



Coalition for
Equitable
Water Flow

CEWF Priorities for 2017

What is the CEWF?

The **Coalition for Equitable Water Flow, (CEWF)**, is a coalition of 32 Member Lake Associations which includes 91% of the Trent Severn Waterway's (TSW's) reservoir lake storage capacity and covers the sub-watersheds of the Gull, Burnt & Mississauga Rivers plus Nogies, Eel's & Jack's creeks. The Coalition aims to represent the interests of 35,000+ shoreline property owners in the "Haliburton Sector" of the Trent watershed, which includes 35 reservoir and several flow-through (RaFT) lakes in Haliburton County and northern Peterborough County. The CEWF was originally formed in 2006 to provide input to **the Panel on the Future of the Trent Severn Waterway**. Since then, the mandate has evolved to provide effective liaison between the Coalition members and the TSW on issues of water conservation and management. In early 2016 the CEWF concluded an agreement with the six local municipalities covering the RaFT lakes area, the Township of Algonquin Highlands, the Municipality of Dysart et.al., the Municipality of Minden Hills, the Municipality of Highlands East, the Township of North Kawartha, and the Municipality of Trent Lakes, to form **the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership (UTWMP)** to speak with a single voice at the federal, provincial and Trent Watershed levels on water management issues affecting the RaFT lakes. The Coalition is led by a nine member Executive Committee.

CEWF's Objectives

- To promote an **Integrated Approach to Water Management at the Watershed Level** that will improve water conservation throughout the Trent-Severn system while recognizing the environmental, public safety, social and socio-economic constraints of managing the water resource.
- To maintain **dialogue with TSW management** to ensure improved understanding of local issues and management of water levels and flows in the RaFT lakes.
- To promote **shared information and knowledge** of water management issues and practices watershed-wide across the Canal lakes, and the RaFT lakes.
- To promote approaches to ensure safe navigation, access to waterfront property, economic sustainability and the avoidance of negative environmental and economic impacts for residents on the RaFT lakes.

Coalition for Equitable Water Flow - Haliburton Sector, TSW
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CEWF Priorities for 2017

- CEWF's top priority will continue to be advocating for an Integrated Approach to Water Management at the Watershed level. CEWF will support the restructuring of the Water Management Advisory Council of the TSW as a key step in advancing this agenda. CEWF will continue to advocate for the development and acquisition of improved constraint based water operations and planning models.
- CEWF will continue to work with TSW management and in particular the new water management engineer to build on the excellent water management experience in the drought of 2016 which saw the interests of all parts of the system recognized in the water conservation effort.
- CEWF will work with the new water management team to ensure the transfer of knowledge of reservoir and flow-through lake issues including; preferred water levels, flood management, ice-damage, low water issues and constraints, winter set levels, and fisheries and other environmental constraints.
- CEWF will work with TSW to develop a plan to undertake a basin wide study of climate change with the goal of developing a modified water management plan to adapt to the changing conditions. Depending on the response from TSW, CEWF will consider undertaking to develop a proposed framework for this study. Such a framework could be based on the recent experience in Muskoka as well as inputs from MNRF and the Conservation Authorities.
- CEWF will continue to monitor the TSW Capital program in the RaFT lakes area, provide regular updates to our members, and ensure the participation of our member associations in project consultations as appropriate.
- CEWF will continue to meet and work with member lake associations to raise the level of understanding of water management issues with an emphasis on recent extreme weather patterns (floods, droughts and ice damage) and their apparent relationship to the medium term climate change predictions for the RaFT lakes area.
- CEWF will build on our initial positive experience in the Upper Trent Water Management Partnership to explore opportunities for collaboration with municipalities, MNRF and TSW for further data collection including the proposed LIDAR mapping initiative, water resource related economic impact data, the proposed Minden Hills flood studies, and lake specific fisheries data. With UTWMP we will work towards improved water management communications in our local communities.



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CEWF Executive Committee Members 2016

Ted Spence, Catchacoma Lake, Chair,
Bruce McClennan, Gull Lake, Vice Chair,
Roger Cunningham, White Lake, Secretary/Treasurer
Geoff Byford, Mountain Lake
Bill Cornfield, Horseshoe Lake,
David Lean, Jack's Lake,
Chris Riddle, Kennisis Lake,
Martin Rist, Drag & Spruce Lakes,
Jim Wilson, Twelve Mile Lake