



# LEVELnews

## Great Lakes – St. Lawrence River Water Levels

### Recent Conditions and Upcoming Board of Control Events

Very wet conditions prevailed over the lakes Superior and Erie basins in July. More moderate conditions returned to Lakes Michigan–Huron, while wet conditions continued on Lake Ontario. Downstream of the Great Lakes, Montreal Harbour levels slid below average during early July.

- A very wet May followed by a wet June and a very wet July, combined with below-average outflows, resulted in Lake Superior’s level rising by 12 cm during July - three times

its 1918–2012 period-of-record average rise of 4 cm during the month.

- More moderate conditions returned to Lake Michigan–Huron, causing it to rise by 1 cm during July. On average over the 1918–2012 period of record, Lake Michigan–Huron has started and finished July at the same level.
- Conditions were very wet over the Lake Erie basin during July. As a result, the level of Lake Erie increased by 2 cm during July instead of

falling as it typically does during the month. On average, the level of Lake Erie has fallen by 5 cm during July.

- On Lake Ontario, slightly wetter-than-average conditions resulted in the lake’s level falling by 8 cm during July, 1 cm less than its average July decline of 9 cm.
  - The monthly mean level at Montreal Harbour was 19 cm below average during July, but 93 cm higher than July’s level last year.
- (continued on next page)**

Great Lakes Water Level Information				
Lake	July 2013 Monthly Mean Level		Beginning-of-August 2013 Level	
	Compared to Monthly Average (1918–2012)	Compared to One Year Ago	Compared to Beginning-of-Month Average (1918–2012)	Compared to One Year Ago
Superior	13 cm below	7 cm above	8 cm below	14 cm above
Michigan–Huron	48 cm below	5 cm above	47 cm below	7 cm above
St. Clair	8 cm below	16 cm above	11 cm below	15 cm above
Erie	4 cm above	21 cm above	6 cm above	26 cm above
Ontario	15 cm above	35 cm above	13 cm above	36 cm above

## Water Level Forecast

For a graphical representation of recent and forecasted water levels on each of the Great Lakes, Lake St. Clair and Montreal Harbour compared to their respective period-of-record monthly averages and extreme levels, please refer to the July 2013 edition of the Canadian Hydrographic Service's monthly water levels bulletin at: [www.waterlevels.gc.ca/C&A/bulletin\\_e.html](http://www.waterlevels.gc.ca/C&A/bulletin_e.html)

## You're Invited

The three International Joint Commission (IJC) Great Lakes Boards of Control are holding public information events in August and September and you're invited.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Chuck Southam (Editor)  
Boundary Water Issues Unit  
MSC – Operations Ontario  
Environment Canada  
P.O. Box 5050  
Burlington ON L7R 4A6  
Tel.: 905-336-4955  
Fax: 905-336-8901  
Email: [water.levels@ec.gc.ca](mailto:water.levels@ec.gc.ca)

Rob Caldwell  
Great Lakes–St. Lawrence  
Regulation Office  
MSC – Operations Ontario  
Environment Canada  
111 Water Street East  
Cornwall ON K6H 6S2  
Tel.: 613-938-5725

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The International Lake Superior Board of Control is hosting a teleconference with the public during the afternoon of Wednesday, August 21, 2013. For detailed information about the teleconference and to download the meeting materials, please visit the Board's website at [www.ijc.org/boards/ilsbc/](http://www.ijc.org/boards/ilsbc/).

You can also view the presentation slides via a webinar. Details on joining the webinar are also found on the Board website.

The International Niagara and the International St. Lawrence River Boards of Control will be holding public meetings during the evenings of Thursday, September 19, 2013 and Tuesday, September 24, 2013, respectively. Both boards are planning to provide telephone or on-line options for persons unable to attend their meetings in person. Please check next month's edition of LEVELnews for additional information about these two meetings.

### July Precipitation over the Great Lakes\*

Great Lakes Basin	125%	Lake Erie	149%
Lake Superior	160%	(including Lake St. Clair)	
Lake Michigan–Huron	100%	Lake Ontario	108%

### July Outflows from the Great Lakes\*

Lake Superior	96%	Lake Erie	109%
Lake Michigan–Huron	87%	Lake Ontario	101%

\* As a percentage of the long-term July average.  
NOTE: These figures are preliminary.