



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

AUGUST 2012 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

The average water level of Lake Superior for the month of August was 601.28 feet, which was 1 inch lower than July's level. The August level was 2 inches above chart datum, 10 inches below its long-term average (LTA), and near the level of one year ago. Lake Superior's outflow through the St. Mary's River was below average in August. Precipitation within the lake's basin was below average in August, at only 56% of average, and over the past 12 months has been below average at 91% of average. Lake Superior is forecasted to decline from 2 inches above to 9 inches below chart datum from now to February. Over the next six months, Lake Superior is forecasted to range 0 to 2 inches above levels of one year ago. The water levels will remain 11 to 12 inches below their LTA through February.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron's monthly mean level for August was 577.33 feet, which was 3 inches lower than July's level. The level for August was 2 inches below chart datum, 11 inches below its level of last year and 23 inches below its LTA. Precipitation on the Lake Michigan-Huron basin was 90% of average in August and 93% of average over the past 12 months. Lake Michigan-Huron's outflow through the St. Clair River was below average in August. Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to range from 5 to 14 inches below chart datum over the next six months. The water levels are expected to be 23 to 25 inches below their LTA through February and range 9 to 13 inches below last year's levels.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair's monthly mean water level for August of 573.65 feet was 4 inches below July's level. During August, Lake St. Clair was 12 inches below last year's level and 12 inches below its LTA. Lake St. Clair's outflow through the Detroit River was below average during August. Lake St. Clair water levels are projected to range 13 to 21 inches below last year's levels over the next six months and the water levels are forecasted to be 8 to 15 inches below their LTA through February.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie's average water level was 571.00 feet in August, which was 4 inches below the level of July. August's water level was 13 inches below last year's level and 8 inches below its LTA. The Lake Erie basin received 94% of average precipitation for August and has received 109% of average precipitation over the last 12 months. The outflow from Lake Erie into the Niagara River was below average during August. Lake Erie is forecasted to be 13 to 24 inches below its levels of a year ago through February. The lake is projected to be 6 to 9 inches below its LTA over the next six months.

LAKE ONTARIO

The level of Lake Ontario for August was 5 inches below July's level with a mean of 244.95 feet. Lake Ontario's August water level was 11 inches below last year's level and 9 inches below its LTA. Lake Ontario received below average precipitation in August, with the total being 68% of average. During the last 12 months, precipitation over the basin has been 84% of average. Lake Ontario's outflow through the St. Lawrence River was below average in August. The lake is forecasted to range 8 to 25 inches below its levels of a year ago through February. Lake Ontario is projected to be 7 to 9 inches below its LTA over the next six months.