

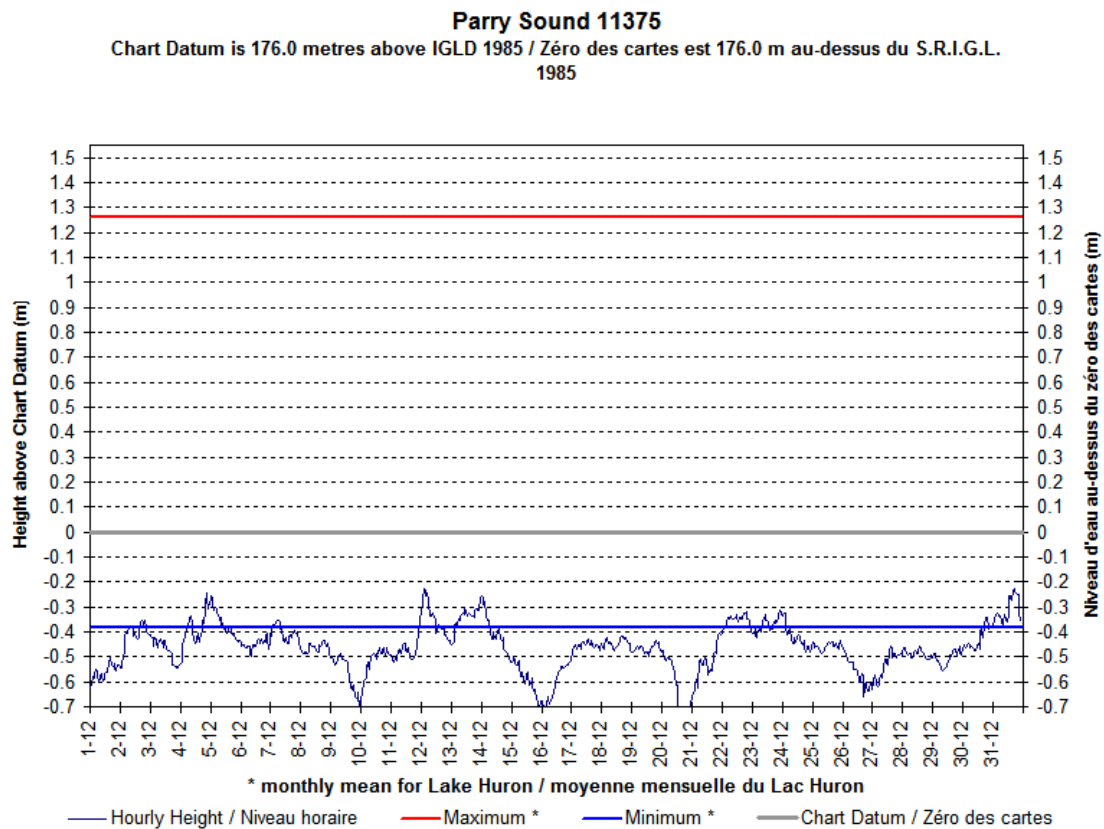
Water Levels “CRISIS ?”- Submitted by Paul Morgan

If you are relying on a boat to get to your cottage this spring, and you are aware of the December water levels and forecasts, I think you would call this a crisis.

There are a couple of government web sites where you can find current data.

