

"The Commission noted that the Project would have an adverse impact on the waterfowl resources in Manitoba, but it concluded that this adverse effect would be largely offset by the implementation of a wetland habitat restoration concept. This would provide that areas lost to drainage and construction would be replaced by many small wetland complexes which would use natural inflows rather than water supplied by the Garrison Project.

"The Commission has taken note of the Study Board's frequent references to the uncertainties of their findings and predictions, especially as to the expected concentrations of nitrogen, based on the use of mathematical models. Therefore, the Commission further concluded that it is mandatory to verify both the quality and quantity of return flows from the project, and to determine by research the ultimate fate of nitrogen in the Souris River before there is irrigation development in the Souris River area.

"The Commission's Study Board assumed that "best management practices" would be used by farmers in North Dakota. The Commission is uncertain that the Board's assumption is valid at this time. The IJC report states that best management practices should be required by law and duly monitored.

"Finally, the Commission concluded that the two Governments should negotiate appropriate water quality agreements for the Souris and Red Rivers.

"Commissioner Bernard Beaupré, while in general agreement with the majority of conclusions stated in the report, differs with some significant aspects of the rationale cited as the basis for those conclusions; in particular, he differs with the approach taken by the Commission in the setting up of a Water Quality Agreement."

-- The Commission, further, made to governments three recommendations flowing from its conclusions. The full text of these recommendations is attached.