

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Melissa Kropfreiter
Hydraulic Engineer, Great Lakes H&H Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
(313) 226-6443
E-mail: Melissa.A.Kropfreiter@usace.army.mil

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 1,590 cubic metres per second (m^3/s) (56.2 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of January. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of January and is a decrease from the December outflow, which was 1,740 m^3/s (61.4 tcfs).

The January outflow will be released by discharging about 1,482 m^3/s (52.3 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 above their long-term averages. Lake Superior is currently 2 cm (1 inch) below its chart datum level. The level of Lake Superior is expected to fall in January. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 19 cm (7 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of-January level, but is 8 cm (3 inches) above the level recorded a year ago. This past month the level of Lake Superior fell by 6 cm (2 inches), while on average the level falls by 8 cm (3 inches) in December. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron rose by 5 cm (2 inches) this December, while on average the levels fall by 4 cm (2 inches) in December. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is now about 33 cm (13 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of-January level, and is 34 cm (13 inches) higher than it was a year ago. Currently Lakes Michigan-Huron is at its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is also expected to decline in January. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

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

For further information please contact Melissa Kropfreiter 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 or,
at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/glhh>