



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

NOVEMBER 2015 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior's seasonal decline slowed from October through November, due to higher-than-average net basin supplies. The mean November water level was 602.30 ft, which was 1 inch below last month's mean water level, and 4 inches below last November's level. This November's level was 5 inches higher than the long-term-average November level and 14 inches above chart datum. The Lake Superior basin received near-average precipitation in November, but has seen precipitation 9% below average over the last 12 months. Lake Superior is projected to be lower than last year's levels by 3 to 5 inches, and be 2 to 5 inches above long term average levels throughout the 6-month forecast period. Lake Superior levels are forecast to be 4 to 12 inches above chart datum through May.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron continued its seasonal decline and fell 2 inches in November to a level of 579.20 ft. The decline was slightly subdued due to above-average net basin supplies. November levels were 7 inches higher than long-term-average November levels, making it the 15th consecutive month that the lake has been above average after a 15-year stretch of continuously below-average conditions. The mean monthly water level was 20 inches above chart datum. Lakes Michigan-Huron received near-average precipitation in November, and has experienced 16% below-average precipitation over the last 12 months. The lake's November level was the same as it was at the same time last year. Over the next 6 months, the mean monthly water levels are predicted to fall 1 to 2 inches below levels of a year ago, and be 4 to 7 inches above long-term-average. The lakes are projected to be 16 to 22 inches above chart datum through May.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair continued its seasonal decline. Water levels fell 6 inches from a monthly mean of 575.0 ft in October to 574.54 ft in November. The lake's mean November level was 1 inch above its level of a year ago and 9 inches above long-term-average. Lake St. Clair is forecasted to be within an inch of last year's levels in December, and 3- 15 inches above last year's levels through the remainder of the 6-month forecast period. The lake is projected to be 7 to 13 inches above long-term-average levels through May.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie continued its seasonal decline in November, falling 5 inches to a level of 571.59 ft in November. The Lake Erie basin experienced a drier-than-average month in November, receiving 63% of its average November precipitation; the lake received only 89% of its annual-average precipitation over the past 12 months. November marks the 4th consecutive month of below-average precipitation. The lake's November level was 9 inches above its long-term-average November level, and 3 inches higher than this time last year. Lake Erie is forecasted to be 2 to 12 inches above its level of a year ago during the next 6 months. Moreover, the lake is projected to be 7 to 10 inches above its long-term-average through May.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario continued its seasonal decline in November. The monthly mean level fell 4 inches in November, from 244.98 feet in October to 244.62 ft. The November level was 4 inches higher than its level of a year ago and 1 inch above its long-term-average November level. The Lake Ontario basin received below average precipitation this November, and the last 12 months has been below average precipitation as well, by 15%. Lake Ontario is projected to be 1 to 2 inches below average for December and January, at average in February, and decline 1-2 inches through May. Levels are expected to be between 1 inch below to 9 inches above last year's levels throughout the next 6 months.