

Great Lakes Levels Update: October 30, 2025

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District Educator







10.28.2025

The Great Lakes Water Level Dashboard



Long-term Record

Master Gauge

Additional Data Options

☐ Superior ☒ Michigan-Huron ☐ St. Clair ☐ Erie ☐ Ontario

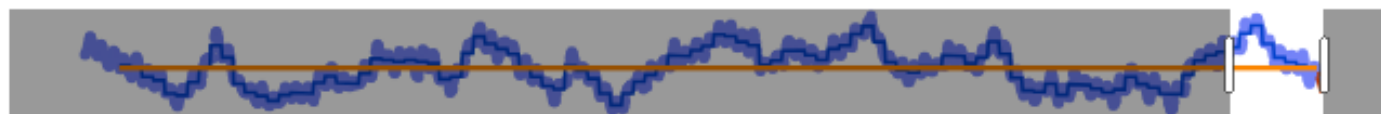
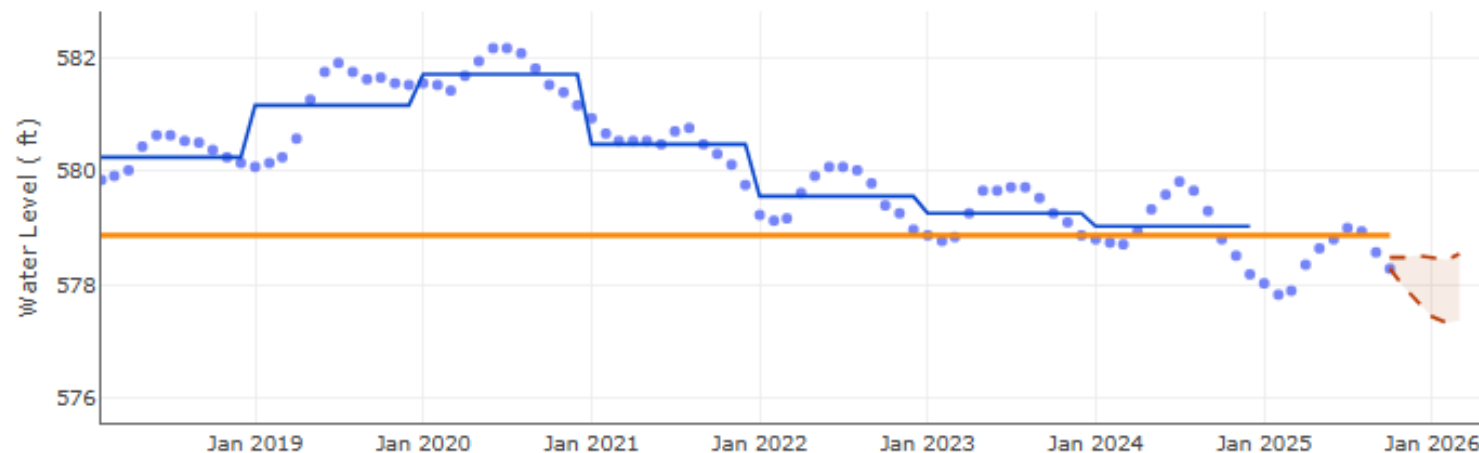
Start Year: 2018

