INTERNATIONAL SOURIS RIVER STUDY 2021

2011

Communities throughout the Souris River Basin experience unrelenting rainfall and record flooding.

June 2013

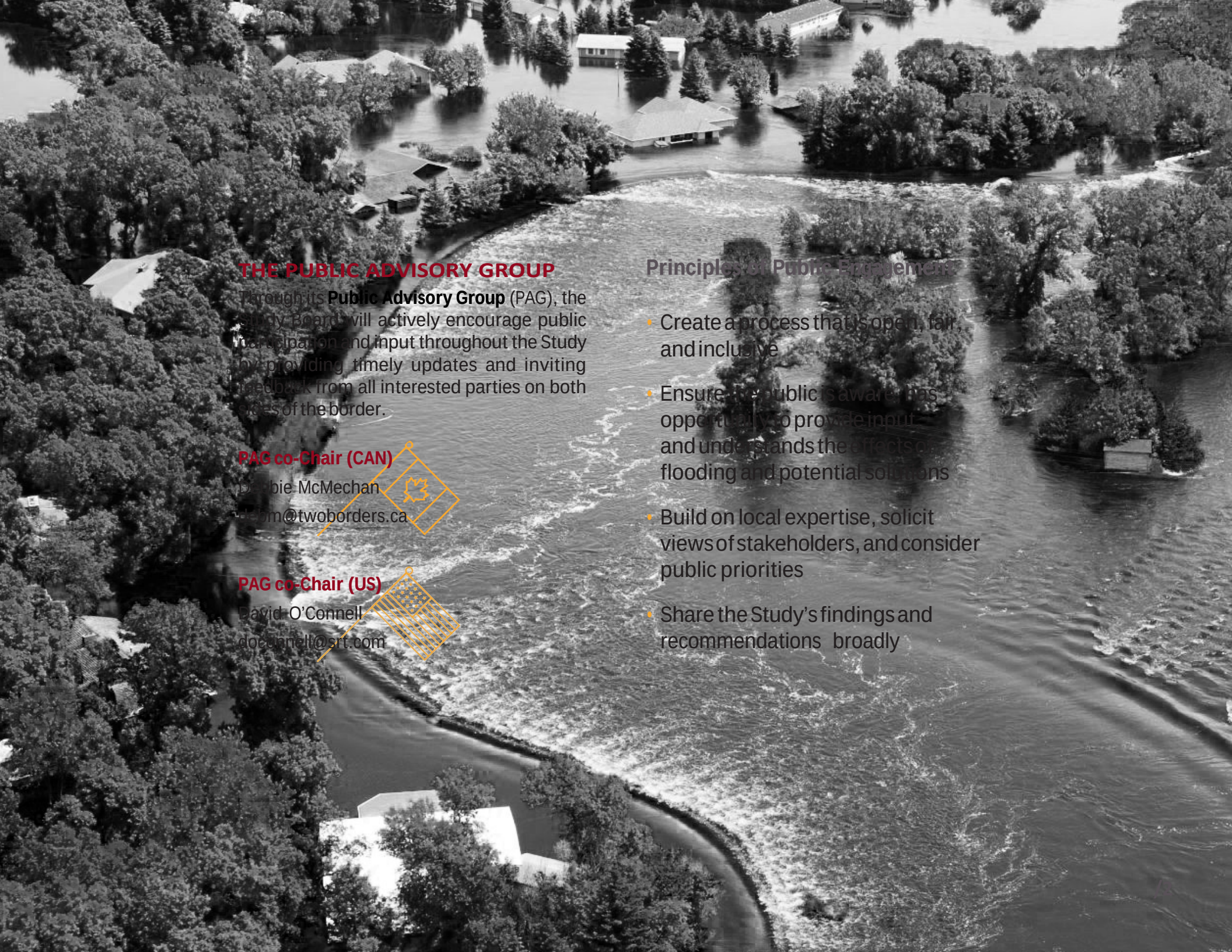
The International Joint Commission (IJC) submitted to governments a **Plan of Study** to review the operating plan of the 1989 International Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States of America (Annex A).

July 2017

Governments responded with a request that the IJC evaluate and make recommendations regarding the operating plan in the 1989 Agreement, as well as additional flood protection and water supply measures.

September 2017

The IJC established the International Souris River Study Board, with an equal number of members from each country, to carry out the terms of the **reference** and deliver its recommendations in early 2021.



THE PUBLIC ADVISORY GROUP

Through its **Public Advisory Group** (PAG), the Study Board will actively encourage public participation and input throughout the Study by providing timely updates and inviting feedback from all interested parties on both sides of the border.

