



DETROIT DISTRICT  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
CELRE-HH-W  
477 MICHIGAN AVENUE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

### **May 2015 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY**

#### **LAKE SUPERIOR**

Lake Superior continued its seasonal rise in May. Its monthly mean level of 602.13 ft in May was 3 inches higher than its mean level in April. In addition, the lake's May mean level was 2 inches above its level of a year ago, 12 inches above chart datum, and 7 inches above its long-term average (LTA). The Lake Superior basin received precipitation that was 18% above its average May precipitation, and has experienced 6% above average precipitation over the last 12 months. The Lake Superior level is projected to be 14 to 18 inches above chart datum over the next 6 months. The lake is predicted to remain above its level of a year ago through June, but then fall to 0 to 4 inches below last year's levels through November. Lake Superior's level is forecasted to be 4 to 7 inches above LTA over the next 6 months.

#### **LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON**

Lake Michigan-Huron continued its rise in May. Its mean level rose 2 inches in May, from 579.17 ft to 579.36 ft. The lake's level was 5 inches above average, 22 inches above chart datum and 13 inches above its level of a year ago. May was the ninth consecutive month with above average water levels after a 15 year stretch of continuously below average conditions. Lake Michigan-Huron received 3.6 inches of precipitation in May, which was about 18% above its average for the month. It has experienced slightly above average precipitation during the past 12 months. Over the next six months, Lake Michigan-Huron is projected to be 0 to 11 inches above last year's levels, and 5 to 7 inches above LTA over the next 6 months. In addition, the lake is predicted to be 20 to 27 inches above chart datum through November.

#### **LAKE ST. CLAIR**

Lake St. Clair continued its seasonal rise in May. Lake St. Clair's mean water level rose 2 inches in May to a level of 574.87 ft. The lake's mean level in May was 4 inches above its level of a year ago and 4 inches above LTA. Lake St. Clair is forecasted to be 1 to 5 inches above last year's levels over the next 5 months and be 1 inch below last year's November levels. Lake St Clair is also forecasted to be 7 to 8 inches above its LTA through November.

#### **LAKE ERIE**

Lake Erie continued its seasonal rise in May as its mean level rose 3 inches from 571.59 ft in April to 571.88 ft in May. The lake's May mean was 2 inches below last year's mean level and equal to its LTA. The lake received precipitation that was 114% of average for May, and has received 89% of the precipitation it usually receives in a 12-month period. Lake Erie is projected to be 0 to 2 inches above its level of a year ago through November. In addition, the lake is expected to be 5 to 6 inches above its LTA through November.

#### **LAKE ONTARIO**

Lake Ontario's continued its seasonal rise in May. Its monthly mean level of 245.44 ft was 8 inches higher than its mean level in April. The lake's April level was 13 inches lower than its level of a year ago and 8 inches below its LTA. The Lake Ontario basin experienced 91% of its average May precipitation, and has experienced 85% of average precipitation over the past 12 months. Lake Ontario is projected to be 2 to 9 inches below last year's level through July, above last year's level by 1 to 6 inches from August through October. In addition, the lake is forecasted to be 4 inches below LTA in June and be 1 to 4 inches above LTA in July through November.