

# LEVEL *news*

Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels



Volume 13, Number 3

March 7, 2005

## Summer Dreaming (Already)

There may still be winter in the air and snow on the ground, but people are already starting to ask what water levels will be like this summer on the Great Lakes. It's a good question, but one that can't be answered with any confidence at this point in time. We can, however, look to the latest Monthly Water Level Bulletin prepared by the Canadian Hydrographic Service for an idea of what we might expect to see this summer.

The February 2005 edition of Bulletin posted at:  
<http://chswwww.bur.dfo.ca/danp/>  
contains recorded data up to and including February and a forecast for March to August.

Since it isn't possible to accurately forecast water supply conditions in advance, a probable range of future levels is provided in the Bulletin for each lake. Extremely high or low water supply conditions can cause levels to fall outside the probable ranges shown; however, there is a good chance that water levels will land somewhere within them.

At present, it looks like water levels on Lakes Superior will be a few centimetres below average this summer while levels on Lake St. Clair will be close to average. Summertime levels will probably be a few centimetres

above average on lakes Erie and Ontario, but below average conditions will likely persist on Lakes Michigan-Huron. Although there is a remote chance that Michigan-Huron levels could reach average by summer, based on the current six-month forecast it is much more likely that levels will be a few centimetres higher than they were last year, but still below average.

### Multi-city Teleconference

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control invites you to  
(continued on next page)

## Great Lakes Water Level Information

Lake	February 2005 Monthly Mean Level		Beginning of March 2005 Level	
	Compared to Monthly Average (1918-2004)	Compared to One Year Ago	Compared to Beginning-of-Month Average (1918-2004)	Compared to One Year Ago
Superior	1 cm below	20 cm above	same	20 cm above
Michigan-Huron	21 cm below	26 cm above	21 cm below	27 cm above
St. Clair	22 cm above	34 cm above	20 cm above	34 cm above
Erie	29 cm above	41 cm above	30 cm above	43 cm above
Ontario	27 cm above	10 cm above	27 cm above	22 cm above



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participate in a multi-city teleconference on **March 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.** The purpose of the teleconference is to increase public input about local conditions and concerns related to Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River water levels and flows.

You may participate in the teleconference from one of these local meeting sites:

**Montréal, Quebec**  
Centre Communautaire  
Sarto-Desnoyers,  
1335 avenue Bord-du-lac,  
Borough of Dorval,  
Montréal, Quebec

**Rochester, New York**  
Xerox Auditorium,  
James Gleason Building,  
Rochester Institute of  
Technology,  
Jefferson Road,  
Henrietta, NY.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
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Editor, Chuck Southam  
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### February Precipitation over the Great Lakes As a percentage of the long-term February average:

Great Lakes Basin	96%	Lake Erie	125%
Lake Superior	89%	(including Lake St. Clair)	
Lakes Michigan-Huron	93%	Lake Ontario	84%

**NOTE: These figures are preliminary**

**Oswego, New York**  
State University of New York  
Lanigan Hall, Room 107.

**Burlington, Ontario**  
Burlington on the Lake  
Travelodge Hotel,  
2020 Lakeshore Road

**Brockville, Ontario**  
Quality Hotel-Royal Brock,  
Room Brock B  
100 Stewart Blvd

John Kangas,  
Secretary, United States Section  
1111 North Canal Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-7205  
Tel.: (312) 353-4333  
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### RSVP

In order to facilitate logistical arrangements, please **RSVP to one of the secretaries below by March 22.** Please indicate which local meeting you plan to attend. Those who have RSVP'd will be notified in advance if the location changes. Updates will also be posted at **[www.islrbc.org](http://www.islrbc.org)**.

Reg Golding,  
Secretary, Canadian Section  
200 Kent Street  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6 Tel.:  
(613) 998-1408  
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### February Outflows from the Great Lakes As a percentage of the long-term February average:

Lake Superior	106%	Lake Erie	114%
Lake Huron	104%	Lake Ontario	116%

**NOTE: These figures are preliminary**