

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 2, 2003
Contact: Carl Woodruff
Hydraulic Engineer, Great Lakes H&H Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
(313) 226-2202
e-mail: Carl.L.Woodruff@usace.army.mil

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 2,060 cubic meters per second (m^3/s) (72.7 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of October. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of October and is an increase from the September outflow of 2,010 m^3/s (71.0 tcfs).

The October outflow will be released by discharging about 1,942 m^3/s (68.6 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 September water supplies for Lakes Superior were well above average while supplies for Michigan-Huron were well below average for the month. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 25 cm (10 inches) below its long-term average beginning of October level and about 12 cm (5 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lake Superior rose 2 cm (1 inch) last month, though it normally falls 1 cm (1/2 inch). The level of Lake Superior is now 10 cm (4 inches) above its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron fell by 9 cm (4 inches) this past month, 3 cm (1 inch) more than usual. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 61 cm (24 inches) below its long-term average beginning of October level, and is now about 30 cm (12 inches) below the level recorded last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 10 cm (4 inches) below its chart datum level, but is 16 cm (6 inches) above its record low beginning-of-October 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.