End Year: 2025

Update

Units: Imperial

Lakes Michigan and Huron Water Levels

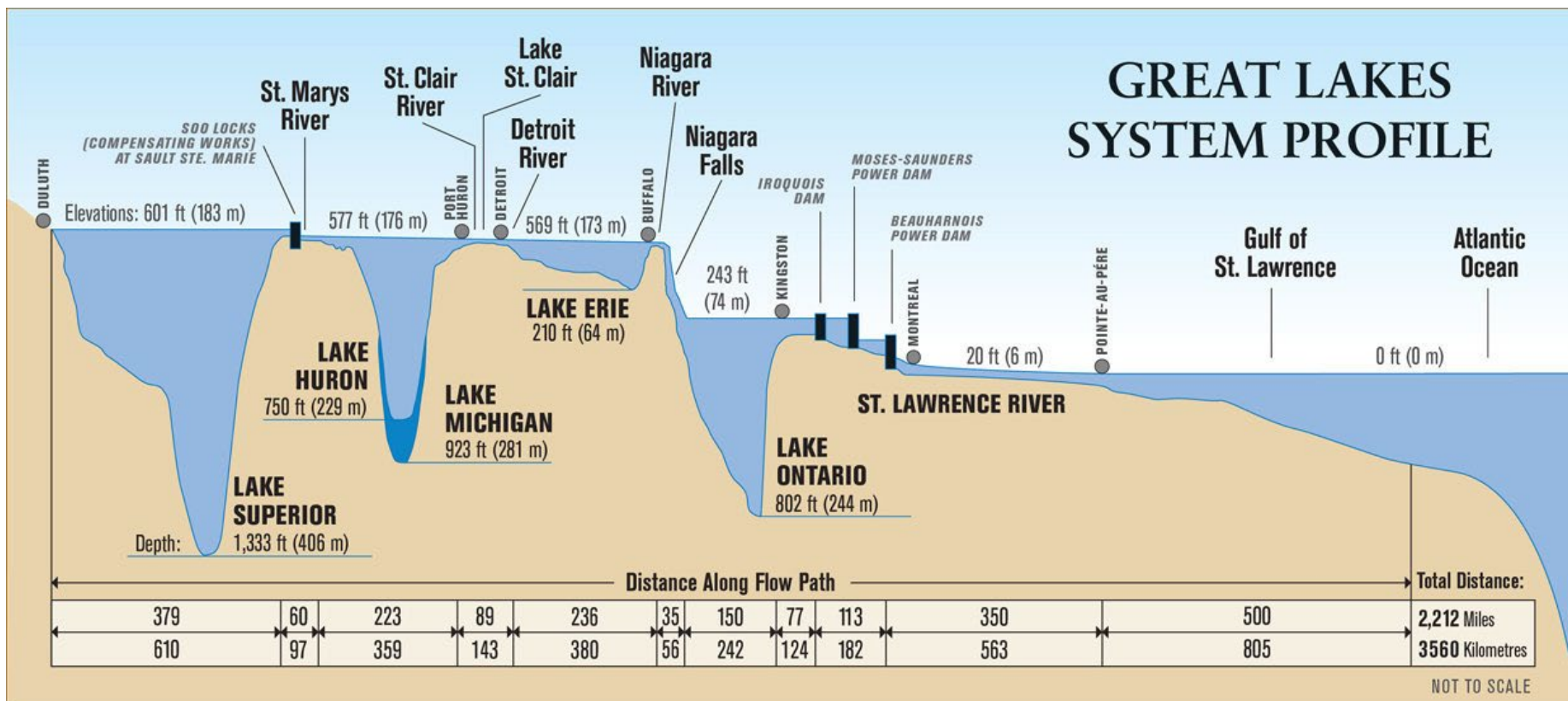


— Long-term average (1918-last year)
 - - - Current coordinated 0-6 month out forecasts - Upper

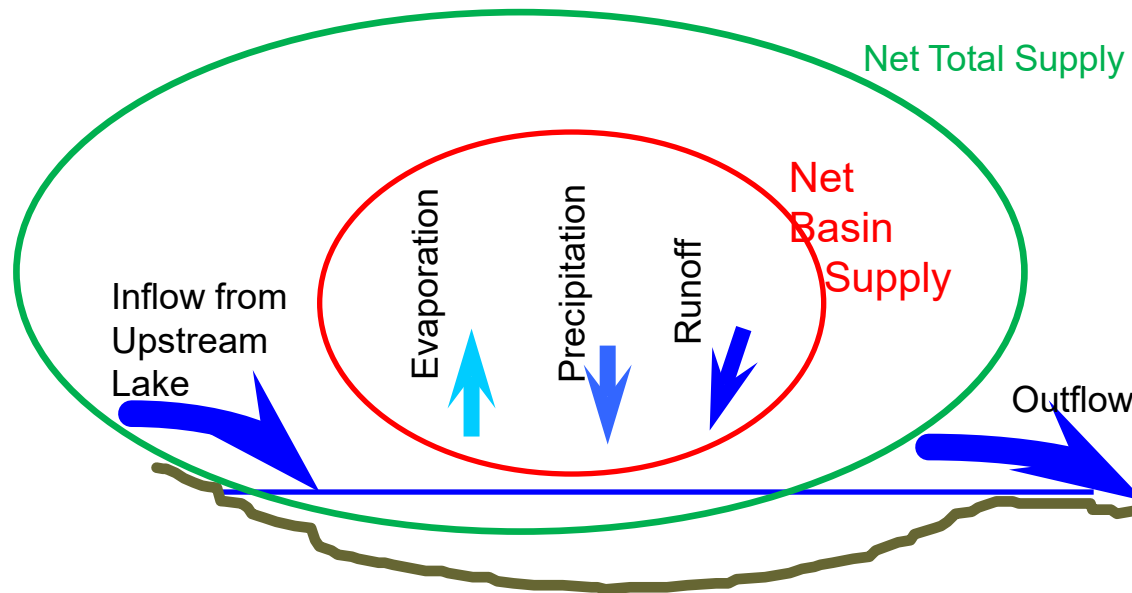
— Lake-wide average
 - - - Current coordinated 0-6 month out forecasts - Lower

• Lake-wide





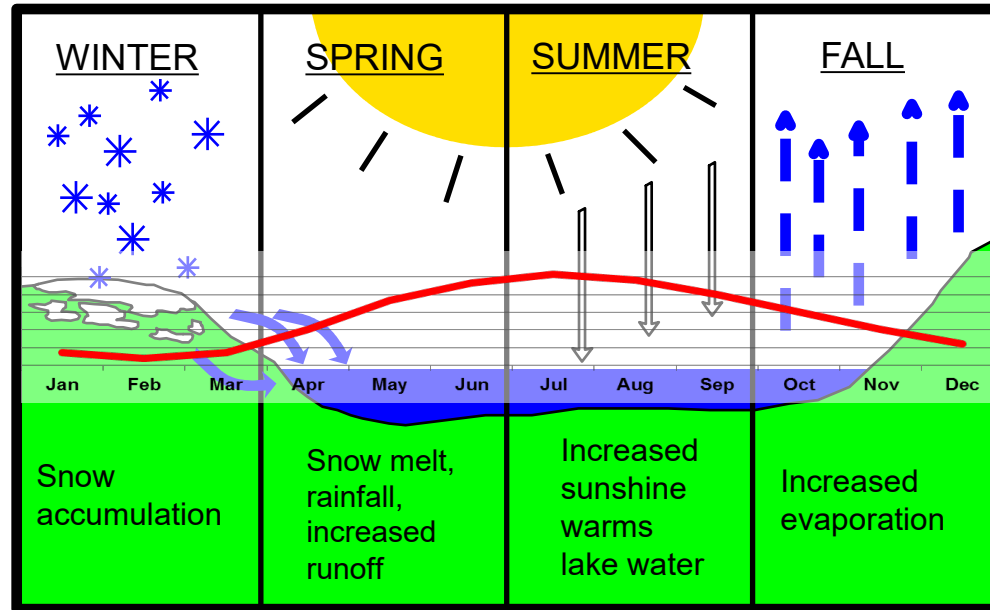
FACTORS IMPACTING GREAT LAKES WATER LEVELS



