

FECN19 CWIS 011800

THIRTY DAY ICE FORECAST FOR THE GREAT LAKES FOR FEBRUARY ISSUED
BY THE NORTH AMERICAN ICE SERVICE ON 01 FEBRUARY 2012.
THE NEXT SCHEDULED BULLETIN WILL BE ISSUED ON 15 FEBRUARY 2012.

Lake Superior

Air temperatures were above normal over Lake Superior during the second half of January.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 15th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Thunder Bay – Thin and medium lake ice will cover most of the bay at the end of the period. Consolidated medium lake ice will be present along the shores.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais Minnesota to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will occasionally be present along the shore and from Thunder Bay to Isle Royale. Pieces of medium lake ice will occasionally drift from Thunder Bay to Isle Royale.
4. From Grand Marais to Duluth – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms. Close pack thin with some medium lake ice will predominate within 10 nautical miles of Duluth at the end of the period.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of Keweenaw Peninsula – At the end of the period, a 10 mile wide band of thin with some medium lake ice will be present along the shore. Chequamegon Bay and the ice around the Apostle Islands will be consolidated with medium lake ice.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of the Keweenaw Peninsula – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms.
7. Whitefish Bay – Shallow bays along the eastern shore will be consolidated with medium lake ice. New and thin lake ice will develop in the bay in the first week of February.
8. From Whitefish Bay northwards to Michipicoten Bay – Mostly open water.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Mostly open water.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Open water to ice free.

Forecast ice conditions from February 16th to February 29th

Above normal air temperatures are expected during the period.

1. Thunder Bay – Thin and medium lake ice will cover most of the bay at the end of the period. Consolidated medium and thick lake ice will be present along the shores.
2. Nipigon and Black Bays – Consolidated with thick lake ice.
3. From Grand Marais Minnesota to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will occasionally be present along the shore and from Thunder Bay to Isle Royale. Pieces of medium and thick lake ice will occasionally drift from Thunder Bay to Isle Royale.

4. From Grand Marais to Duluth - A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms. Close pack thin and medium lake ice will predominate within 10 nautical miles of Duluth at the end of the month.
5. Southern Lake Superior west of the Keweenaw Peninsula – A 10 mile wide band of thin and medium lake ice will be present along the shore during the period. Chequamegon Bay and the ice around the Apostle Islands will be consolidated with medium and thick lake ice.
6. Southern Lake Superior east of Keweenaw Peninsula – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms.
7. Whitefish Bay – The shallow bays along the eastern shore will be consolidated with medium and thick lake ice. New and thin with some medium lake ice will cover most of the bay near the end of the month.
8. From Whitefish Bay to Michipicoten Bay – Mainly open water during the period.
9. From Michipicoten Bay to the entrance to Nipigon Bay – Mainly open water during the period.
10. Elsewhere in Lake Superior – Open water to ice free.

Lake Michigan

Above normal air temperatures were observed over Lake Michigan during the second half of January.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 15th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Green Bay – At the end of the period consolidated medium lake ice will cover the Bays de Noc and the southern two thirds of the bay. Very close pack thin and medium lake ice will be present in the rest of the bay.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan – Near mid-month a narrow area of consolidated medium lake ice will be present in the Straits of Mackinac. Close to very close pack thin with some medium lake ice will be present east of Seul Choix Point, east of Beaver Island and into little Traverse Bay. A Narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be found from Seul Choix Point to Green Bay.
3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Narrow bands of new lake ice will be present at times along portions of the shore before being destroyed by passing storms. Elsewhere ice free to open water.

Forecast ice conditions from February 16th to February 29th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Green Bay – At the end of the period consolidated medium and thick lake ice will cover the Bays de Noc and the southern two thirds of Green Bay. Very close pack medium with some thick lake ice will be present in the rest of the bay.
2. Northeastern Lake Michigan – At the end of the period consolidated medium with some thick lake ice will be present along the shore from Seul Choix Point to the Straits of Mackinac. Areas of close pack thin and medium lake ice will be observed

farther offshore to Beaver Island and in a narrow band along the rest of the north shore of the lake.

