



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Detroit District



DETROIT DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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NOVEMBER 2021 GREAT LAKES WATER LEVEL SUMMARY

LAKE SUPERIOR

Lake Superior continued its seasonal decline and declined 4 inches to a level of 601.64 feet. The November mean level was 4 inches below the November long-term average (LTA) level, 13 inches below its November 2020 mean level and 20 inches below its record high November level from 1985. Provisional water supplies were a record low for the month of November due to above average evaporation and below average precipitation and runoff. The 6-month forecast indicates that Lake Superior will continue its seasonal decline into March and begin its seasonal rise in April. From December to May, the water level is forecast to be 3 to 5 inches below its LTA levels and 8 to 14 inches below levels from a year ago.

LAKE MICHIGAN-HURON

Lake Michigan-Huron also declined about 4 inches from October to November. The November mean level of 579.95 feet was 15 inches above the LTA level, but 17 inches below its level from last year. The November mean level was also 24 inches below the record high November level. The Lake Michigan-Huron basin received well below average water supplies in November likely due to above average evaporation and below average precipitation and runoff. The 6-month forecast predicts Lake Michigan-Huron will continue its seasonal decline through the winter. Water levels are forecast to be 9 to 18 inches below last year's levels and 23 to 26 inches below record high levels from December to May. However, water levels are forecast to be 9 to 13 inches above LTA levels over the next 6 months.

LAKE ST. CLAIR

Lake St. Clair also continued its decline from October to November and declined 5 inches to a level of 575.72 feet. The November monthly mean level was 22 inches above its monthly LTA level, 7 inches below its November 2020 level, and 13 inches below its record high November level. The recent 6-month forecast indicates the lake will continue its seasonal decline through the winter and begin its seasonal rise in the spring. Over the next 6 months, water levels are forecast to be 5 to 10 inches below last year's levels and 16 to 21 inches below record high levels. Also, from December to May water levels are forecast to be 12 to 20 inches above LTA levels.

LAKE ERIE

Lake Erie declined 2 inches from October to November to a level of 572.93 feet. The November monthly mean level was 24 inches above its LTA November level, 9 inches below the November record high level, and 1 inch below the level from last year. Water supplies were below average in November likely due to above average evaporation and well below average precipitation. The recent 6-month forecast indicates Lake Erie will continue its seasonal decline through the winter months. From December to May, water levels are forecast to be 0 to 8 inches below last year's levels and 13 to 17 inches below record high levels. Additionally, water levels are forecast to remain 13 to 21 inches above LTA levels over the next 6 months.

LAKE ONTARIO

Lake Ontario rose 3 inches from October to November to a level of 245.60 feet. The November monthly mean level was 13 inches above the November LTA level and 10 inches above last year's level. The November mean level was also 13 inches below the record high November level. Lake Ontario received above average water supplies likely due to well above average runoff. The recent 6-month forecast predicts that the lake will resume its seasonal decline into January, and then begin its seasonal rise during the late winter. Water levels are forecast to be 2 to 11 inches above LTA levels and 6 to 14 inches above levels from a year ago over the next 6 months. Also, water levels are forecast to be 15 to 29 inches below record high levels from December to May.