

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WEEKLY GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL UPDATE

Jul 13, 2018

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The last week has been cooler than the prior week with normal summertime temperatures for most of the basin. Many areas did see a day well above normal temperatures over the weekend or early this week before returning to near normal temperatures. The cold front that brought some temperature relief failed to bring significant rainfall for much of the basin with below average precipitation reported for most of Great Lakes watershed. The Minnesota and Wisconsin shorelines along Lake Superior and the Keweenaw Peninsula were notable exceptions to the dry weather. Temperatures over the next week will typically see a few days above average before they moderate toward normal early next week. Some rainfall is expected to accompany the cooler weather with above average weekly rainfall totals. Most of the basin should expect to receive between 0.5 and 1.0 inches with some areas receiving over 2 inches of rainfall.

LAKE LEVEL CONDITIONS

All of the Great Lakes remain above their long-term average levels for July. Lake Superior has risen 5 inches in the last 30 days thanks to some very heavy rains in the middle of June while Lakes Michigan-Huron and St. Clair are about the same level as they were a month ago. Lake Erie and Lake Ontario have both begun to decline as is typical in the summer with declines of 2 and 5 inches respectively. Lake Superior is expected to rise another inch over the next month while the remaining lakes are expected to decline. Lake Michigan-Huron is expected to drop an inch while Lakes St. Clair, Erie, and Ontario are forecasted to fall 3, 4, and 1 inch respectively. See our [Daily Levels](#) web page for more water level information.

FORECASTED MONTHLY OUTFLOWS/CHANNEL CONDITIONS

Lake Superior's outflow into the St. Marys River and Lake Michigan-Huron's outflow into the St. Clair River are predicted to be above average in July. Lake St. Clair's outflow through the Detroit River and Lake Erie's outflow through the Niagara River are also projected to be above average as well. Likewise, Lake Ontario's outflow through the St. Lawrence River is predicted to be above average for July.

ALERTS

Official records are based on monthly average water levels and not daily water levels. Users of the Great Lakes, connecting channels and St. Lawrence River should keep informed of current conditions before undertaking any activities that could be affected by changing water levels. Mariners should utilize navigation charts and refer to current water level readings.

	SUPERIOR	MICH-HURON	ST. CLAIR	ERIE	ONTARIO
Forecasted Water Level for Jul 13, 2018 (feet)	602.56	580.64	576.48	573.59	246.36
Chart Datum (feet)	601.10	577.50	572.30	569.20	243.30
Difference from chart datum (inches)	+18	+38	+50	+53	+37
Difference from average water level for Jun 13, 2018 (inches*)	+5	0	0	-2	-5
Difference from average water level for Jul 13, 2017 (inches*)	-4	0	0	+1	-24
Difference from long-term monthly average of Jul (inches)	+6	+16	+20	+20	+4
Difference from highest monthly average of record for Jul (inches)	-6	-16	-9	-8	-24
Year of highest recorded monthly mean	1950	1986	1986	1986	2017
Difference from lowest monthly average of record for Jul (inches)	28	47	48	54	37
Year of lowest recorded monthly mean	1926	1964	1934	1934	1934
Projected change in levels by Aug 13, 2018 (inches)	+1	-1	-3	-4	-1

ALL DATA SHOWN IN THIS SUMMARY ARE REFERENCED TO IGLD 1985
 *VALUES FOR SPECIFIC DAY ARE BASED ON 3-DAY DAILY AVERAGE AROUND SPECIFIED DATE
 LONG TERM AVERAGE PERIOD OF RECORD, 1918-2017

FORECASTED INFORMATION PROVIDED Department of the Army Detroit District, Corps of Engineers Detroit District Home 1-888-694-8313 ext. 1	RECORDED DATA (1918 – present) provided by NOAA, Great Lakes Online (301) 713-9596	FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT Detroit District Great Lakes Homepage International Joint Commission Great Lakes Information Network
---	---	--