

HIGHLAND LAKE FIVE-YEAR WATER LEVEL POLICY

YEAR	TARGET DEPTH	GATE OPEN/ BEGIN DRAW	PUBLIC WORKS ACTION
2022/2023	36 inches down	November 1	Maintain 36-inch level, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level (approx. 11.9)
2023/2024	48 inches down	November 1	Regulate gate to prevent level going below 48 inches down. If gate is not already closed, must close gate on December 15 and allow the water to rise to the level of 36 inches, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level (approx. 11.9)
2024/2025	36 inches down	November 1	Maintain 36-inch level, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level (approx. 11.9)
2025/2026	Maximum of 84 inches down	October 1	Regulate gate to prevent level going below 84 inches down. If gate is not already closed, must close gate on December 30 and allow the water to rise to the level of 36 inches, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level (approx. 11.9)
2026/2027	36 inches down	November 1	Maintain 36-inch level, as much as possible, until ice is sufficiently off the lake. Then allow refill to usual over-spillway level (approx. 11.9)

The Water Level Committee will review the drawdown proposal annually and determine if adjustments will need to be made based on precipitation levels, aquatic problems, dam maintenance and other public works issues that might arise and interfere with drawdowns.

Draw is for shoreline maintenance while retaining water in the coves before ice to prevent formation of floating bogs and for recreational access to the frozen surface of the lake. The Board of Selectmen in conjunction with the Water Level Committee reserve the right to postpone or revise the schedule depending on environmental conditions that might warrant it.