

FECN19 CWIS 161800

THIRTY DAY ICE FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FOR MID-APRIL TO MID-MAY ISSUED BY THE NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 16 APRIL 2008. THE NEXT SCHEDULED ICE FORECAST WILL BE ISSUED ON 01 MAY 2008.

Lake Superior

Near normal temperatures prevailed over the first 2 weeks of April. In terms of break-up conditions are a few days late compared to the long term average.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to April 30th

Above normal temperatures will prevail over the forecast period.

1. Thunder Bay – Most of the ice will melt within a few days into the forecast period. The exception is the consolidated ice in the northeast end of the bay which will melt late in the forecast period.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Will fracture during the second week of the forecast period.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Open water.
4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – Ice free.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of Keweenaw Peninsula – The ice in Chequamegon Bay will fracture early in the forecast period and melt about a week later. Otherwise open water to ice free.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of the Keweenaw Peninsula – The ice near Grand Island will fracture and melt within a week into the forecast period. Otherwise open water to ice free.
7. Whitefish Bay – The rest of the bay will fracture early in the forecast period. Open water conditions will develop towards the end of the month.
8. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay – Open water to ice free.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Open water to ice free.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May 01st to May 15th

Near to below normal temperatures are forecast.

1. Thunder Bay – Open water to ice free.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Open water conditions developing during the second week of the period.
3. From Grand Marais to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Ice free.
4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – Ice free.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of the Keweenaw Peninsula – Ice free.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of Keweenaw Peninsula – Ice free.
7. Whitefish Bay – Open water to ice free.
8. From Whitefish Bay to Michipicoten Bay – Ice free.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Ice free.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Ice free.

Lake Michigan

Near normal temperatures prevailed during the first 2 weeks of April. Break-up is a few days late.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to April 30th

Above normal temperatures are forecast for the second half of April.

1. Green Bay – The loose ice in the northern section will melt early in the forecast period. Open water conditions will develop in the southern section within a week into the forecast period. The ice in Little and Big Bay de Noc will fracture during the third week of April and melt before month's end.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan – The rest of the ice will melt early in the period then open water to ice free.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May 01st to May 15th

Temperatures will be near normal over the area.

1. Green Bay – Ice free.
2. Northern Lake Michigan – Ice free.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Ice free.

Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Reported temperatures were near to above normal during the first half of April.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to April 30th

Above normal temperatures are expected over the next 2 weeks.

1. North Channel – The open water area in the central section will expand rapidly during the period. The consolidated ice at both ends of the Channel will fracture a week into the forecast period and will then melt rapidly. However areas of loose ice will persist at both ends of the Channel at the end of April.
2. St Mary's River – The ice in the river will fracture early in the period and will melt during the last week of the month.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – Open water.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – Open water.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
6. Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Ice free.
8. Georgian Bay – The ice along the northeast shore will melt a week to 10 days into the forecast period. Then open water to ice free.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May 01st to May 15th

Temperatures will be near to below normal for the entire area.

1. North Channel – The rest of the ice will melt during the first week of the period then open water to ice free.
2. St Mary's River – Ice free.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – Ice free.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinaw – Ice free.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
6. Saginaw Bay – Ice free.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – Ice free.
8. Georgian Bay – Ice free.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron – Ice free.

Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair

Over the last 2 weeks temperatures have generally been above normal.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to April 30th

Temperatures will be above normal during the second half of April.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Ice free.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – The ice in the northeast end of the lake will melt within a week into the forecast period. Otherwise ice free except open water in the northeast end.

Forecast ice conditions from May 01st to May 15th

Temperatures will be near normal for the first half of May.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Ice free.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Ice free.

Lake Ontario

Reported temperatures were near to above normal over the lake area during the past two weeks.

Forecast ice conditions from April 16th to April 30th

Near to below normal temperatures are expected for the second half of April.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Open water becoming ice free.
2. Bay of Quinte – Open water becoming ice free.
3. St Lawrence River – Open water becoming ice free.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from May 01st to May 15th

Temperatures will be near to below normal for the first half of May.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Ice free.
2. Bay of Quinte – Ice free.
3. St Lawrence River – Ice free.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free.

