Information

Recorded monthly mean water levels in this bulletin are derived from a representative network of water level gages on each lake (see cover map). Providers of these data are the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, National Ocean Service, and Integrated Science Data Management, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. The Detroit District, Corps of Engineers and Environment and Climate Change Canada derive historic and projected lake levels under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee on Great Lakes Basic Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data.

This bulletin is produced monthly as a public service. The Corps also, on a weekly basis publishes online the *Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and St. Lawrence River Water Levels and Depths*, which provides a forecast of depths in the connecting rivers between the Great Lakes and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River. This *Monthly Bulletin of the Lake Levels for the Great Lake*s is available free of charge by writing to the address shown on the front cover, by calling (313) 226-6441 or emailing hhpm@usace.army.mil. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication. This information is available on the internet at https://www.lre.usace.army.mil/Missions/GreatLakesInformation.aspx.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology
February 2022

Preliminary precipitation estimates indicate the Great Lakes basin received above average precipitation in February. Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron received near average precipitation while Lakes Erie and Ontario received well above average precipitation for February. The Great Lakes basin received 91% of average precipitation for the past 12 months. Water supplies were well above average to all lakes except Lake Michigan-Huron which received below average water supply likely due to above average evaporation. Outflows from Lakes Michigan-Huron, Erie, and Ontario continue to be above average and Lake Superior outflow remained below average.

All lakes except Lake Ontario declined from January to February. Lake Superior declined almost 3 inches, Lake Michigan-Huron declined over 2 inches, Lake St. Clair declined over 10 inches, Lake Erie declined almost 5 inches, and Lake Ontario increased less than an inch. An ice jam on the St. Clair River contributed to a 10-inch water level decrease from January to February on Lake St. Clair. Great Lakes 6-month water level forecast projects Lake Superior to decline slightly from February to March, Lake Michigan-Huron's forecast indicates it will remain steady near its current level from February to March, and Lakes St. Clair, Erie, and Ontario are forecast to begin or continue their seasonal rise.

PRECIPITATION (INCHES)

BASIN	February				12-Month Comparison			
	2022	Average (1900-2018)	Diff.	% of Average	Last 12 months	Average (1900-2018)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	1.33	1.42	-0.09	94	25.46	30.59	-5.13	83
Michigan-Huron	1.83	1.77	0.06	103	29.22	32.87	-3.65	89
Erie	2.67	2.13	0.54	125	36.15	35.91	0.24	101
Ontario	2.98	2.40	0.58	124	36.41	36.34	0.07	100
Great Lakes	1.94	1.77	0.17	110	29.91	32.99	-3.08	91

Lake	February WATER SUPPLIES[1] (cfs)		February OUTFLOW[2] (cfs)	
	2022	Average[3] (1900-2008)	2022	Average[3] (1900-2008)
Superior	26,000	5,000	54,000	67,000
Michigan-Huron	63,000	87,000	166,000	157,000
Erie	78,000	38,000	232,000	192,000
Ontario	61,000	37,000	284,000	226,000

Notes: Values (excluding averages) are based on preliminary computations; cfs denotes cubic feet per second.

[1] Net basin supply is the net result of precipitation falling on the lake, runoff from precipitation falling on the land which flows to the lake, and evaporation from the lake. Negative net basin supply denotes evaporation exceeded runoff and precipitation. The net total supply can be found by adding the net basin supply and the outflow from the upstream lake.

[2] Does not include diversions.

[3] Lake Ontario average water supplies and average outflows are based on period of record 1900-2005