operated by:</u> BSA <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop logs in spillway section</p> <p><u>Dam Owner:</u> none <u>Operated by:</u> none <u>Regulating Works:</u> Unregulated concrete weir</p>

<p>LAKE WILLOUGHBY Westmore/Orleans November 23, 1954</p>	<p><u>No Rules in Effect. Trial Period Expired</u> <u>Trial Period</u> Summer & Fall 1954 1168.7' (m.s.l.)</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Floor original spillway = 1168.04' <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log sections</p>
<p>WOLCOTT POND Wolcott/Lamoille September 19, 1968</p>	<p>All year 100.00' (local) <u>Temporary Drawdown</u> Temporary lowering below 100.00' at a mutually agreeable time of majority of affected parties, and written authorization by WRB.</p>	<p><u>Dam Owner:</u> VT DEC <u>Operated by:</u> VT DEC <u>Datum:</u> Crest of spillway and overflow structure = 100.1' (local) <u>Regulating Works:</u> Stop log section sill <u>Bench Mark:</u> BM on concrete base at boat launch area = 105.60'</p>