

2020 Wasa Water Report  
by Wasa Lake Land Improvement District (WLLID)

The Wasa Lake Land Improvement District (WLLID) monitors the lake and Kootenay River water levels on a daily basis from late April to early September. These numbers are recorded as meters above sea level (masl).

Recreational lake users have enjoyed loads of cold clean water over the past couple of months.

Higher than average snowpack in the Kootenay National Park (Floe Lake 127% of normal), early spring rains and warm temperatures all contributed to a water level not seen since 2017 (769.44 masl, June 18 – 20). The lake has been higher, most notably in 2012-2013 when water peaked over 770 masl.

This year, the lake level started its rise in late-April and picked up steam in mid-May. The water level rose a total of 2.91 meters reaching a peak of 769.42 masl, June 28 – 30. Last year, the max level, 768.05 masl.

The big surge in lake level started 2 June when 23cm of water poured in. But, that wasn't the largest one day increase, it occurred the next day when the water rose another 40cm (767.84 masl). Over the next six days (June 4 to 9<sup>th</sup>) the lake climbed 1.16 meters to 769.00 masl. That's almost 19.5 cm's per day (7.7 inches).

As of July 15<sup>th</sup>, the lake level was at 768.99 masl. The water has stayed above this level for over a month.

In three days (May 30 to June 2), the Kootenay River rose 2.29 meters topping out around 771.50 masl. This sudden increase drove the lake to this year's height. On July 15<sup>th</sup>, the Kootenay River level was at 768.00 masl.

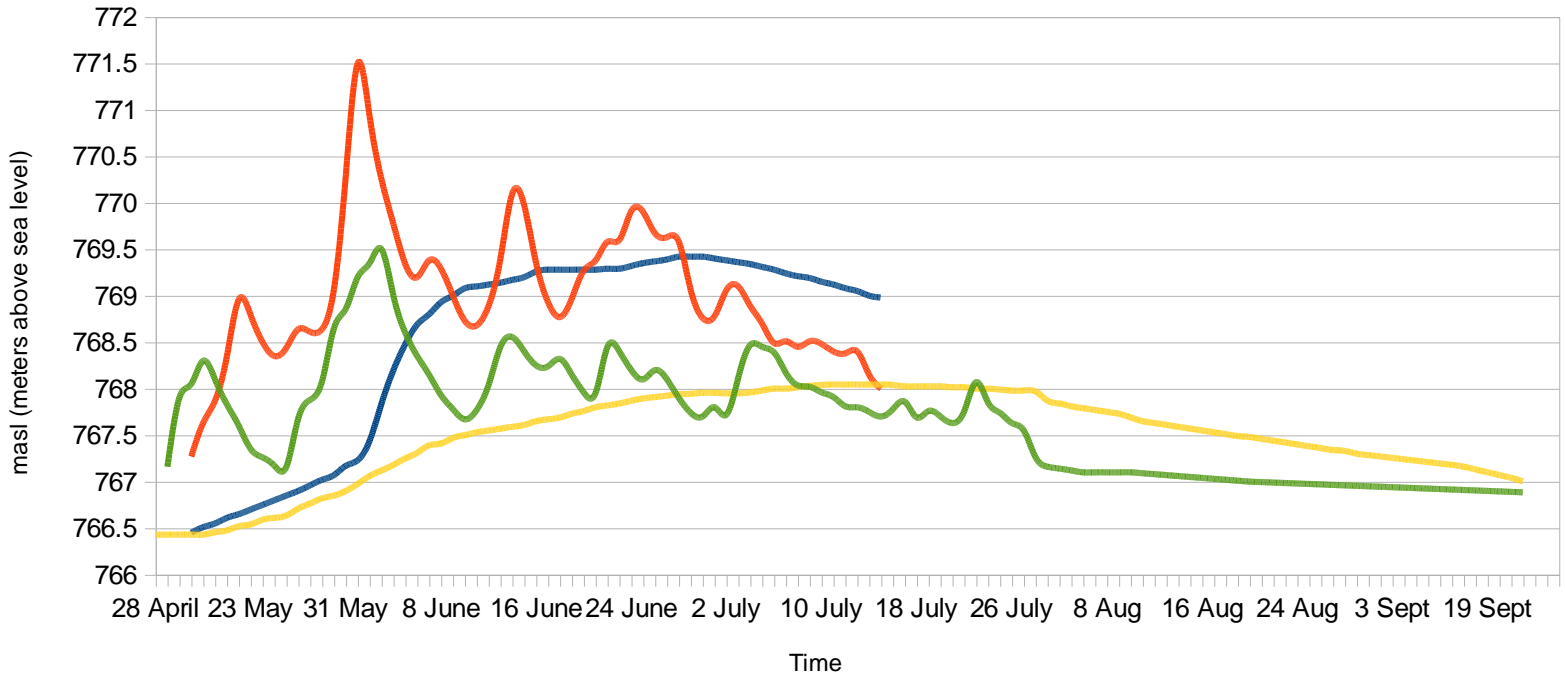
The attached graph shows the lake and river levels compared to 2019. This is the second year WLLID has had surveyed river level data since 2012.

The collecting and analyzing of Kootenay River, Wasa lake and snow pack levels is used to assess the possibility of major flooding at Wasa, i.e. 2012 & 2013.

WLLID provides water information to lake residents so they can prepare for high water, especially those who have experienced flood damage in the past.

15 July 2020

### Wasa Lake & Kootenay River Water Levels (2020)



— 2020 Lake masl (Metres above sea level) — 2020 K. River (masl)  
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