US Army Corps
of Engineers



ANNUAL WATER LEVELS AND THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE



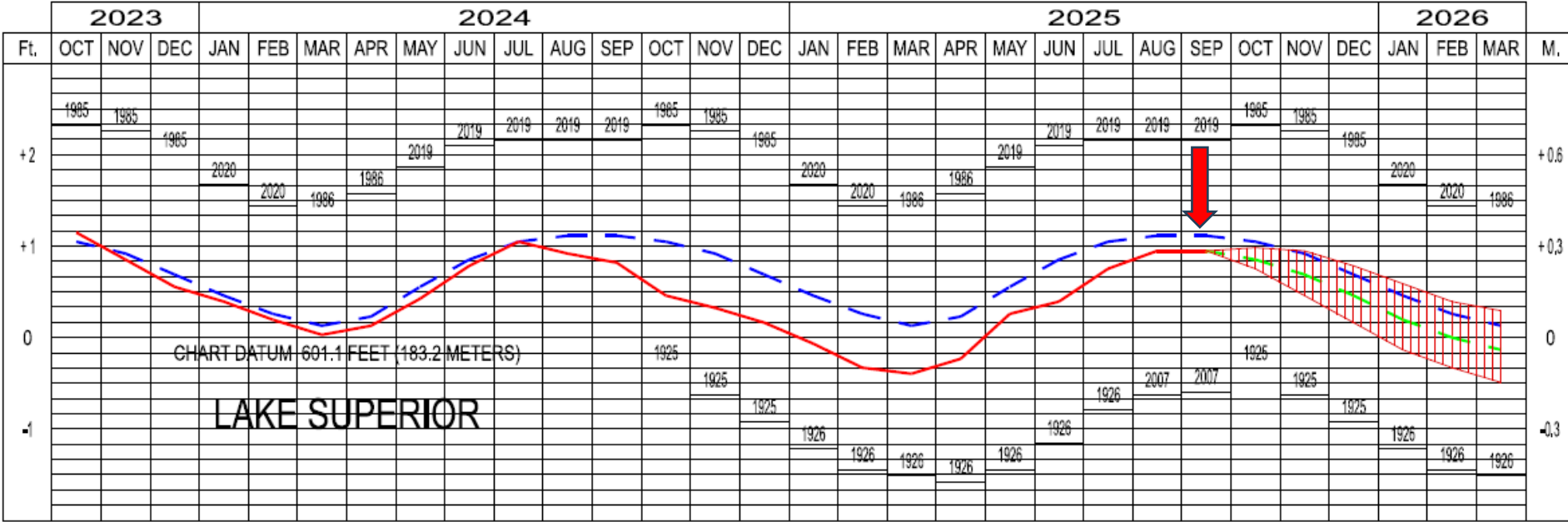
— Water Level



US Army Corps
of Engineers



LAKE SUPERIOR WATER LEVELS - OCTOBER 2025

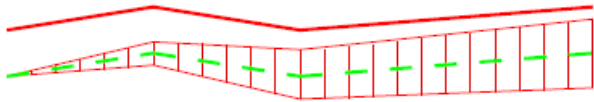


LEGEND

LAKE LEVELS

RECORDED

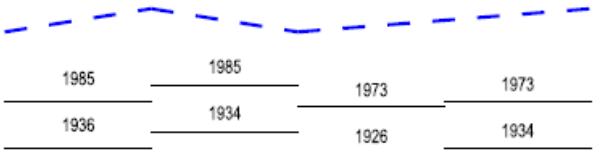
PROJECTED



AVERAGE **

MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **



** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2024

Lake Superior Water Level <i>Beginning of October 2025</i>	
Record High (2019)	183.88 m (603.28 ft)
Average (1918-2024)	183.53 m (602.13 ft)
Current	183.48 m (601.97 ft)

Increased
1 cm (0.4 in)
in September

On average,
decreases
2 cm (0.8 in)
in September



St. Marys Rapids Flow and Compensating Works Gate Setting
The gates will be lowered on Tuesday, October 7.
The St. Marys Rapids flow will decrease from ~570 m ³ /s (~four gates fully open) to ~310 m ³ /s (~two gates fully open)

