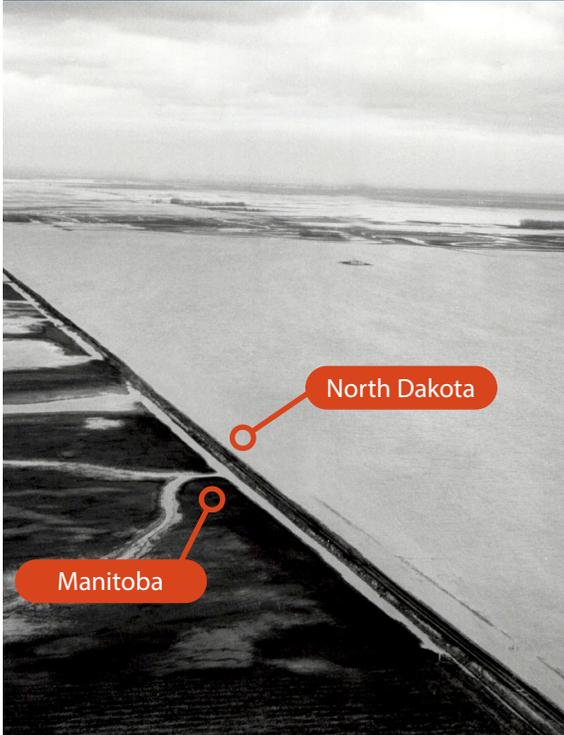




PEMBINA BORDER DIKE

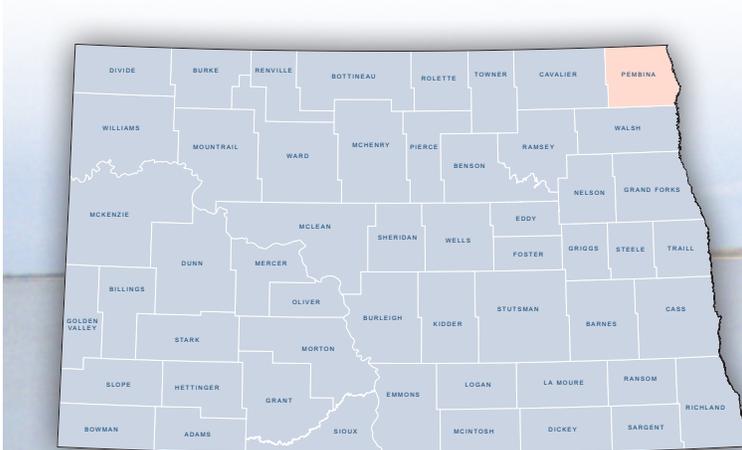


Background

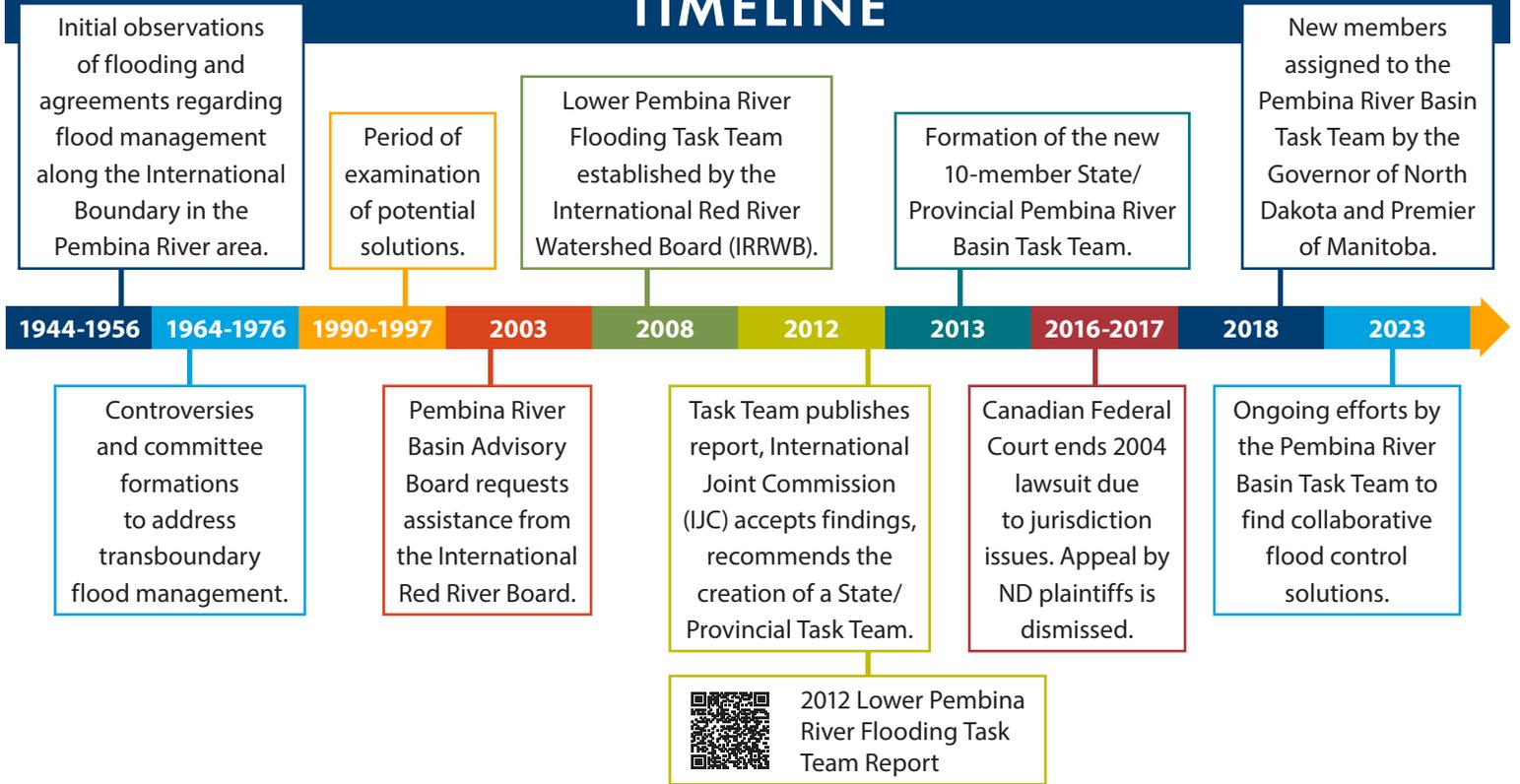
Spring floods are a recurring natural event in the Pembina River watershed, a tributary that flows into the Red River and spans the international border between Canada and the United States. The most significant flooding is concentrated along a 35 mile stretch extending from the Pembina Escarpment at Walhalla to the Red River. This area has been a focal point for over seven decades due to a unilateral dike, referred to as the Pembina Border Dike, constructed on the Manitoba side of the border, leading to transboundary disputes and tensions. Various levels of government, including federal, state, provincial, and local authorities have undertaken numerous initiatives over the years to seek solutions for managing transboundary floods, but none have proven successful at this point.¹

As depicted in the photo examples, the Pembina Border Dike increases water levels on the North Dakota side of the border, causing damage to crops, roads, and properties. This is a complex and sensitive issue that affects both countries, and North Dakota is committed to working with Canadian counterparts to find a mutually beneficial solution that respects the rights and interests of all parties involved.

¹ Legault, L.H., Baldini, T.L., Gourd, R., Bayh, S.B., Murphy, C.F., Chamberlin, A. (2000). Living with the Red. A Report to the Governments of Canada and the United States on Reducing Flood Impacts in the Red River Basin.



TIMELINE



POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

The State of North Dakota Department of Water Resources remains committed to identifying and implementing solutions to this ongoing trans-boundary issue/dispute.



REMOVAL OF THE ROAD/DIKE

Take down the road/dike as to allow the natural flow of water and to prevent flood damages that occur in North Dakota due to the dike.

1

ND PREFERRED



CONSTRUCT A FLOODWAY

Install a floodway that would extend to the Red River in Manitoba to help dispel floodwaters from the area.

2

ALTERNATIVE



EASEMENTS & BUYOUTS

Potential easements and buyouts for affected landowners. Landowners would need to be supportive of this alternative. Further details are necessary to understand how this proposal could be implemented.

3

ALTERNATIVE



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Water Resources



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