

LEVEL *news*



Great Lakes - St. Lawrence River Water Levels

Volume 14, Number 1

January 4, 2006

Upper Lakes Plan of Study Available

The IJC's Upper Lakes Plan of Study Revision Team has updated the 2002 plan of study to investigate improvements to Lake Superior outflow regulation. This document is available on the following IJC Web site:

http://www.ijc.org/conseil_board/upper_greatlakes/upper_pub.php?language=english

In May 2005, the IJC appointed the Upper Lakes Study Revision Team to expand the 2002 plan of study to include an investigation of past and on-going physical changes in the St. Clair River. The St. Clair

December Precipitation Over the Great Lakes *

Great Lakes Basin	69%	Lake Erie	84%
Lake Superior	52%	(including Lake St. Clair)	
Lakes Michigan-Huron	69%	Lake Ontario	76%

December Outflows From the Great Lakes *

Lake Superior	102%	Lake Erie	98%
Lakes Huron	87%	Lake Ontario	110%

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

River was incorporated into the plan of study because of the impacts physical changes might have on the water levels of Lakes Michigan-Huron, on Lake Superior outflow regulation, and the IJC's Orders of Approval governing Lake Superior outflow regulation.

Short-term Forecast

The latest edition of the Monthly Water Level Bulletin (December 2005) found at:

<http://chswww.bur.dfo.ca/danp/> contains the water level forecast for January to June 2006.

Great Lakes Water Level Information

Lake	December 2005 Monthly Mean Level		Beginning of January 2006 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	12 cm below	8 cm below	13 cm below	11 cm below
Michigan-Huron	49 cm below	20 cm below	48 cm below	20 cm below
St. Clair	21 cm below	15 cm below	14 cm below	19 cm below
Erie	14 cm below	17 cm below	13 cm below	18 cm below
Ontario	3 cm above	same	3 cm below	9 cm below