Decreased
9 cm (3.5 in)
in September

On average,
decreases
6 cm (2.4 in)
in September

Lake Michigan-Huron Water Level <i>Beginning of October 2025</i>	
Record High (1986)	177.49 m (582.32 ft)
Average (1918-2024)	176.49 m (579.03 ft)
Current	176.32 m (578.48 ft)

Lake Superior Total Outflow <i>October 2025</i>	
Record High (1996)	3,570 m ³ /s (126,100 ft ³ /s)
The October 2025 flow is 100 m ³ /s higher than Plan 2012	2,560 m ³ /s (90,400 ft ³ /s)
Average (1900-2024)	2,280 m ³ /s (80,500 ft ³ /s)

Great Lakes Drainage Basins

Black line=cut off for what affects
Lakes Michigan/Huron

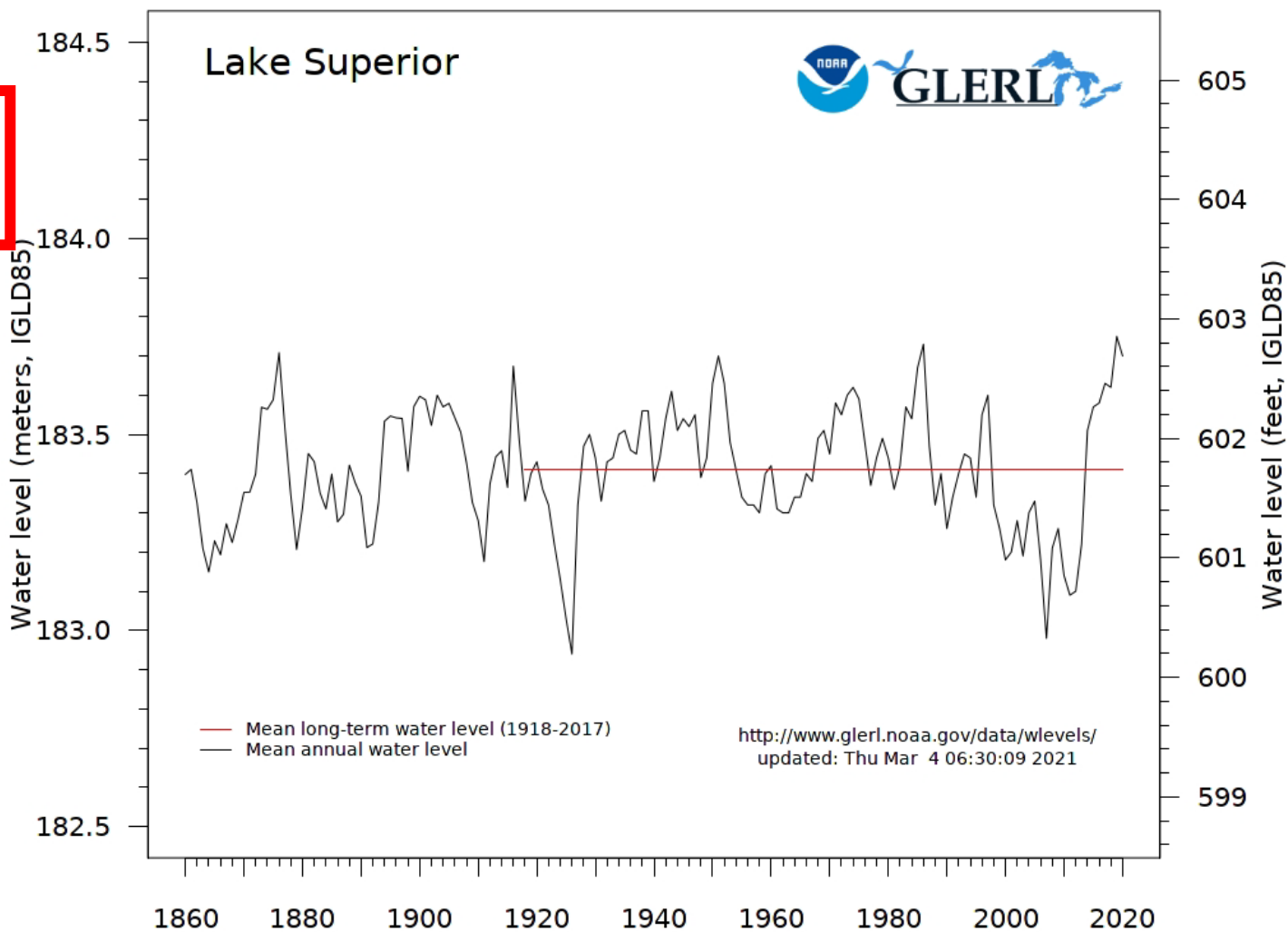


Dry Fall – Basin Precipitation 56% of Average

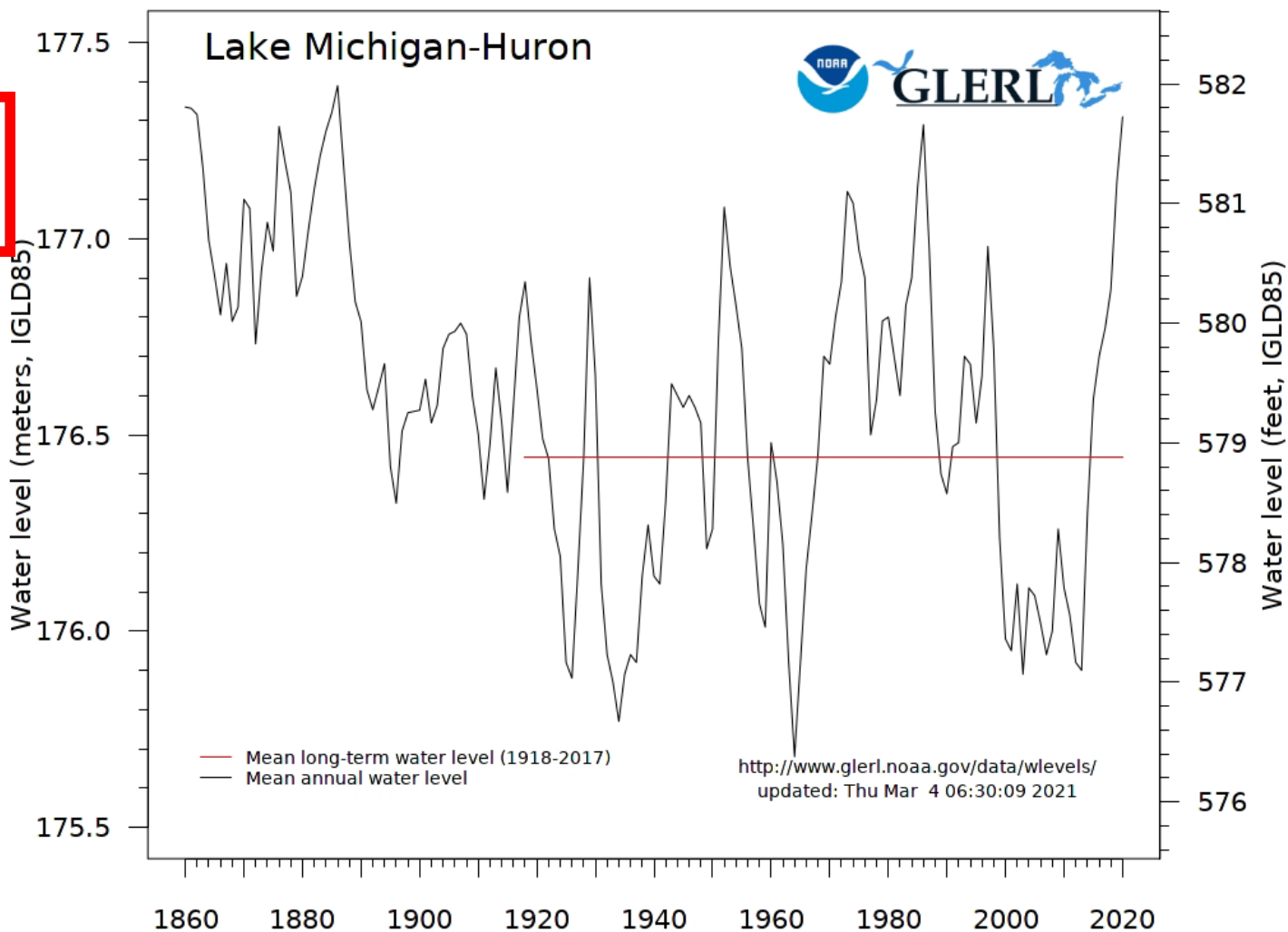
PRECIPITATION (INCHES)								
BASIN	September				12-Month Comparison			
	2025	Average (1900-2023)	Diff.	% of Average	Last 12 Months	Average (1900-2023)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	3.44	3.54	-0.10	97	31.79	30.71	1.08	104
Michigan-Huron	1.93	3.43	-1.50	56	32.77	33.03	-0.26	99
Erie	1.58	3.23	-1.65	49	33.25	36.02	-2.77	92
Ontario	1.40	3.31	-1.91	42	32.85	36.50	-3.65	90
Great Lakes	2.23	3.43	-1.20	65	32.58	33.15	-0.57	98

Lake	September WATER SUPPLIES ¹ (cfs)		September OUTFLOW ² (cfs)	
	2025	Average (1900-2020)	2025	Average (1900-2020)
Superior	30,000	70,000	84,000	83,000
Michigan-Huron	-31,000	25,000	193,000	194,000
Erie	-19,000	-17,000	201,000	206,000
Ontario	-7,000	4,000	236,000	252,000

