

# **INTERNATIONAL LAKE SUPERIOR BOARD OF CONTROL**

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

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** March 2, 2004  
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## **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 1,720 cubic meters per second ( $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$ ) (60.7 thousand cubic feet per second (tcfs)) for the month of March. This is the outflow recommended by the regulation plan for the month of March and is a decrease from the February outflow of 1,740  $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  (61.4 tcfs).

The March outflow will be released by discharging about 1,622  $\text{m}^3/\text{s}$  (57.3 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 February water supply to Lake Superior was near average while the supply to Lakes Michigan-Huron was below average. Currently, the Lake Superior level is about 20 cm (8 inches) below its long-term average beginning of March level and is 2 cm (1 inch) above the level recorded a year ago. This past month the level of Lake Superior declined by 4 cm (2 inches) the usual amount for February. The level of Lake Superior is now 14 cm (6 inches) below its chart datum level. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron declined by 3 cm (1 inch) this past month though it usually remains stable during February. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron is about 49 cm (19 inches) below its long-term average beginning of March level, and is now 10 cm (4 inches) higher than a year ago. Lakes Michigan-Huron's level is now 17 cm (7 inches) below its chart datum 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/glhh> provides access to additional information.