



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Detroit District



DETROIT DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CELRE-EHW
477 MICHIGAN AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

JULY 2021 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior's water level rose slightly from June to July, increasing by less than an inch to a level of 602.23 feet. The July mean level was 2 inches above its long-term average (LTA) level and 8 inches below its July 2020 mean level. Likewise, the mean level was 12 inches below its record high July level from 2019. Precipitation and runoff were below average in July, contributing to below average water supplies on Lake Superior. The recent six-month forecast predicts Lake Superior to continue its seasonal rise, peaking in August and September. Over the next 6 months, water levels are forecast to remain 1 to 2 inches above LTA levels, but continue to be 7 to 9 inches below last year's levels. Additionally, Lake Superior's water level is predicted to be 11 to 15 inches below record high levels from August through January.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron's water level rose 3 inches from June to July to a level of 580.71 feet. The July mean level was 16 inches above the LTA level and 18 inches below its record high July level set in 2020. The Lake Huron side of the basin was considerably wet, and on the whole the basin received 1.5 inches more than average. Streamflows ranged from normal to well above normal for the month of July. Both precipitation and runoff contributed to the above average water supplies observed during the month. The July monthly bulletin forecast predicts Lake Michigan-Huron will begin its seasonal decline in August and continue its decline in the following 5 months. Water levels are forecast to be 17 to 24 inches below record high levels from August to January. Also, Lake Michigan-Huron is forecast to remain 14 to 16 inches above LTA levels over the next 6 months.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair continued its seasonal rise from June to July, rising 4 inches to 576.54 feet. The July monthly mean level was 20 inches above its monthly LTA level and 12 inches below its record high level set in 2019. The recent 6-month forecast indicates the lake will begin its seasonal decline in August. Over the next 6 months, water levels are forecast to be 13 to 21 inches below record high levels and 12 to 13 inches below levels from last year. Also, the lake is forecast to be 15 to 18 inches above its LTA levels over the next 6 months.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie rose 4 inches from June to July, to a level of 573.52 feet. The July monthly mean level was 19 inches above its LTA July level and 13 inches below the record high level from 2019. Provisionally, Lake Erie observed its third highest water supplies for the month of July, in response to above average precipitation and above normal runoff. The 6-month forecast projects Lake Erie to begin its seasonal decline in the coming month. Over the next 6 months, water levels are forecast to be 6 to 12 inches below last year's levels and 9 to 20 inches below record high levels. Additionally, water levels are forecast to remain 14 to 19 inches above LTA levels from August to January.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario also rose 4 inches from June to July, to a level of 245.44 feet. The July monthly mean level was 8 inches below the July LTA level and 15 inches below last year's level. Lake Ontario received above normal water supplies likely due to above average precipitation and above normal runoff. The recent 6-month forecast predicts the lake will be 2 to 10 inches below last year's levels from August through January. Additionally, the lake is forecast to be 4 inches below to 1 inch above LTA levels over the next 6 months.