3. Elsewhere in Lake Michigan – Narrow bands of new lake ice will be present at times along portions of the shore before being destroyed by passing storms. Elsewhere ice free to open water.

Lake Huron and Georgian Bay

Reported air temperatures were above normal during the second half of January.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 15th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. North Channel – The eastern and western end of the North Channel will be consolidated with medium lake ice. The rest of the channel will become covered with thin and medium lake ice in the second week of February.
2. St Mary's River – Consolidated with medium lake ice.
3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to North-western Lake Huron – A narrow band of new lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinac – Consolidated thin and medium lake ice will develop from Bois Blanc Island to the Straits of Mackinac in the second week of February.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present along portions of the shore.
6. Saginaw Bay – The bay will become consolidated with thin and medium lake ice in the second week of the period.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present along the shores at the end of the period.
8. Georgian Bay – Near mid-month, new and thin lake ice will be present within 10 to 25 nautical miles of the northern and eastern shores and some new and thin lake ice will occasionally drift into the entrance to the bay. Open water elsewhere except for consolidated medium lake ice in shallower bays.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present along the south-western shore. Otherwise open water along the shores and ice free in central Lake Huron.

Forecast ice conditions from February 16th to February 29th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. North Channel – At the end of the period, the eastern and western end of the North Channel will be consolidated with medium and thick lake ice. The rest of the channel will be covered with mobile medium with some thick lake ice.
2. St Mary's River – Consolidated with medium and thick lake ice.

3. South of Manitoulin Island westward to north-western Lake Huron – A narrow band of new lake ice will be present at times along the shore before being destroyed by passing storms.
4. North-western Lake Huron near the Straits of Mackinac – Consolidated medium with some thick lake ice west of Bois Blanc Island. Close pack new and thin lake ice with some medium lake ice farther offshore.
5. From north-western Lake Huron to Saginaw Bay – A narrow band of new and thin lake ice will be present along the shore.
6. Saginaw Bay –Consolidated with thin and medium lake ice. The fast ice will remain weak and could fracture when battered by occasional storms.
7. The southern and eastern shore of Lake Huron – A narrow band of new and thin with some medium lake ice will be present along the shore.
8. Georgian Bay – New and thin lake ice with some medium lake ice will be present within 10 to 25 nautical miles of the northern and eastern shores and some ice will occasionally drift into the entrance to the bay. Open water elsewhere except for consolidated medium and thick lake ice in shallower bays.
9. Elsewhere in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay – Open water to ice free except for a narrow band of new and thin lake ice along the south-western shore.

Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair

Temperatures were above normal during the second half of January.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 15th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Close to very close pack new and thin lake ice will cover Lake St Clair near mid-month except for consolidated medium lake ice in the eastern portion of the lake. At that time, new and thin lake ice will cover most of the Western Basin.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Near mid-month, thin lake ice will cover Sandusky Bay. New and thin lake ice will be found in Long Point Bay and within 10 nautical miles of the northern shore from Long Point to the Western Basin. Otherwise open water in Lake Erie.

Forecast ice conditions from February 16th to February 29th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Lake St Clair and the Western Basin – Close to very close pack new and thin with some medium lake ice will cover Lake St Clair near the end of the month except for consolidated medium lake ice in the eastern portion of the lake. At that time, new and thin with some medium lake ice will cover most of the Western Basin.
2. The rest of Lake Erie – Thin lake ice will cover Sandusky Bay. Lake Erie will be at times covered with new and thin lake ice but passing storms will destroy part of the ice and open wide leads, mostly along the northern shores.

Lake Ontario

Above normal temperatures were reported over Lake Ontario during the second half of January.

Forecast ice conditions from February 1st to February 15th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Shallower bays will be consolidated with medium lake ice. New and thin lake ice will at times be present along the shores east of Prince Edward Point.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated with medium lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – Becoming covered with thin lake ice in the second week of the period.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free except open water along the shores.

Forecast ice conditions from February 16th to February 29th

Above normal air temperatures are forecast for the period.

