

Little McDonald Water Level, winter freeze-up and spring ice off data.

This information has been gathered by the Wenzel family going back to the period of time when they owned a resort located on the north side of Little McDonald Lake. The resort was sold and became Lazy Acres Resort and Campground. Lazy Acres has been sold and the campground and resort no longer exists.

David Wenzel works with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, (DNR), and continues to take and record Little McDonald Lake level readings. We thank David for his efforts to keep lake residents informed of water levels. Kerbs Lake levels readings can be considered near the same as Little McDonald. Paul Lake water levels may vary some. Little Mac and Kerbs ice on and ice off dates are about the same with Paul Lake being earlier freeze up and ice off.

Ordinary High Water Level. (OHW)

Minnesota Statutes 103G.005

Subd.14. Ordinary high water level. "Ordinary high water level" means the boundary of water basins, water-courses, public waters, and public water wetlands, and:

1. The ordinary high water level is an elevation delineating the highest water That has been maintained for a sufficient period of time to leave evidence upon the landscape, commonly the point where the natural vegetation changes from predominately aquatic to predominately terrestrial.

Lake level readings are reflected in plus or minus inches above or below Ordinary High Water. Each spring the DNR sets a stake, in the water, near the David Wenzel property, to establish a consistent ordinary high water level. David's lake level readings reflect the water level, on a given date, as above or below OHW. The lake level readings for Little McDonald Lake begin in 1992.

Year	Winter Freeze-Up	Spring Ice-Off
1964		April 26
1966		May 07
1967		April 16
1968		April 16
1969		April 25
1970		May 02
1971		April 21
1972		April 13
1974		April 27
1975		May 04
1976		April 14
1977	Dec. 03	April 19
1978	Nov. 30	April 20
1979	Dec. 11	May 10
1980	Dec. 02	April 22
1981	Dec. 12	April 10
1982	Dec. 09	April 28

Year	Winter Freeze-Up	Spring Ice-Off
1983	Dec. 03	April 25
1984	Dec. 06	April 16
1985	Nov. 24	April 23
1986	Dec. 05	April 25
1987	Dec. 01	April 15
1988	Dec. 06	April 19
1989	Dec. 03	April 27
1990	Dec. 10	April 23
1991	Nov. 25	April 24
1992	Nov. 25, -16.0 inches OHW	April 18, -15.75 inches OHW
1993	Nov. 28, +0.50 inches OHW	April 23, -07.50 inches OHW
1994	Dec. 06, +02.25 inches OHW	April 18 +10.25 inches OHW
1995	Nov. 08, +02.0 inches OHW	April 28, +06.50 inches OHW
1996	Nov. 28, -01.5. inches OHW	May 15, +07.0 inches OHW
1997	Nov. 09, +09.25 inches OHW	April 30, +08.0. inches OHW
1998	Nov. 11, +16.24 inches OHW	April 23, +11.75 inches OHW
1999	Nov. 07, +22.50 inches OHW	April 28, +22.50 inches OHW
2000	Nov. 11, +24.50 inches OHW	April 04, +24.25 inches OHW
2001	Nov. 29, +27.25 inches OHW	April 30, +33.0 inches OHW
2002	Nov. 15, +15.50 inches OHW	May 05, +27.75 inches OHW
2003	Nov. 10, +0.50 inches OHW	April 30, +15.0 inches OHW
2004	Nov. 11, +4.75 inches OHW	April 05, + 0.25 inches OHW
2005	Nov. 25, +6.0 inches OHW	April 22, +04.0 inches OHW
2006	Nov. 26, +3.50 inches OHW	May 21, +12.75 inches OHW
2007	Dec. 04, -2.75. inches OHW	April 28, +10.0. inches OHW
2008	Dec. 06, -0.75. inches OHW	May 14, +03.75 inches OHW
2009	Dec. 12,+09.75 inches OHW	May 12, +11.75 inches OHW
2010	Dec. 03,+30.50 inches OHW	May 05, +14.0. inches OHW
2011	Dec. 16,+38.25 inches OHW	May 12, +43.75 inches OHW

August 2, 2011, +54.75 OHW, All Time High Water Level

2012	Dec. 10,+27.75 inches OHW	April 19, +42.25 inches OHW
2013	Nov. 29,+29.75 inches OHW	May 23, +35.50 inches OHW
2014	Nov. 27,+43.25 inches OHW	May 14, +38.50. inches OHW
2015	Dec. 27,+30.50 inches OHW	April 15, +43.50 inches OHW
2016	Dec. 15,+31.0 inches OHW	April 06, +30.72 inches OHW
2017	Dec. 13,+29.25 inches OHW	April 08, +35.0 inches OHW
2018	Dec. 14,+12.0. inches OHW	May 05, +31.75 inches OHW

Year	Winter Freeze-Up	Spring Ice-Off
2019	Dec. 03, +11.0. inches OHW	April 28, +10.0. inches OHW
2020	Dec. 04, +11.0. inches OHW	April 27, +19.80 inches OHW
2021	Dec. 09 -14.25. inches OHW	April 07, +06.0. inches. OHW