

# **INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL**

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/IJC/Superior/index.shtml>

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** December 2, 2008  
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### **UPDATE ON LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW**

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,740 cubic metres per second ( $m^3/s$ ) (61.4 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of December. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of December and is an increase from the November outflow, which was 1,700  $m^3/s$  (60.0 tcfs).

The December outflow will be released by discharging about 1,624  $m^3/s$  (57.4 tcfs) through the three hydropower plants and passing most of the remaining flow through the control structure at the head of the St. Marys Rapids. The gate setting of the control structure will be maintained at the existing setting equivalent to one-half gate open (four gates open 20 cm, or about 8 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

This past month the water supplies to the lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron basins were below their long-term averages. Lake Superior is currently 4 cm (2 inches) above its chart datum level. The level of Lake Superior is expected to fall in December. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 21 cm (8 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of-December level, but is 8 cm (3 inches) above the level recorded a year ago. This past month the level of Lake Superior fell by 4 cm (2 inches), while on average the level falls by 5 cm (2 inches) in November. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron fell by 8 cm (3 inches) this November, while on average the level falls by 4 cm (2 inches) in November. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is now about 42 cm (16 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of-December level, and is 24 cm (9 inches) higher than it was a year ago, and 5 cm (2 inches) below chart datum. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is also expected to decline in December. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

BG John W. Peabody, Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Corps of Engineers, is the United States Board Member. Mr. David Fay is the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

Additional information can be found on the Internet at:

[http://www.ijc.org/conseil\\_board/superior\\_lake/en/superior\\_home\\_accueil.htm](http://www.ijc.org/conseil_board/superior_lake/en/superior_home_accueil.htm) or,  
at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/glhh>