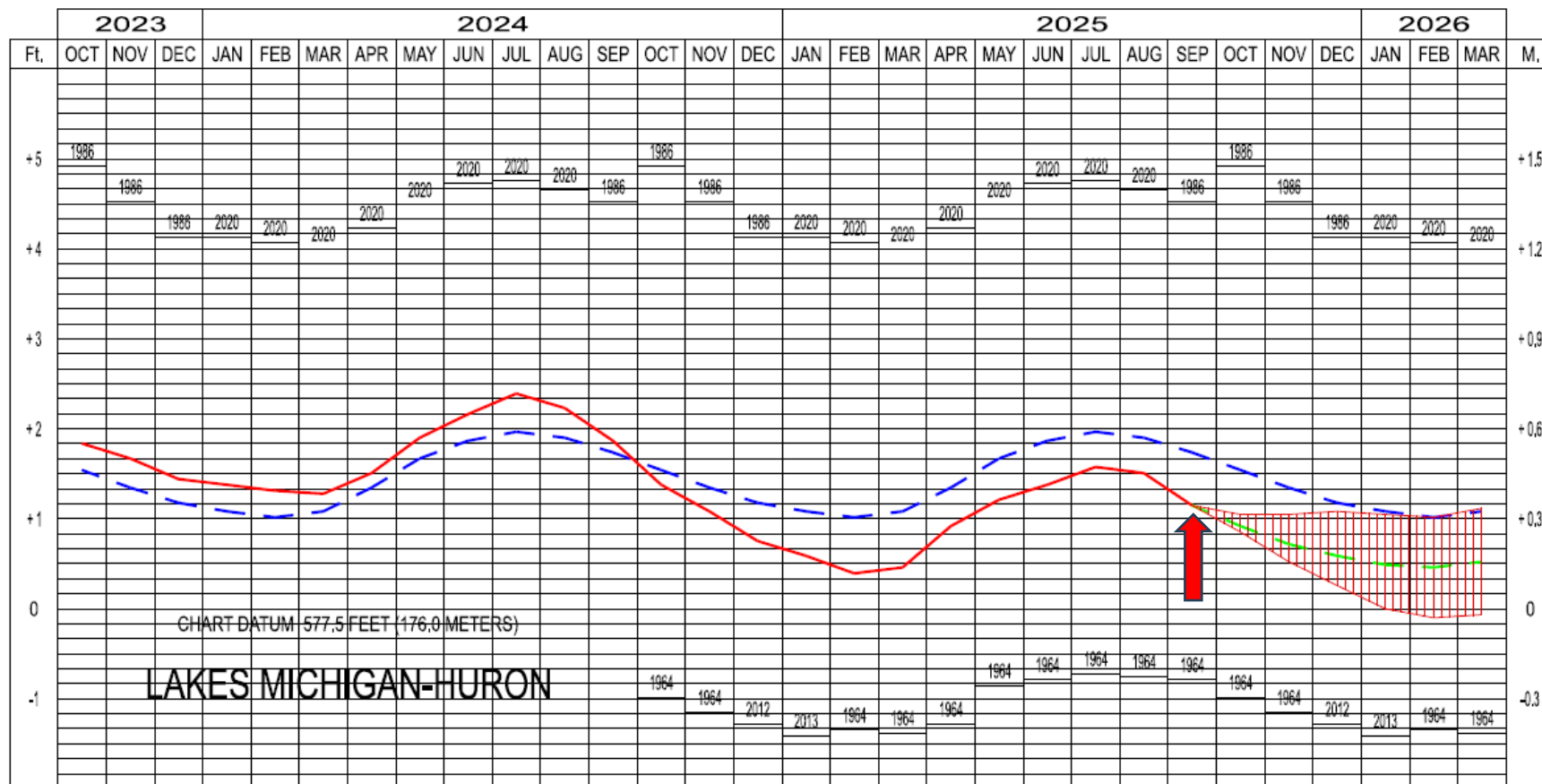
Yearly
Average



Yearly
Average



LAKES MICHIGAN-HURON WATER LEVELS - OCTOBER 2025

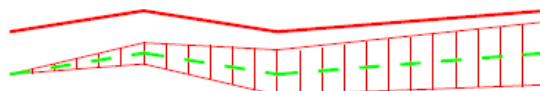


LEGEND

LAKE LEVELS

RECORDED

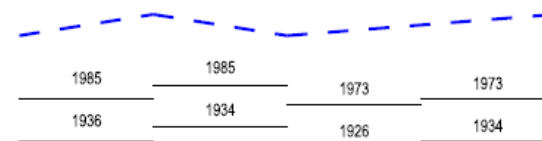
