

FECN19 CWIS 161800

THIRTY DAY ICE FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FOR MID-JANUARY TO MID-FEBRUARY ISSUED BY ENVIRONEMNT CANADA ON 16JANUARY 2008.  
THE NEXT SCHEDULED BULLETIN WILL BE ISSUED ON 01 FEBRUARY 2008.

### **Lake Superior**

Temperatures have been well above normal over the first 2 weeks of January December. As a result ice conditions are now close to 2 weeks behind normal.

Forecast ice conditions from January 16<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Below normal temperatures are generally expected over the Lake Superior area for the second half of January.

1. Thunder Bay – New and thin lake ice will form and will cover most of Thunder Bay early in the forecast period. Ice will further develop and at the end of the month most of the bay will be covered with medium lake ice. A band of consolidated medium and thick lake ice will develop along the shore during the second week of the period.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – a 5 to 10 mile wide band of thin lake ice will gradually develop.
4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – a 5 to 10 mile wide band of thin lake ice will gradually develop.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of Keweenaw Peninsula – a 4 to 8 mile wide band of thin lake ice will develop during the first week of the period. During the last week of January the band will further expand offshore and some medium lake ice will develop. The ice around the Apostle Islands will consolidate late in the period.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of the Keweenaw Peninsula – Patchy new lake ice areas to develop during the first week of the period. During the last week of January a 3 to 8 mile wide band of thin lake ice will develop.
7. Whitefish Bay – New and thin lake ice will develop within 3 to 5 days into the forecast period. During the last week of the period medium lake ice will develop and at month's end the bay will be consolidated with medium and thick lake ice.
8. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay – a 5 to 10 mile wide band of new lake ice will develop during the first week of the period. The band of ice will further expand to 10 to 20 miles offshore during the second week. At that time thin lake ice will predominate.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Mainly open water. However a 5 to 10 mile wide band of new lake ice will develop during the last week of January west of Marathon.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Open water to ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Forecast temperatures will be near normal over the area.

1. Thunder Bay – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – A 15 to 25 mile wide band of thin and medium lake ice will predominate.

4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – A 15 to 25 mile wide band of thin and medium lake ice will predominate.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of the Keweenaw Peninsula – Consolidated ice around the Apostle Islands. Otherwise a 10 to 20 mile wide band of thin and medium lake ice.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of Keweenaw Peninsula – A 8 to 15 mile wide band of thin lake ice.
7. Whitefish Bay – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
8. From Whitefish Bay to Michipicoten Bay – A 10 to 20 mile wide band of thin with some medium lake ice will be present throughout the period.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – A 10 mile wide band of thin lake ice will prevail west of Marathon.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – West of Keweenaw Peninsula open drift thin lake ice. Open water to ice free east of the peninsula.

### **Lake Michigan**

Well above normal temperatures were observed during the first 2 weeks of January. Ice conditions in Green Bay are close to 2 weeks behind normal.

Forecast ice conditions from January 16<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Below to well below normal temperatures are expected for the second half of January.

1. Green Bay – New and thin lake ice will rapidly spread over all of Green Bay during the first week of the forecast period. At the end of the first week the southern half of the bay will consolidate with thin lake ice. During the last week of January medium and thick lake ice will become predominant inside the bay and at the end of the month most of the bay will be consolidate. The exception is the entrance to the bay where the ice will remain mobile. The area of consolidated ice in Little and Big Bay de Noc will expand.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan – New and thin lake ice will continue to develop and will cover the area east of Beaver Island to the Straits of Mackinaw within a week into the forecast period. During the second week the ice will gradually thicken to medium lake ice. By month's end the northeast end of the lake will consolidate. New and thin lake ice will develop in Traverse Bay northward along the shore.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – A 3 to 8 mile wide band of new and thin lake ice will develop along the shore especially during the last week of the month. Otherwise mostly ice free with open water near the shore and ice edge.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Temperatures will be near normal over the area.

1. Green Bay – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
2. Northern Lake Michigan – The consolidated ice in the northeast end of the lake will expand towards Beaver Island and reach the thick lake ice stage early in the period. At mid-February thin lake ice will predominate within 10 miles southwest of beaver Island.

3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Generally a 4 to 8 mile wide band of thin lake ice will predominate along the shore. Otherwise open water along the ice edge and ice free in the central section.

### **Lake Huron and Georgian Bay**

Reported temperatures were much above normal during the first half of January. Ice conditions are close to 2 weeks behind normal.

Forecast ice conditions from January 16<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Generally below normal temperatures will prevail for the last 2 weeks of January.

