



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Detroit District**



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JUNE 2019 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior continued its seasonal rise from May to June and set a new record high monthly mean level for June. The lake's mean level of 603.15 feet was 3 inches above its record high June 1986 level. Also, the lake was 3 inches above its May mean level, 11 inches above its level of a year ago and 15 inches above its long term average (LTA) level. Likely influenced by precipitation that was about 14% below average, the Lake Superior basin received below average water supplies in June. The latest 6-month water level forecast is projecting Lake Superior to reach its seasonal peak in July. The lake is predicted to meet or surpass its record high level monthly mean levels for July and August before falling below record highs in September. Moreover, Lake Superior is projected to be 0 to 8 inches above last year's level and 11 to 14 inches above LTA levels over the next 6 months.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron is in the midst of its seasonal climb and rose 6 inches from May to June to a monthly mean level of 581.76 ft. This level was less than an inch below the lake's record high June level. In addition, it was 13 inches above its level of a year ago and 30 inches above its LTA level. Lake Michigan-Huron received significantly above average water supplies in June, likely the result of 13% above average precipitation and above average runoff that was influenced by continued high soil moisture and streamflows in the basin. In July, Lake Michigan-Huron is forecasted to peak and reach its highest level since September 1986, but not meet its July record high. Then the lake is expected to be 1 to 11 inches below record high levels over the next 5 months. Finally, Lake Michigan-Huron water levels are predicted to be 10 to 16 inches above last year's levels and 29 to 31 inches above LTA water levels through December.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair continued its seasonal rise from May to June, rising 4 inches to a level of 577.40 feet. This monthly mean level eclipsed its previous record high June level, set back in 1986, by 3 inches, and it is the highest monthly mean water level recorded for the lake in its period record (1918-2018). Lake St. Clair was also 11 inches above last year's level and 32 inches above its LTA level. Lake St. Clair is forecasted to surpass its record high July level and match its record high level in August before falling 1 to 11 inches below record highs through December. The lake is expected to begin its seasonal decline in July. In addition, the latest monthly bulletin projects Lake St. Clair to be 4 to 11 inches above last year's levels and 26 to 31 inches above LTA levels through the end of the year.

LAKE ERIE

The mean level of Lake Erie rose 4 inches from May to June to a level of 574.61 ft. This monthly mean level broke the record high June level and it is the lake's highest recorded monthly level mean since 1918, the beginning of its period of record. Lake Erie's monthly mean level was 10 inches above its level of a year ago and 31 inches above its LTA level. Persistence wet conditions, demonstrated by 24% above average precipitation and above average runoff, led to water supplies in the basin being the seventh highest for June since 1900. The lake is expected to commence its seasonal water level decline in July, but its monthly mean level is projected to surpass its record high levels for July, August, and September before falling below record highs in October. Over the next 6 months, Lake Erie's levels are predicted to be 23 to 31 inches above LTA levels. Additionally, monthly mean water levels are projected to be 2 to 12 inches above last year's levels through October, matching last year's level in November, and falling an inch below in December.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario rose more than any other lake from May to June, as its monthly mean level climbed to 249.05 ft in June, 8 inches higher than its May level. Its June monthly mean level was 4 inches above its highest monthly level in its period of record dating back to 1918. The lake was also 27 inches above last year's level and 33 inches above its LTA level for June. The lake received precipitation 21% above average along with above average runoff, which led to its eighth highest June net basin supply on record. Lake Ontario is projected to

begin its seasonal decline in July, however, it is predicted to surpass its record high July level, set in 2017, by 4 inches. The latest 6-month forecast indicates the monthly mean levels will be 4 to 16 inches below record highs from August to December. In addition, Lake Ontario is predicted to be 4 to 28 inches above last year's levels and 11 to 30 inches above LTA levels through December.