



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Detroit District



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NOVEMBER 2022 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior's monthly mean water level of 602.36 ft in November matched its October monthly mean level. This level was 5 inches above the November long-term average (LTA) level, 9 inches above the 2021 November level, and 11 inches below the lake's record-high November level. Preliminary water supplies* to Lake Superior in November were 2nd highest for the month since 1900. Provisional statistics show precipitation was about 40% above average, runoff was above average, while evaporation was below average. The latest 6-month water level forecast projects Lake Superior to resume its seasonal decline this December. From December to May, the forecast shows water levels 1 to 11 inches above last year's levels, 4 to 7 inches above LTA levels, 6 to 15 inches above Chart Datum, and 9 to 11 inches below record-highs.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron continued its seasonal decline in November and fell 2 inches from October to November. Its November monthly mean level of 579.27 feet was 6 inches above its LTA November level, 8 inches below its 2021 November level, and 32 inches below its November record high level. Similar to the prior 2 months, water supplies* in November were below average. In the latest 6-month water level bulletin, Lake Michigan-Huron continues its seasonal decline through January 2023. Over the next 6 months, the lake is predicted to be 4 to 9 inches below last year's levels, but 4 to 5 inches above LTA levels. Also, the forecast shows Lake Michigan-Huron water levels 30 to 33 inches below the record-high levels.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

The level of Lake St. Clair remained in decline in November, dropping to a mean monthly level of 574.61 feet. This level was 8 inches above the monthly LTA level, 13 inches below the last year's level, and 27 inches below the November record high level set in 1986. The current 6-month water level forecast calls for Lake St. Clair to continue its seasonal decline through December. The December to May forecast shows water levels to be 6 to 13 inches below last year's level, with the exception of February, for which the forecasted monthly mean level is 2 inches above February 2022's ice jam-impacted level. Also, the current 6-month forecast predicts the lake's levels to be 6 to 11 inches above monthly LTA levels and 26 to 28 inches below record-high levels.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie is in the midst of its seasonal decline and its monthly mean level fell 3 inches from October to November. This mean level of 571.69 feet was 9 inches above the monthly LTA level, 15 inches below last year's level, and 24 inches below the record high November level. November water supplies* to Lake Erie were below average for the 3rd straight month. Precipitation, a main component of water supplies, was below average for November. The latest 6-month forecast shows Lake Erie continuing to decline until January. From December to May, the lake's levels are expected to be 6 to 15 inches below last year's levels and 22 to 28 inches below record high levels. Also, water levels are to remain above LTA levels by 6 to 8 inches over the next 6 months.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario continued its seasonal decline from October to November but dropped less than an inch to a level of 244.09 feet. This level was 6 inches below November's LTA level, 18 inches below the November 2021 level, and 31 inches below its record-high monthly level for November. Lake Ontario experienced near average water supplies* in November. Its November precipitation was slightly below average, but so was evaporation from the lake. The 6-month forecast shows Lake Ontario will commence its seasonal rise in December. Over the next 6 months, lake levels are forecasted to be 1 to 6 inches below LTA levels, 7 to 18 inches below last year's levels, and 28 to 32 inches below record high water levels.

* "Water supplies" refers to the combined quantity of precipitation plus runoff minus evaporation. Also known as the net basin supply.