

# INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

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

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW CONDITIONS

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under the authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,680 cubic meters per second ( $m^3/s$ ) (59.3 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 of 1,800  $m^3/s$  (63.6 tcfs).

The January outflow will be released by discharging about 1,576  $m^3/s$  (55.7 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 25 cm, or about 10 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate #1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

The December water supply for Lake Superior was below average while the supply for Lakes Michigan-Huron was above average for the month. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 22 cm (9 inches) below its long-term average beginning of January level and about 6 cm (2 inches) below the level recorded last year. This past month the level of Lake Superior declined by 8 cm (3 inches), which is the usual amount for December. The level of Lake Superior is now 4 cm (2 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron declined by 3 cm (1 inch) this past month, which is also very close to the normal decline for December. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 47 cm (18 inches) below its long-term average beginning of January level, and is now at the same level as a year ago. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 12 cm (5 inches) below its chart datum level, but is still 28 cm (11 inches) above its record low beginning-of-January level. 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 (P) Steven R. Hawkins, Commander, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is the United States Board Member. Mr. Carr McLeod is the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Carl Woodruff as indicated above.

The Internet homepage at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/> provides access to additional information.