END

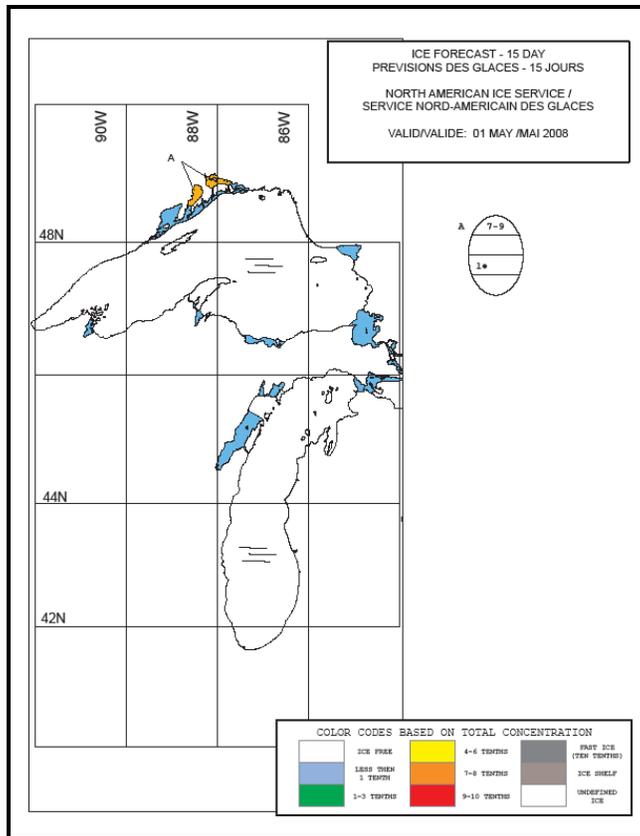


Figure 1: Ice forecast, Western Great lakes 01 May – 2008

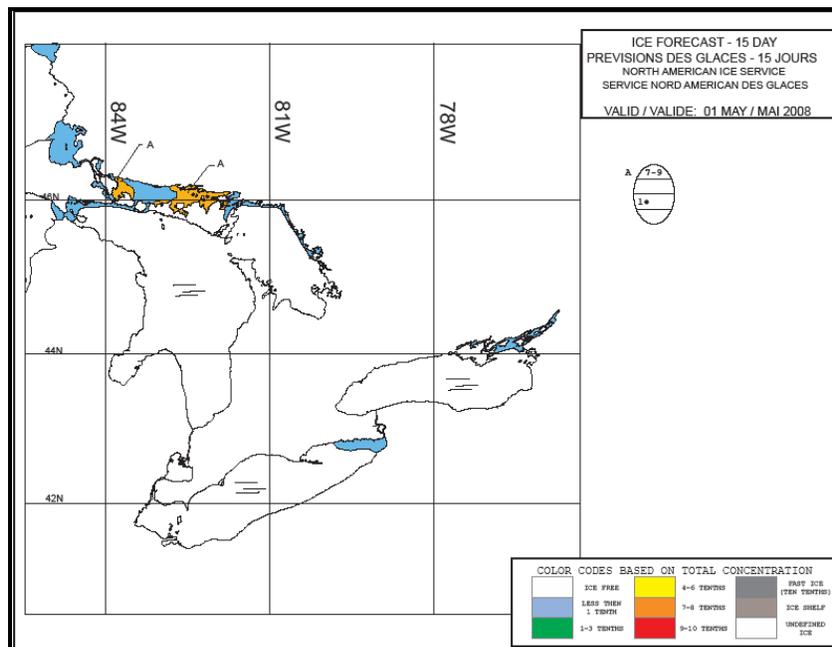


Figure 2: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes 01 May – 2008

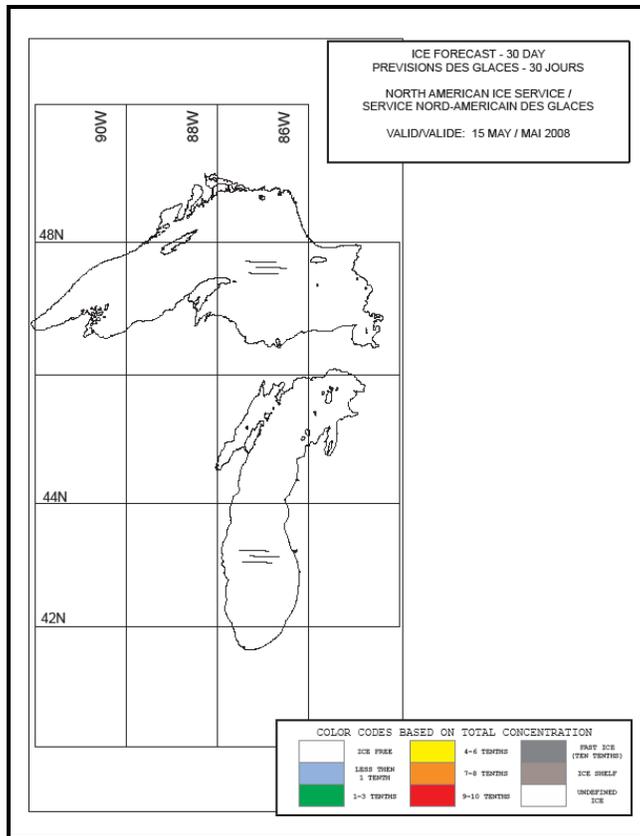


Figure 3: Ice forecast, Western Great lakes – 15 may 2008

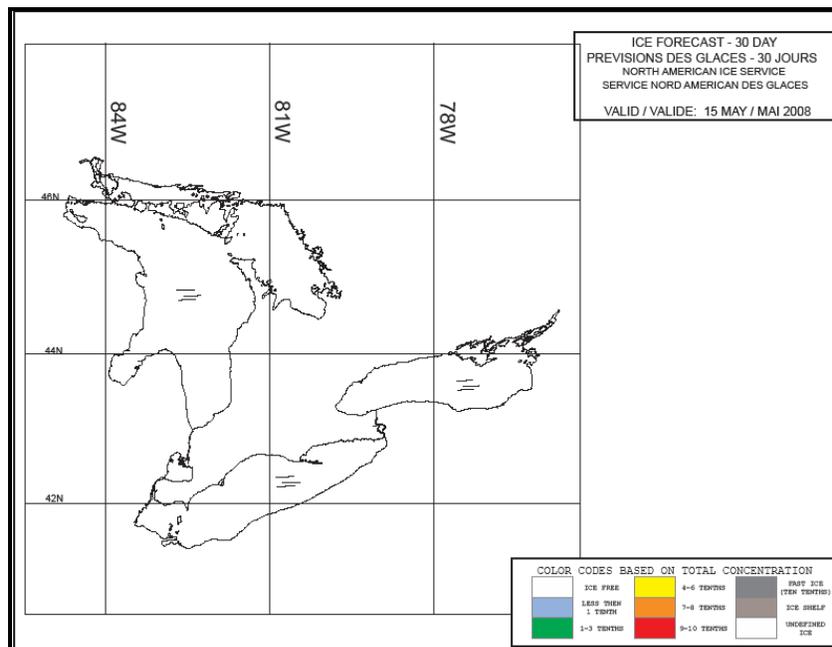


Figure 4: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 15 May 2008