



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
North Central Division

**GREAT LAKES LEVELS
UPDATE No. 43
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1989 is off to a dry start, generally. The reader is referred to the table, below, of estimated precipitation during the month of January.

Provisional Great Lakes Precipitation
(inches)

	Michigan-		Great Lakes		
	Superior	Huron	Erie	Ontario	Basin
1989*	2.5	1.6	1.9	1.4	1.9
Average(1900-87)	1.8	2.1	2.4	2.7	2.1
Difference	+0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-1.3	-0.2
% of Average	140%	75%	80%	50%	90%

* Estimated

There was no snow cover on the ground over the southeast half of the basin at the end of January. Only Lake Superior's basin had a near-average snowpack.

The 30-day outlook is for temperatures in February to be below normal for the Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron basins, with the Lakes Erie and Ontario basins being about normal. Precipitation on the Great Lakes basin is expected to be above normal in February. The 90-day outlook for the rest of the winter and into the spring (i.e., February - April) is for temperatures to be about normal. Precipitation on the Great Lakes basin is expected to be about normal, except for the Lake Erie basin which may experience an above normal amount.

For Great Lakes basin technical assistance or information, please contact one of the following Corps of Engineers District Offices:

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In an effort to bring Lake Ontario closer to its long-term average, the International St. Lawrence River Board of Control effected discretionary deviations in January which had useful, if minor, positive effect.

Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron are expected to remain close to long-term average over the next six months, with Lakes St. Clair and Erie remaining above

average. Lake Ontario is expected to approach long-term average slowly.

Theodore Vander Els

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