PROJECTED



AVERAGE **

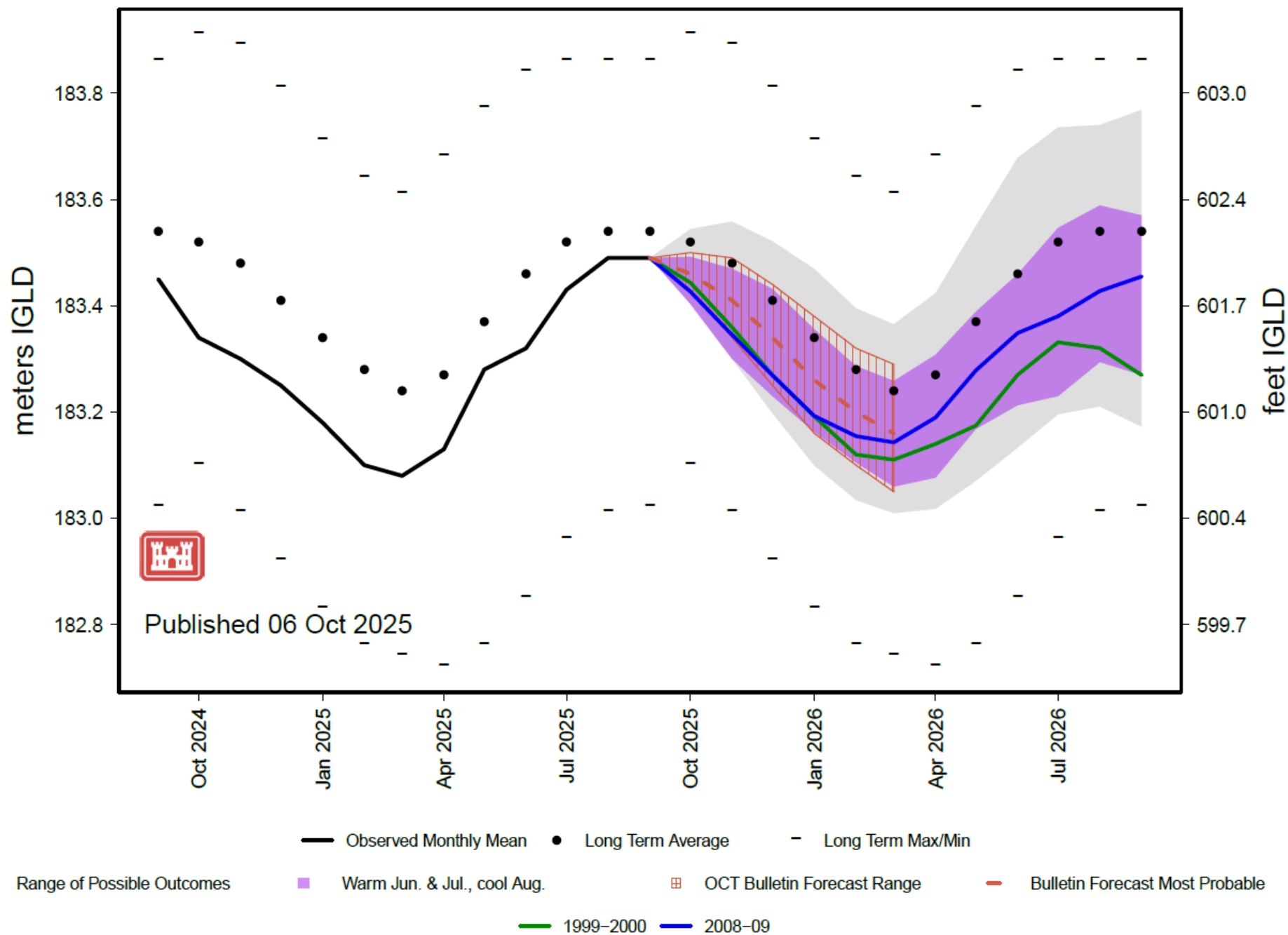
MAXIMUM **

MINIMUM **

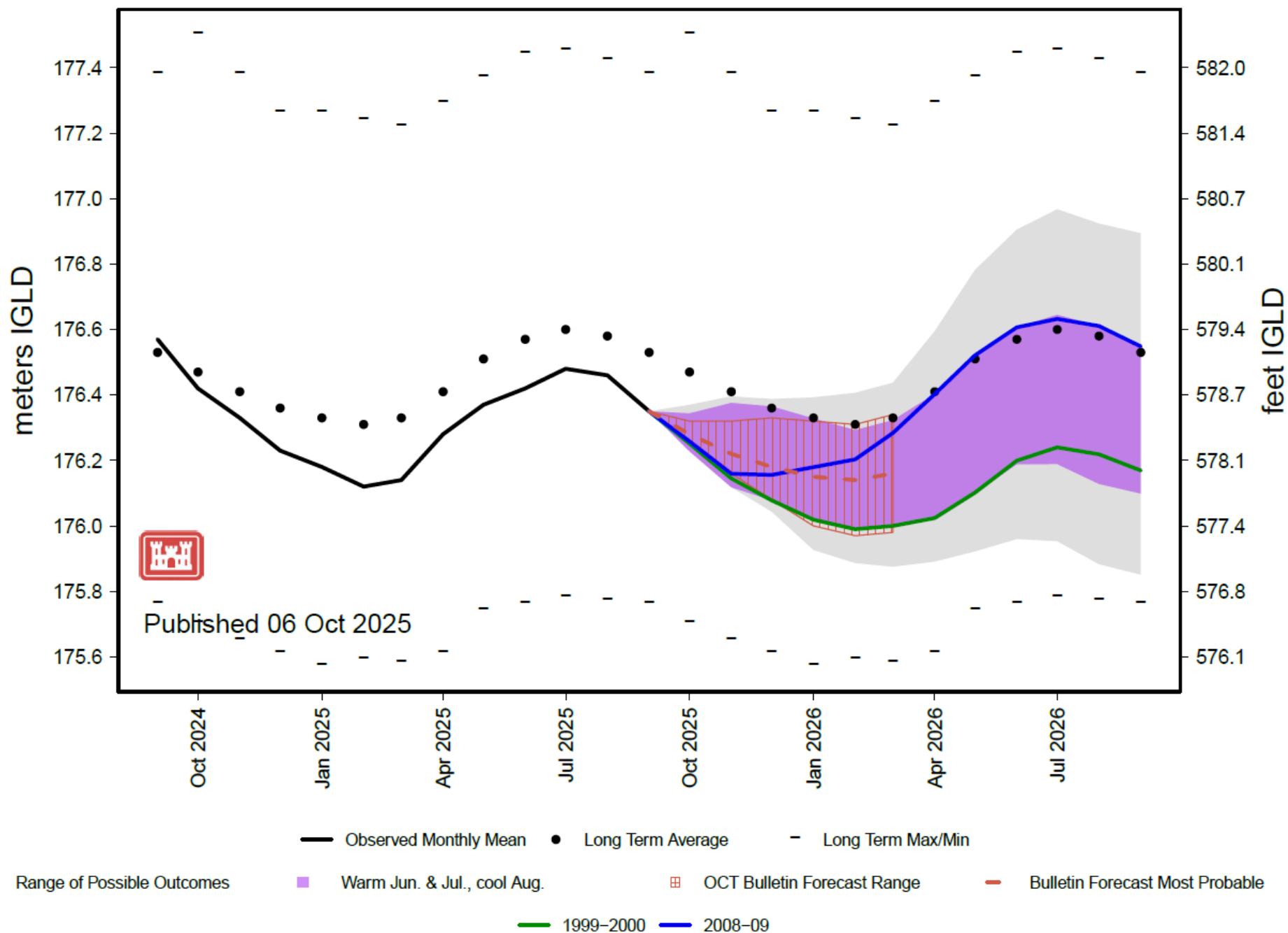


** Average, Maximum and Minimum for period 1918-2024

Lake Superior Monthly Mean Water Levels