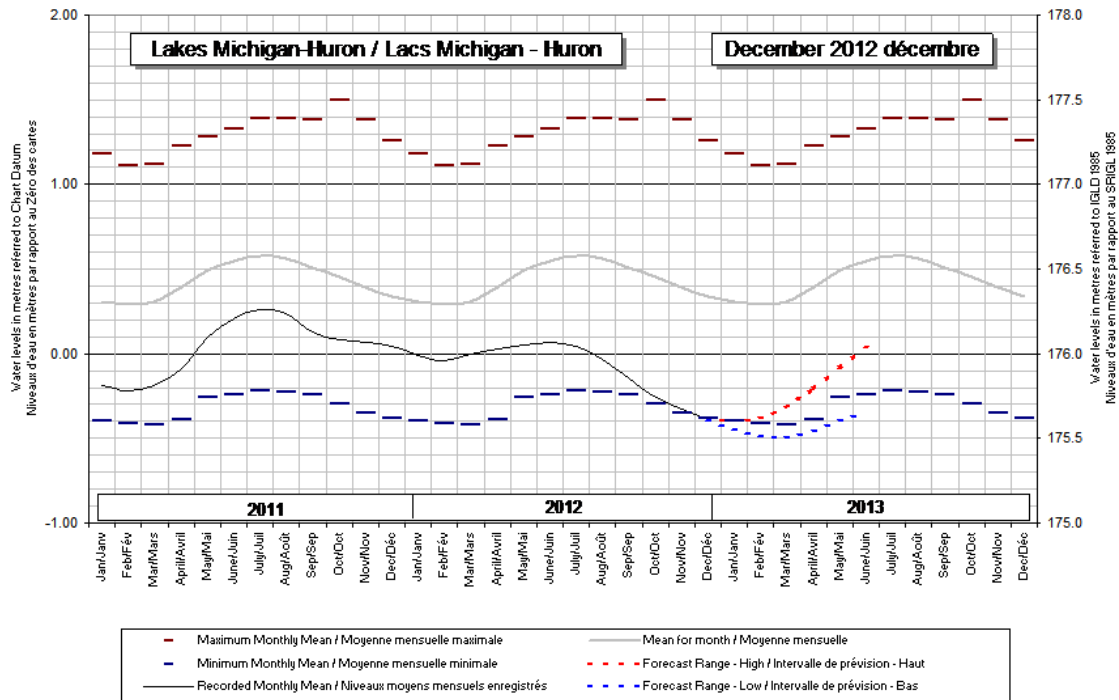
http://www.waterlevels.gc.ca/C&A/bulletin_e.html

<http://www.great-lakes.net/envt/water/levels/levels-cur/hurwlc.html>



This chart of Parry Sound December water levels shows a mean of .4 meters below chart datum. Notice that at one point, Dec 20th, it goes off the bottom of the scale. It went to -0.9M. Most of the month we were BELOW previous minimum for Dec. since 1918

This next chart shows the projected levels for Jan. thru Jun 2013. In Jun our maximum possible high is chart datum, the minimum possible low is about .4 meters BELOW chart datum.



Unfortunately, the betting mans guess of middle of the forecast is erroneous. The high has a 5% chance, as does the low, as do each of the 20 positions in between. Our precipitation and ice cover this winter and spring will determine our water levels. Below is a chart for December for the Great Lakes. Looking at the Lake Huron column, which is Lake Michigan, Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, we can see that Dec 2012 Mean for month at 175.61M and Dec 1964 Minimum monthly mean 1964 of 175.62 (Minimum for period 1918-2011) we are at lowest period since 1918!

December 2012 décembre	Lake Superior	Lake Huron	Lake St. Clair	Lake Erie	Lake Ontario	Montréal
Mean for month (preliminary data) Moyenne mensuelle (données préliminaires)	183.06	175.61	174.54	173.82	74.28	5.62
Mean for month last year Moyenne mensuelle, l'année dernière	183.09	176.04	175.08	174.40	74.62	6.30
Mean for month, last 10 years Moyenne mensuelle, 10 dernières années	183.19	175.95	174.77	173.98	74.55	6.32
Statistics for period of record Statistiques pour la période d'observation	1918-2011	1918-2011	1918-2011	1918-2011	1918-2011	1967-2011
Maximum monthly mean / year Moyenne mensuelle maximale / année	183.81 1985	177.26 1986	175.80 1986	174.89 1986	75.20 1945	7.24 1972
Mean for month / Moyenne mensuelle	183.40	176.33	174.91	173.99	74.54	6.51
Minimum monthly mean / year Moyenne mensuelle minimale / année	182.92 1925	175.62 1964	174.24 1964	173.19 1934	73.74 1934	5.31 2002
Probable mean for next month Moyenne probable du mois prochain	182.98	175.58	174.51	173.80	74.34	6.10
Chart datum / Zéro des cartes	183.2	176.0	174.4	173.5	74.2	5.55