PAG co-Chair (CAN)

Debbie McMechan

debbie@twoborders.ca

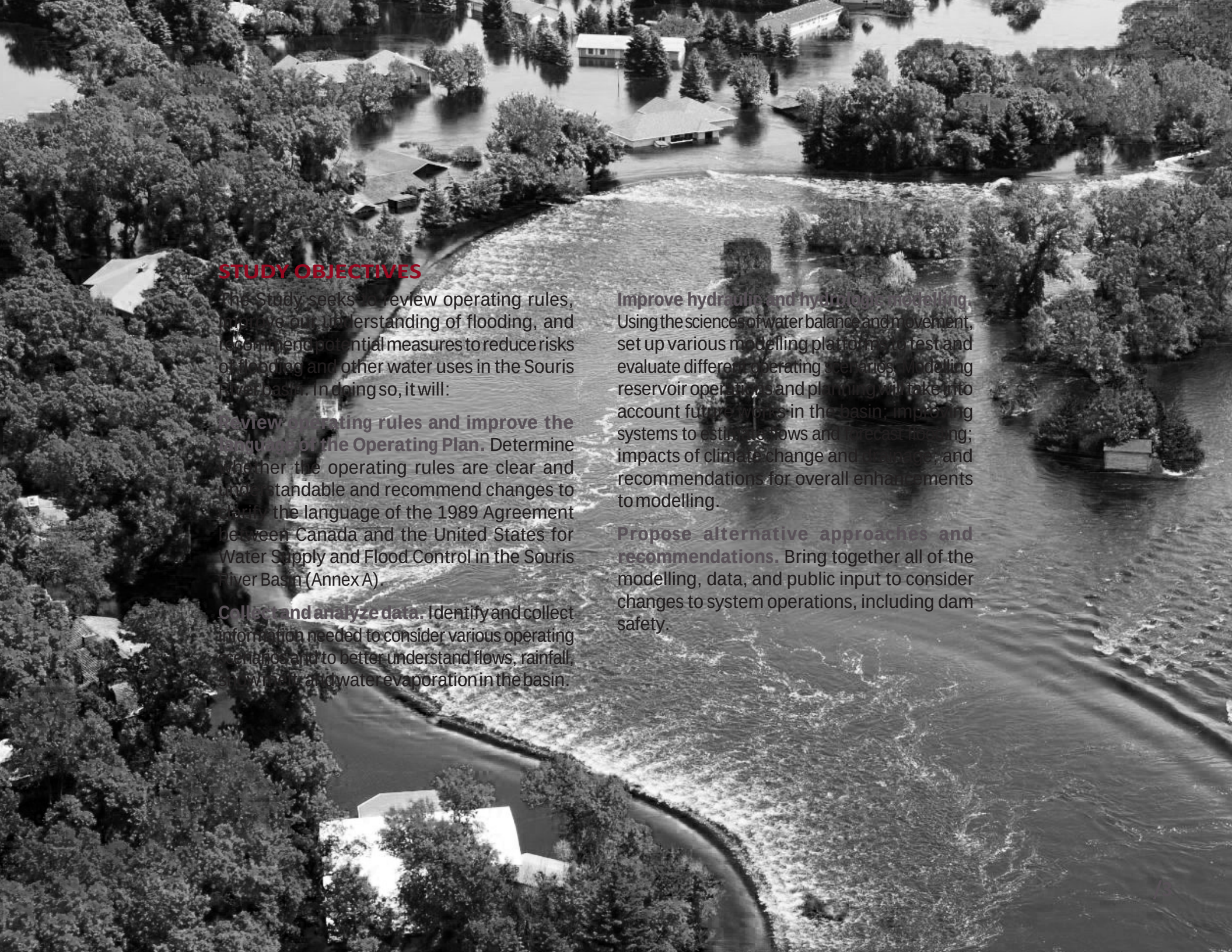
PAG co-Chair (US)

David O'Connell

doconnell@srt.com

Principles of Public Engagement

- Create a process that is open, fair, and inclusive
- Ensure the public is aware of the opportunity to provide input and understands the effects of flooding and potential solutions
- Build on local expertise, solicit views of stakeholders, and consider public priorities
- Share the Study's findings and recommendations broadly



STUDY OBJECTIVES

The Study seeks to review operating rules, improve our understanding of flooding, and recommend potential measures to reduce risks of flooding and other water uses in the Souris River basin. In doing so, it will:

Review operating rules and improve the language in the Operating Plan. Determine whether the operating rules are clear and understandable and recommend changes to clarify the language of the 1989 Agreement between Canada and the United States for Water Supply and Flood Control in the Souris River Basin (Annex A).

Collect and analyze data. Identify and collect information needed to consider various operating scenarios and to better understand flows, rainfall, snowmelt, and water evaporation in the basin.

Improve hydraulic and hydrologic modelling. Using the sciences of water balance and movement, set up various modelling platforms to test and evaluate different operating scenarios, modelling reservoir operations and planning will take into account future works in the basin; improving systems to estimate flows and forecast flooding; impacts of climate change and drainage; and recommendations for overall enhancements to modelling.

Propose alternative approaches and recommendations. Bring together all of the modelling, data, and public input to consider changes to system operations, including dam safety.

LEARN MORE, PARTICIPATE AND STAY CONNECTED

Online:

Visit ijc.org/en/**isrsb** and sign up to receive Study news, such as notices of public meetings, consultations, reports and other publications.

Email:

Got a question or a comment?

SourisRiverStudy@ottawa.ijc.org

SocialMedia:

Public Meeting, February 2018, Minot, ND

International Souris River Study Board

ijc.org/en/isrsb

Nearly 435 miles (700 km) in length, the Souris River originates in Saskatchewan, passes through North Dakota and crosses into Manitoba before joining the Assiniboine River.