1. North Channel – During the first weekend of the period new and thin lake ice will spread over the channel. At the end of the month North Channel will be mainly consolidated with medium and thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – New and thin lake ice will rapidly develop over the river. Within a week into the forecast period St Mary's River will be consolidated with thin and medium lake ice. Ice in the river will thicken to medium and thick lake ice by month's end.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – Patches of new lake ice developing along the shore early in the period. A 5 mile wide band of thin lake ice will develop during the second week.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – New and thin lake ice will develop within 3 to 5 days into the forecast period. At the end of January medium lake ice will prevail in the entrance to the straits. At that time areas of consolidated medium lake ice will form along the shore.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – A narrow band of new lake ice will develop 3 to 5 days into the forecast period. The band will expand to 5 to 10 miles offshore and be composed of mostly thin lake ice a week later.
6. Saginaw Bay – New and thin lake ice will spread over the bay early in the period. Saginaw Bay will become consolidated with medium with some thick lake ice by the end of the month.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Narrow band of new lake ice will develop within a week into the forecast period. By month's end a 10 to 15 mile wide band of thin lake ice will prevail along most of the shore. In addition some medium lake ice will develop along the southeastern shore late in the period.
8. Georgian Bay – A 10 to 15 mile wide band of new and thin lake ice will develop 3 to 5 days into the forecast period. During the second week of the period thin lake ice will spread over most of the bay. However open water will prevail along the south-western shore throughout the period.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron – Open water along the shore or ice edges and ice free in central Lake Huron.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Temperatures will be near normal for the entire area.

1. North Channel – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – Consolidated with thick lake ice.

3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – A 4 to 8 mile wide band of thin lake ice.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – The area west of Bois Blanc Island to the Straits of Mackinaw will consolidated with medium and thick lake ice early in the forecast period. Otherwise thin and medium lake ice will prevail.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – A 10 to 15 mile wide band of thin lake ice will be present along the shore.
6. Saginaw Bay – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Medium lake ice will predominate.
8. Georgian Bay – Medium lake ice will predominate in most of the bay except thinner ice in the south-western section.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay – Open water except ice free in the central section.

### **Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair**

Over the last 2 weeks temperatures were well above normal. Ice development is close to 2 weeks behind normal.

Forecast ice conditions from January 16<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Temperatures will be below normal during the second half of January.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Within a week into the forecast period Lake St Clair and the Western Basin will be covered with thin and new lake ice. At the end of January Lake St Clair will be consolidated with medium lake ice. At that time close pack medium and thin lake ice will predominate in the Western Basin.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Within 3 to 5 days into the forecast period new and thin lake ice will develop in the lake west of Cleveland and along parts of the northern shore. Thin with some medium lake ice will rapidly spread over most of Lake Erie during the last week of the month. The ice near Buffalo and in inner Long Point Bay will consolidate during the last week of the forecast period.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Temperatures will be near normal for the first two weeks of February.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Lake St Clair will be consolidated with thick lake ice. The Western Basin will be covered mainly with medium and some thick lake ice. Ice will consolidate along parts of the shore of the basin as well as in the eastern section south of Pelee Island.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Medium lake ice will generally predominate except for thinner ice along the northern shore and just east of the Western Basin. The area near buffalo will remain consolidate with medium and thick lake ice.

## **Lake Ontario**

Reported temperatures were much above normal over the lake during the past two weeks. Very little ice has developed so far.

Forecast ice conditions from January 16<sup>th</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Temperatures will be below normal during the period.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Little ice development is expected over the next 5 to 7 days. New and thin lake ice will develop during the last week of the period along the coast of Prince Edward County as well as in the northeast end of the bay north of a line between Stony Island and Prince Edward Point.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated with medium lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – New and thin lake ice will spread over the river within 3 to 5 days into the forecast period. At the end of January the river will be consolidated with medium and thin lake ice.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Patchy areas of new lake ice will develop along the shore during the last week of the month. Ice free with open water near the shore and along the ice edge.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup>.

Temperatures will be near normal for the first two weeks of February.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – The ice in the northeast end of the lake will thicken to medium lake ice. The band of new and thin lake ice along the coast of Prince Edward County will persist.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – The ice will thicken to reach the thick lake ice stage late in the period.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – New and thin lake ice along sections of the shore. Elsewhere ice free except open water along the shore and ice edge.

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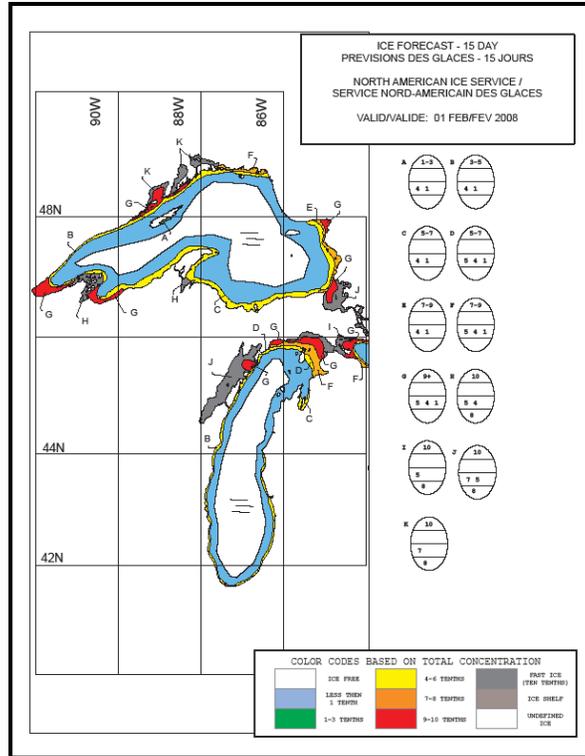