1. Northeastern Lake Ontario – Shallower bays will be consolidated with medium lake ice. New and thin lake ice will at times be present along the shores east of Prince Edward Point.
2. Bay of Quinte – Consolidated with medium lake ice.
3. St Lawrence River – Thin lake ice will be present in the river.
4. Elsewhere in Lake Ontario – Ice free except open water near the shores.

END

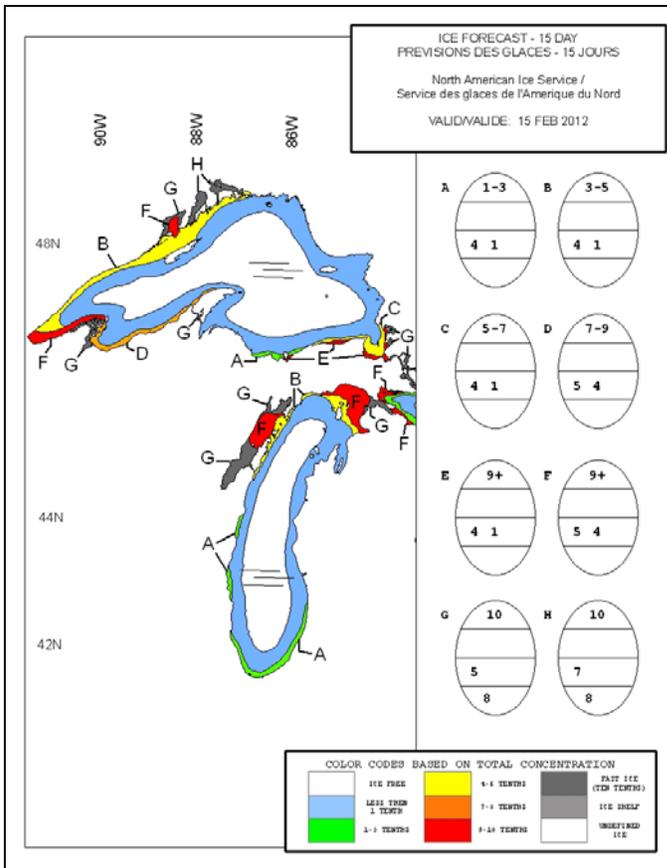


