



DETROIT DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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OCTOBER 2014 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior's monthly mean level continued to rise in October, with its monthly mean coming in at 602.72 ft. This monthly mean level was 10 inches above its level of a year ago, 19 inches above chart datum, and 8 inches above its long-term average (LTA). This current 8-month stretch of above average water levels on the lake was preceded by 15 consecutive years of below average water levels. The Lake Superior basin received precipitation in October that was 39% above average, and has experienced 8% above average precipitation over the past 12 months. The Superior level is projected to be 6 to 18 inches above chart datum over the next 6 months. In addition, the lake is expected to be 5 to 10 inches above its level of a year ago during the next 6 months, and be 6 to 8 inches above LTA through April.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron continued its seasonal rise in October, climbing to a mean level of 579.20 ft. The lake's seasonal rise historically ends in July, but has continued through October this year due to persistently wet conditions. Lake Michigan-Huron received 51% above average precipitation in October, and has experienced above average precipitation in each of the past seven months. The lake's mean water level was an inch above its mean level in September, and 4 inches above its October average. October was the second consecutive month with above average water levels after a 15 year stretch of continuously below average conditions. In addition, the lake's level was 20 inches above chart datum and 21 inches above its level of a year ago. Over the next six months, Lake Michigan-Huron is predicted to be 18 to 20 inches above last year's levels, and 6 inches above LTA through April 2015. In addition, the lake is predicted to be 16 to 20 inches above chart datum over the next 6 months.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair's mean water level decreased to 574.74 ft in October from its mean level of 575.00 in September. In addition, the lake's mean level in October was 13 inches above its level of a year ago and 8 inches above LTA. The lake is projected to be 11 to 18 inches above last year's levels over the next 6 months. Moreover, Lake St. Clair is expected to be 8 to 11 inches above its LTA from November through April.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie continued its seasonal decline in October. Its average water level in October was 571.69 ft, almost 2 inches lower than its mean level in September. The lake's October mean level was 7 inches above last year's level and LTA. In addition, Lake Erie experienced precipitation in October that was 9% below average, and has received average precipitation during the past 12 months. The lake is forecasted to be 6 to 11 inches above its level of a year ago through April. Moreover, Lake Erie is projected to be 6 to 7 inches above its LTA over the next 6 months.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario is in the midst of its seasonal decline. Its monthly mean water level in October of 244.72 ft was 6 inches below its mean level in September. In addition, the lake's level was 2 inches lower than its level of a year ago and 1 inch below its LTA. The Lake Ontario basin experienced slightly below average precipitation in October, but has experienced slightly above average precipitation within the past 12 months. Lake Ontario is projected to be 6 inches above to 5 inches below last year's level through April. In addition, the lake is forecasted to be 3 inches below to 1 inch above LTA from November to April.