

LEVEL *news*



Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels

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The Upper Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team Wants Your Input

In 2002, a team established by the International Joint Commission (IJC) prepared the Upper Great Lakes Plan of Study for Review of the Regulation of Outflows from Lake Superior. In May of this year, the IJC set up a new team to revise the 2002 Plan of Study directing that two additional objectives be added to those originally addressed. One is to examine physical processes and possible ongoing physical changes in the St. Clair River channel and their impacts on the river flow and water levels of lakes Superior, Michigan-Huron and Erie. The other is to take into consideration the lessons learned from the five-year

International Lake Ontario–St. Lawrence River Study, which is now nearing its completion. The revised Plan of Study is to be completed and submitted to the IJC by October 14, 2005. The revision team expects to have a draft revised Plan of Study available by August 25th. An electronic version will be available to download or view on-line at: <http://www.ijc.org>, which links to Boards and Current Task Forces.

From the outset, the revision team members have recognized the value of public consultation. They would like to invite you to review the draft revised Plan of Study once it's posted and, if at

all possible, participate in one of the four consultation sessions the revision team are planning to hold during September. The dates and locations of the consultation sessions are:

September 1, 2005

Parry Sound, Ontario

West Parry Sound

District Museum

Lion Room

17 George Street

Starting Time: 5:00 p.m.

September 13, 2005

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

Civic Centre

Russ Ramsay Room, Level 3

99 Foster Drive

Starting Time: 7:00 p.m.

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Great Lakes Water Level Information

Lake	July 2005 Monthly Mean Level		Beginning of August 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	10 cm below	2 cm above	15 cm below	1 cm below
Michigan-Huron	42 cm below	18 cm below	41 cm below	17 cm below
St. Clair	16 cm below	12 cm below	16 cm below	15 cm below
Erie	9 cm below	11 cm below	7 cm below	12 cm below
Ontario	5 cm below	15 cm below	7 cm below	24 cm below



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September 14, 2005
Port Huron, Michigan
St. Clair County Administration
Building Auditorium
200 Grand River Avenue
Starting Time: 7:00 p.m.

September 15, 2005
St. Joseph, Michigan
St. Joseph City Hall
Commission Chambers,
2nd floor
700 Broad Street
Starting Time: 7:00 p.m.

The meetings will provide an opportunity for the team members to inform you about the objectives of the team's work and its progress and to personally receive your comments and advice on the draft revised Plan of Study, Lake Superior outflow regulation, and other issues related to the water levels and flows of the upper Great Lakes.

If you cannot attend one of the consultation meetings, the

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Editor, Chuck Southam
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July Precipitation over the Great Lakes
As a percentage of the long-term July average:

Great Lakes Basin	84%	Lake Erie	121%
Lake Superior	47%	(including Lake St. Clair)	
Lakes Michigan-Huron	91%	Lake Ontario	101%

NOTE: These figures are preliminary

revision team would still like to receive your input. They ask that you provide written comments on the draft document prior to September 19th using the contact information provided below or online through the IJC's website at:

<http://www.ijc.org>. By providing your comments before September 19th you will help ensure that the revision team has enough time to finalize and submit the revised Plan of Study by the October 14th deadline.

Please feel free to share this invitation to participate in the consultation process with your family, friends, and associates. In order to help facilitate logistical arrangements, In order to help facilitate logistical arrangements, please RSVP to either one of the revision team secretaries prior to August 25th indicating which consultation meeting you plan to attend. Those who have RSVP'd will be notified in advance of any updates or changes. Updates

will also be posted at:
<http://www.ijc.org>.

Upper Lakes Plan of Study
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July Outflows from the Great Lakes
As a percentage of the long-term July average:

Lake Superior	135%	Lake Erie	97%
Lake Huron	86%	Lake Ontario	96%

NOTE: These figures are preliminary