

INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Cynthia Jarema
Watershed Hydrology Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
(313) 226-6127
E-mail: Cynthia.A.Jarema@usace.army.mil

UPDATE ON LAKE SUPERIOR OUTFLOW

The International Lake Superior Board of Control, under authority granted to it by the International Joint Commission, has set the Lake Superior outflow to 1,560 cubic meters per second (m³/s) (55.1 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of February, effective February 1, 2013. This is the same as the January outflow. This outflow is as prescribed by Plan 1977-A.

The February outflow will be released by discharging about 1,472 m³/s (52.0 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 20 centimeters (cm), or about 8 inches each). There will be no change to the setting of Gate No. 1 that supplies the Fishery Remedial Works.

This past month the water supplies to Lake Superior were above average, while water supplies to Lake Michigan-Huron basins were below average. Lake Superior is currently 21 cm (8 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lake Superior is expected to decline in February. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 31 cm (12 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of- February level, and is the same as the level recorded a year ago. This past month the level of Lake Superior fell 4 cm (2 inches), while on average it falls 7 cm (3 inches) in January. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron fell 4 cm (2 inches) this past month, while on average it falls 3 cm (1 inch) in January. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is now about 72 cm (28 inches) below its long-term average beginning-of- February level, and is 42 cm (17 inches) lower than it was a year ago. Currently Lakes Michigan-Huron is 44 cm (17 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is expected to remain relatively steady in February. The Board continues to monitor conditions both on Lake Superior and downstream and will advise the International Joint Commission accordingly on those conditions.

BG Margaret Burcham is the United States Board Member. Mr. Jaymie Gadal is the Board Member for Canada.

For further information please contact Ms. Cynthia Jarema as indicated above.

Additional information can be found on the Internet at: <http://ijc.org/boards/ilsbc/> or, at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/glhh>.