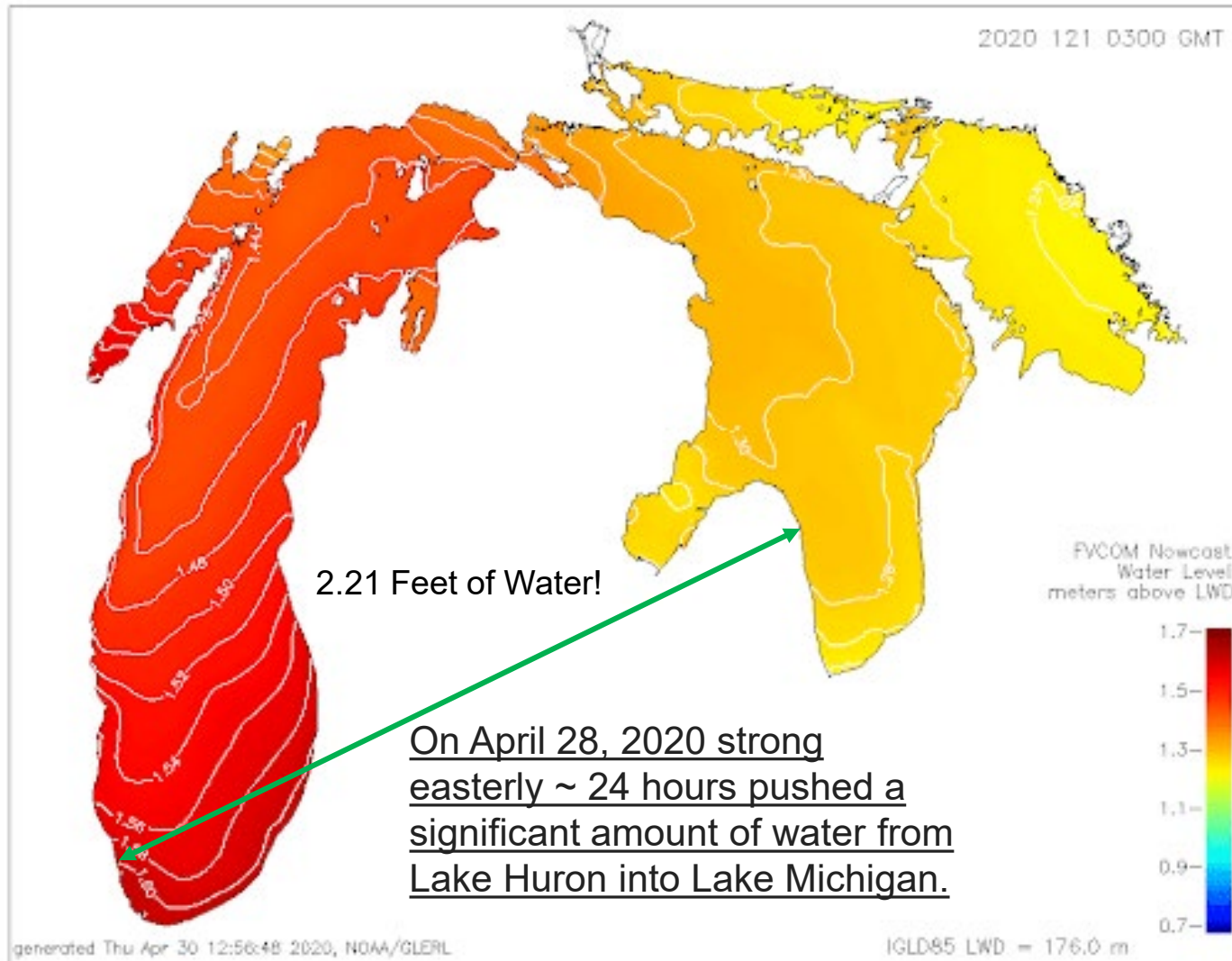
Lake Michigan–Huron Monthly Mean Water Levels





Reminder - Dynamics - Wind

https://www.weather.gov/grr/04302020_HeavyRain_LakeshoreFlooding





Thank you!

michiganseagrant.org