Figure 1: Ice forecast, Western Great lakes – 01 February – 2008

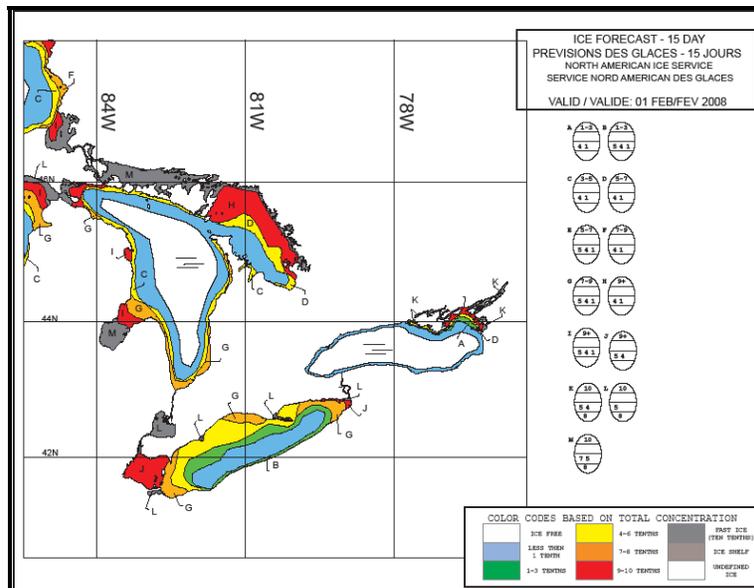


Figure 2: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes 01 February – 2008

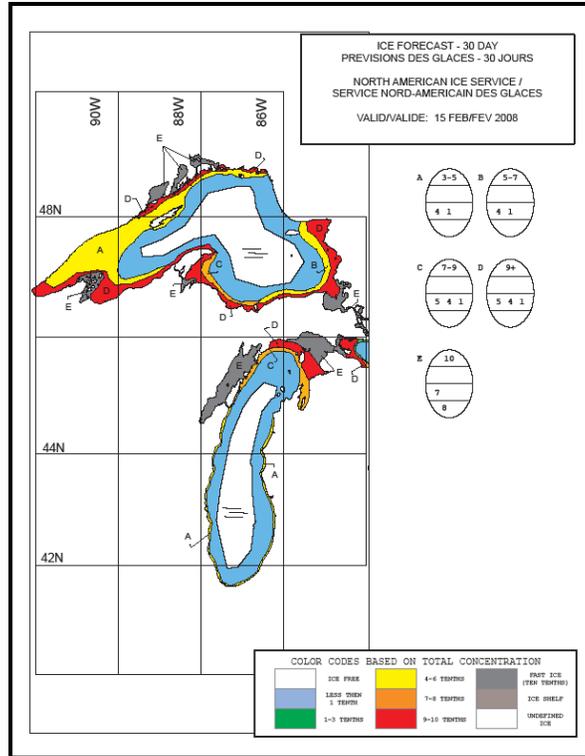


Figure 3: Ice forecast, Western Great lakes – 15 February 2008

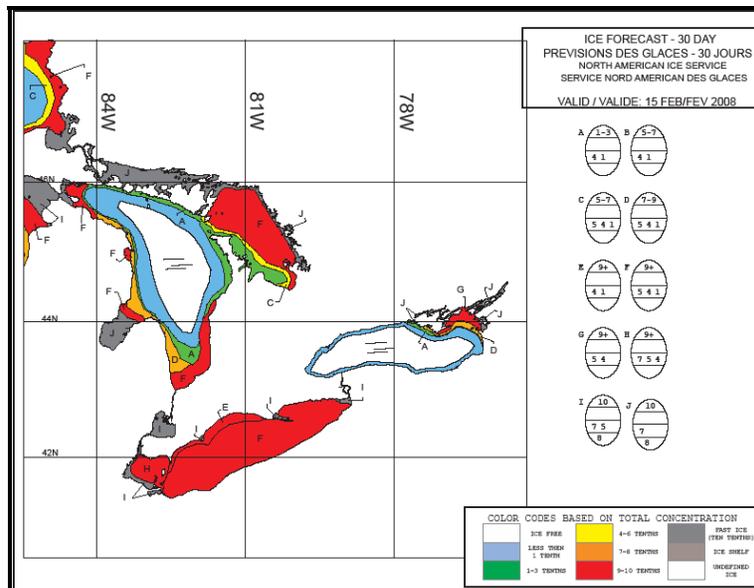


Figure 4: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 15 February 2008