Figure 1: Ice forecast, western Great Lakes – 15 February 2012

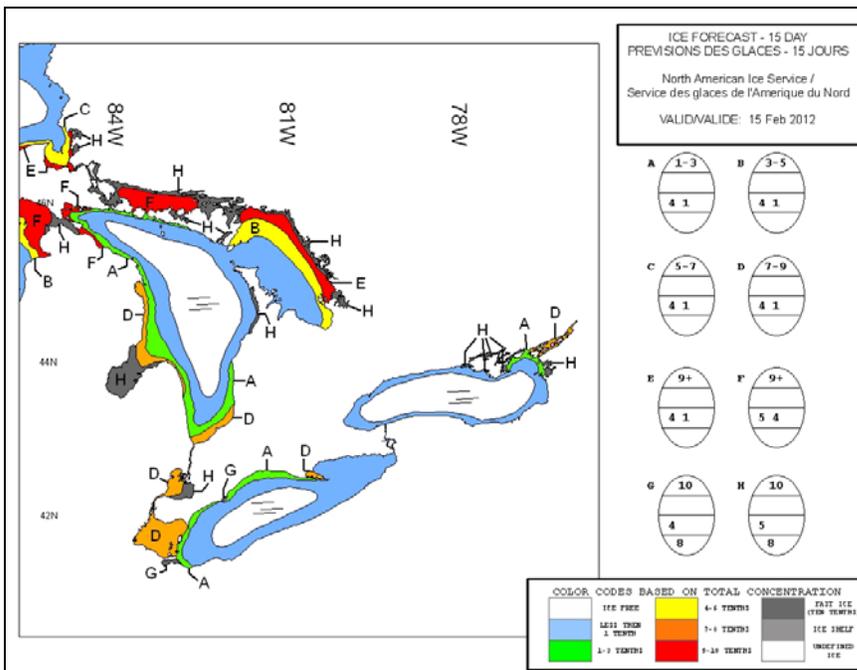


Figure 2: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 15 February 2012

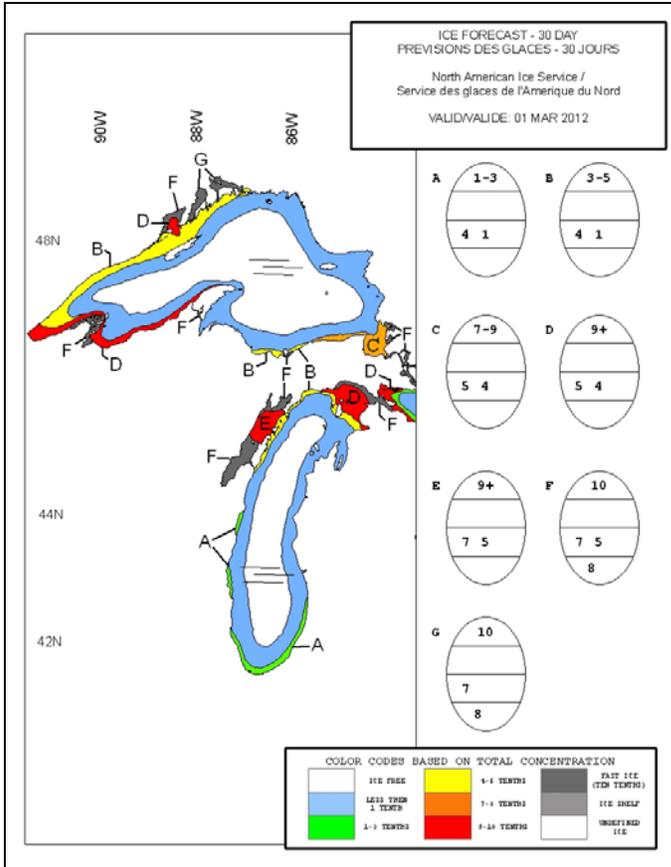


Figure 3: Ice forecast, Western Great Lakes – 01 March 2012

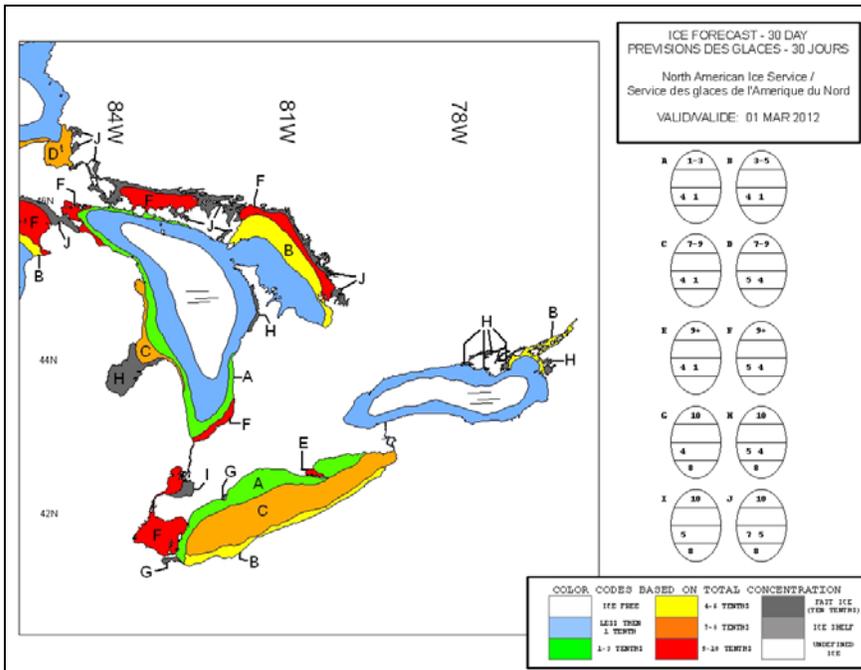


Figure 4: Ice forecast, Eastern Great Lakes – 01 March 2012