



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

OCTOBER 2012 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

The average water level of Lake Superior for the month of October was 600.82 feet, which was 3 inches lower than September's level. The October level was 3 inches below chart datum, 15 inches below long-term average (LTA), and 3 inches below the level of one year ago. Precipitation on the Lake Superior basin was above average in October at 128% of average and 91% of average over the past 12 months. The water level of Lake Superior is forecasted to be 5 to 10 inches above record low water levels over the next six months and 3 to 11 inches below chart datum through April. The water levels will range 1 inch below to 1 inch above levels of one year ago over the next six months and 11 to 13 inches below LTA through April.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron's monthly mean level for October was 576.57 feet, which was 5 inches lower than September's level. The level for October was 11 inches below chart datum, 13 inches below its level of last year and 28 inches below its LTA. Precipitation on the Lake Michigan-Huron basin was above average in October at 148% of average and 94% of average over the past 12 months. The water level of Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to tie the record low water level set in 1964 in December and then set new record lows in January and February. The water level is then forecasted to tie the record low water level again in March and then rise 2 inches above the record low in April. Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to range from 13 to 18 inches below chart datum over the next six months. The water levels are expected to be 28 to 29 inches below LTA through April and range 15 to 17 inches below last year's levels over the next six months.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair's monthly mean water level for October of 572.87 feet was 6 inches below September's level. During October, Lake St. Clair was 16 inches below last year's level and 15 inches below LTA. Lake St. Clair's water levels are projected to range 13 to 22 inches below last year's levels over the next six months and 9 to 15 inches below LTA through April.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie's average water level was 570.31 feet in October, which was 5 inches below the level of September. October's water level was 17 inches below last year's level and 9 inches below LTA. The Lake Erie basin received above average precipitation in October at 160% of average and has received 103% of average precipitation over the last 12 months. Lake Erie is forecasted to be 11 to 23 inches below its levels of a year ago through April and 6 to 8 inches below LTA over the next six months.

LAKE ONTARIO

The level of Lake Ontario for October was 6 inches below September's level with a mean of 243.90 feet. The October water level was 13 inches below last year's level and 11 inches below LTA. Lake Ontario received above average precipitation in October, with the total being 140% of average. During the last 12 months, precipitation over the basin has been 87% of average. The lake is forecasted to range 7 to 22 inches below its levels of a year ago through April and is projected to be 5 to 8 inches below LTA over the next six months.