

LEVEL *news*



Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels

Volume 15, Number 9

September 5, 2007

Lake Superior Sets a New Record Low for August

Lake Superior's level set a record low for the month of August, resulting from yet another month of well-below-average supplies to its basin. Its monthly average level of 183.01 m was one centimetre below the former record low for the month, set in August 1926. Please note that this is not an all-time record monthly low for the lake. That was set in April 1926 and is approximately 28 cm lower than the current level.

The August supply to the Lakes Michigan-Huron basin was near average. The level of Lakes Michigan-Huron fell by 4 cm last month, the same as it does on average in August. The

water supply to the Lake Ontario basin was also well below average in August. The level of Lake Ontario fell by 18 cm, while on average it declines by 14 cm during the month. In sharp contrast, the supply to the Lake Erie basin was much above average, due to the heavy rainfall that was received over much of its basin on August 19 and 20. The much-above-average supply to the local Lake Erie basin more than offset the lower-than-average inflow it received from the upper lakes. This resulted in the lake's level rising by 5 cm last month, compared to an average decline of 8 cm during August.

St. Lawrence Board Multi-City Teleconference Scheduled

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control invites you to participate in a public teleconference on the evening of September 18, 2007, from 6:45 to 8:30 p.m. EDT, related to water levels and flows in Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.

You may participate by calling one of these toll-free numbers between 6:45 and 6:55 p.m.:

English: 1-866-200-5980

French: 1-866-200-5973

You will need to download the latest meeting materials from
(continued on next page)

Great Lakes Water Level Information

Lake	August 2007 Monthly Mean Level		Beginning-of-September 2007 Level	
	Compared to Monthly Average (1918-2006)	Compared to One Year Ago	Compared to Beginning-of-Month Average (1918-2006)	Compared to One Year Ago
Superior	54 cm below	29 cm below	55 cm below	24 cm below
Michigan-Huron	58 cm below	13 cm below	56 cm below	9 cm below
St. Clair	26 cm below	12 cm below	19 cm below	15 cm below
Erie	11 cm below	10 cm below	4 cm below	6 cm below
Ontario	16 cm below	23 cm below	18 cm below	21 cm below



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the Board's Web site at:
www.islrbc.org. Any updates
will be posted on the site by
September 17.

You can also join the
teleconference at one of these
two local meeting sites:

Cornwall, Ontario

Gallery 3
Cornwall Civic Complex
100 Water Street E.
Cornwall, Ontario

Oswego, New York

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

Note that at each site there will
be a brief discussion period
from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. to
determine local concerns. The
Board presentation will begin at
7:00 p.m. and will be heard by
both meeting sites, as well as
those listening in by phone.
Following the presentation,
comments and questions will
be taken from callers and the

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Editor, Chuck Southam

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August Precipitation over the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term August average:

Great Lakes Basin	97%	Lake Erie	199%
Lake Superior	40%	(including Lake St. Clair)	
Lakes Michigan-Huron	115%	Lake Ontario	40%

NOTE: These figures are preliminary

attendees at the meeting sites.

Questions or comments should
be directed to:

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International St. Lawrence
River Board of Control
(613) 998-1408
goldingr@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Data sought for the Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Research Inventory

The International Joint
Commission (IJC) is inviting
Great Lakes researchers to
submit or update information
on their projects for the online
Great Lakes – St. Lawrence
Research Inventory.

The Inventory depends for the
most part on voluntary
participation from scientists
and agencies willing to share
some time and information in a
spirit of collaboration serving
the best interests of the Great
Lakes ecosystem. With
information on approximately
1200 projects, 1000 principal
investigators and 300 funding
organizations, the database
represents a valuable

information resource for Great
Lakes researchers, managers
and policymakers.

Originally developed to help
the IJC assess how research
activities support the goals of
the Great Lakes Water Quality
Agreement, the Research
Inventory recently created
direct links and data sharing
agreements with the
Smithsonian Environmental
Research Center, the
U.S./Canada Great Lakes
Monitoring Exchange and the
Great Lakes Regional
Research Information Network.
This move towards a more
widely distributed network will
continue to make this important
tool available to a growing
number of users.

The Research Inventory is
available online at
<http://ri.ijc.org>. Contact: Mark
Burrows, International Joint
Commission - Great Lakes
Regional Office,
burrowsm@windsor.ijc.org.

August Outflows from the Great Lakes

As a percentage of the long-term August average:

Lake Superior	66%	Lake Erie	92%
Lake Huron	85%	Lake Ontario	93%

NOTE: These figures are preliminary