

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WEEKLY GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL UPDATE

Oct 20, 2017

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Over the past weekend and across a majority of the Great Lakes watershed, temperatures have generally been about average for this time of year. Heavy precipitation fell throughout the Basin towards the tailend of last weekend followed by dry weather for the rest of the week. In the coming weekend, temperatures are expected to rise once again to above average levels for this time of year over the Great Lakes basin. Dry weather is also expected to continue through the weekend. The Great Lakes Basin has received above average precipitation month to date, with lakes Michigan-Huron and Ontario as high as 146% of average.

LAKE LEVEL CONDITIONS

The water levels for all of Great Lakes continue to be above last year's levels. Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron are 3 and 7 inches above their levels from last year, respectively, while lakes St. Clair and Erie are 5 and 6 inches above last year's levels, respectively, and Lake Ontario is 13 inches above last year's level. Lake Superior and Lake Michigan-Huron are down 2 inches from mid-September, while the rest of the Great Lakes dropped between 4 and 7 inches, with Lake Ontario experiencing the largest drop. In the next month lakes Superior, Michigan-Huron, St. Clair, Erie, and Ontario are expected to decline by 3, 2, 4, 3, and 6 inches, respectively. See our [Daily Levels](#) web page for more water level information.

FORECASTED MONTHLY OUTFLOWS/CHANNEL CONDITIONS

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

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. Ice information can be found at the National Ice Center's [website](#).

	SUPERIOR	MICH-HURON	ST. CLAIR	ERIE	ONTARIO
Forecasted Water Level for Oct 20, 2017 (feet)	602.89	580.25	575.62	572.41	245.57
Chart Datum (feet)	601.10	577.50	572.30	569.20	243.30
Difference from chart datum (inches)	+21	+33	+40	+39	+27
Difference from average water level for Sep 20, 2017 (inches*)	-2	-2	-5	-4	-7
Difference from average water level for Oct 20, 2016 (inches*)	+3	+7	+5	+6	+13
Difference from long-term monthly average of Oct (inches)	+10	+17	+18	+16	+9
Difference from highest monthly average of record for Oct (inches)	-6	-25	-20	-19	-15
Year of highest recorded monthly mean	1985	1986	1986	1986	1945
Difference from lowest monthly average of record for Oct (inches)	26	46	46	46	41
Year of lowest recorded monthly mean	1925	1964	1934	1934	1934
Projected change in levels by Nov 20, 2017 (inches)	-3	-2	-4	-3	-6

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, 1918-2016

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
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