



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

## **OCTOBER 2013 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY**

### **LAKE SUPERIOR**

The monthly mean water level of Lake Superior in October was 601.87 feet, which is a 1 inch decline from September's level. The 1 inch drop matches the typical change for Superior from September to October. The October level was 13 inches above its level of a year ago, 9 inches above chart datum, and 2 inches below long-term average (LTA). Lake Superior continues its 14 year stretch of below LTA water levels, the longest period of below average levels in its recorded history dating back to 1918. Precipitation on the Lake Superior basin was 110% of average in October, and 103% of average during the past 12 months. The Superior level is expected to be 2 to 7 inches above chart datum through January and then remain 1 to 2 inches below datum through April 2014. The water levels are forecasted to be 10 to 12 inches above last year's levels and 2 to 3 inches below LTA over the next six months.

### **LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON**

The average water level of Lake Michigan-Huron for the month of October was 577.46 feet, which was 1 inch lower than September's level. The 1 inch drop is smaller than the typical decline of 3 inches for Lake Michigan-Huron from September to October. The October mean level was less than an inch away from chart datum, 11 inches above its level of last year, and 17 inches below its LTA. Lake Michigan-Huron also continues a 14 year stretch of below average levels, the longest in its period of record. Precipitation on the Lake Michigan-Huron basin last month was 154% of the average October amount, and the total over the last 12 months was 107% of average. Over the next six months, Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to be 9 to 13 inches above last year's levels and remain 16 inches below LTA. Michigan-Huron is expected to be 2 to 6 inches below chart datum through April 2014 and remain 11 to 15 inches above record low water levels over the next six months.

### **LAKE ST. CLAIR**

Lake St. Clair's monthly mean water level for October was 573.65 feet, which was 4 inches lower than September's level. During October, Lake St. Clair was 10 inches above its level of a year ago and 6 inches below LTA. Lake St. Clair is forecasted to be 6 to 8 inches above last year's levels through April. The lake is expected to remain 2 to 7 inches below LTA over the next six months.

### **LAKE ERIE**

The average water level for Lake Erie was 571.10 feet in October, falling 3 inches from its September level. Its October water level was 10 inches above last year's level and equal to the LTA. The Lake Erie basin received 152% of average precipitation in October. Lake Erie is forecasted to be 4 to 6 inches above its levels of a year ago through April. The water levels are projected to range from 0 to 3 inches below LTA over the next six months.

### **LAKE ONTARIO**

The monthly mean water level of Lake Ontario for October was 244.88 feet. Its level fell 6 inches from September to October. The October water level was 12 inches above last year's level and 1 inch above LTA. Lake Ontario received 144% of average precipitation in October, and received 101% of average precipitation over the past year. The Lake is forecasted to be 3 to 10 inches above last year's levels through January and then 1 to 3 inches below last year's levels through April. Lake Ontario's water level is projected to range between 0 and 7 inches below LTA over the next six months.