



DETROIT DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

JANUARY 2014 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

The monthly mean water level of Lake Superior fell 2 inches from December's mean to January's mean level of 601.35 ft. The lake typically declines 3 inches from December to January. The January level was 12 inches above its level of a year ago, 3 inches above chart datum, and an inch below long-term average (LTA). Lake Superior continued its 15 year stretch of being below its LTA, the longest in its period of record dating back to 1918. The Lake Superior basin experienced less precipitation than it normally receives in January, but over the past 12 months, the lake's basin saw precipitation that was 104% of average. The Superior level is expected to be within an inch of chart datum through April, and be 4 to 9 inches above datum from May to July. The lake is forecasted to be 3 to 12 inches above last year's levels and 1 to 2 inches below LTA over the next six months.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron's average water level for the month of January was 577.30 feet, as it fell less than an inch from its mean December level. This water level decline is less than Lake Michigan-Huron's typical decline from December to January. The January mean level was 2 inches below chart datum, 15 inches above its level of last year, and 13 inches below its LTA. Lake Michigan-Huron also continues a 15 year stretch of below average levels, the longest in its period of record. The Lake Michigan-Huron basin received less precipitation than normal for January, but total precipitation over the last 12 months has been 5% above average. Over the next six months, Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to be 8 to 14 inches above last year's levels but remain 11 to 13 inches lower than its LTA. Michigan-Huron is expected to be 2 inches below chart datum through March, 2 inches above datum in April, and 6 to 11 inches above chart datum from May to July 2014.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair's January mean water level of 573.13 feet was 4 inches lower than its December mean level. Extensive ice build-up in the St. Clair River and Lake St. Clair significantly impacted the level of the lake in January. Lake St. Clair was 7 inches above its level of a year ago and 6 inches below its LTA in January. The lake is predicted to be nearly equal to its LTA in February, and be 2 to 4 inches below its LTA from March through July.

LAKE ERIE

The average water level for Lake Erie was 570.87 feet in January, climbing 2 inches from its December level. Its January mean level was 7 inches above last year's level and very near its LTA. Lake Erie is projected to be 3 to 7 inches above its levels of a year ago through June and then fall below last year's level in July. The lake is expected to hover near its LTA through April, and be an inch below LTA from May to July.

LAKE ONTARIO

The monthly mean water level of Lake Ontario rose 4 inches in January to 244.88 feet. The January water level was 10 inches above last year's level and 3 inches above its LTA. Lake Ontario is predicted to be 2 to 4 inches above last year's levels through May, and be 5 to 7 inches below last year's level in June and July. Lake Ontario's water level is expected to be an inch above LTA in February, and be 1 to 4 inches below LTA from March through July.