



Horseshoe & Twelve Mile Lake Dams

Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site Construction Contract Awarded

February 27, 2019 - Following a competitive procurement process, the construction contract to complete the Horseshoe Lake Dam and replace the Twelve Mile Lake Dam has now been awarded to Eiffage Innovative Canada Inc. These dams are located near the community of Minden, Ontario, and are part of the Gull River watershed.

Over the winter months, the projects were re-tendered together as a package with the goal of achieving efficiencies in completing the work. Work will begin after the spring melt, and after the fish spawning window is completed at each site; in-water work may begin at Twelve Mile Lake Dam in May 2019, and at Horseshoe Lake Dam at the end of July 2019. More information regarding the schedule of work will be released as it becomes available.



Parks Canada engineers and dam operators on-site to inspect stoplogs being lowered into a brand new sluice at Horseshoe Lake Dam. (February 2018)

Twelve Mile Lake Dam

Parks Canada will replace the Twelve Mile Lake Dam with one that improves both public safety and operator efficiency. The replacement will include shifting the spillways eastward to enhance the dam's capacity to pass water, as well as improvements to its abutments and surrounding embankments. New guardrails, safety booms and increased signage will enhance public safety. Additionally, as part of the project, the pedestrian bridge upstream of the dam will be removed as it is in an advanced state of disrepair.

A previous contract to replace the Twelve Mile Lake Dam was terminated due to challenges in the staging process. Those challenges have now been addressed and adjusted in the current scope of work.

Horseshoe Lake Dam

As a part of a previous contract, work toward the replacement of the Horseshoe Lake Dam has already been completed. This included two new piers and one full sluice with a concrete deck (pictured), a visitor area with improved pedestrian access, and an employee parking area. Work will now continue on the completion of the remaining three sluices. Permanent railings and signage will also be installed for operator and public safety.

The previous phase of construction at the Horseshoe Lake Dam experienced continued challenges in maintaining a dry construction site. That combined with above average water flows and levels throughout the winter and summer of 2017 contributed to delays in the project. In the interest of public safety and flood mitigation, and with water management and the spring melt requirements at the fore, Parks Canada made the decision to re-phase the construction work, close the construction contract, and re-tender the remainder of the project.

Water Management

The Horseshoe Lake Dam and the Twelve Mile Lake Dam are adjacent within the watershed and dependent on one another. Work will be sequenced so that water can be managed appropriately through dam sluices or temporary bypass structures, and water levels on upstream and downstream watercourses will not be impacted by construction. The overall water management strategy will not change during construction.

For More Information

To receive email updates regarding this project, please contact us at Ont.TrentSevern@pc.gc.ca and include "Horseshoe Lake Dam" or "Twelve Mile Lake Dam" in the subject heading. For news about this or other infrastructure projects in your area, please visit www.parkscanada.gc.ca/tswHaliburton.