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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NOAA, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

#### MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

TO: NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (W/OH12x1)
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL INFO CENTER
1325 EAST-WEST HIGHWAY, RM 7116
SILVER SPRING, MD 20910

HSA OFFICE:	
Marguette, MI	

REPORT FOR (MONTH/YEAR):

February 2012

DATE: March 14, 2012

SIGNATURE:

Robin J. Turner, MIC Justin Titus, Meteorologist

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOM E-41).



An X inside this box indicates no flooding occurred within this Hydrologic Service Area.

# **February Flooding**

No flooding was reported to the National Weather Service (NWS).

## **February Precipitation**

Only minor precipitation was noted through most of February until a strong low pressure system moved through the region on the last day of February. The "Leap Day Snowstorm" dropped up to two feet of wet, heavy snow in some locations near the Wisconsin Border. Around a foot of snow was recorded in the higher terrain of the Huron Mountains and over parts of the Keweenaw Peninsula, with three to seven inches of snow elsewhere with this storm.

With the lack of significant lake effect snow, and excess heavy precipitation over southern Upper Michigan, northern portions of Upper Michigan saw generally below normal precipitation in February while southern Upper Michigan locations received generally above normal precipitation.

Below is a chart of some of the larger cities in the Upper Peninsula, with monthly precipitation in inches and the amount of inches above or below normal for the month.

Location	Precipitation	Above/Below	Rank	Snowfall	Above/Below	Rank
WFO Marquette	1.65	-0.23		28.3	-1.5	
Marquette City	0.70	-0.77		10.2	-10.7	
Houghton Airport	1.58	-0.24		21.6	-5.8	
Ironwood	1.66	0.13		30.1	7.1	
Iron Mountain	1.71	0.65		22.0	7.4	
Manistique	0.83	-0.23		10.2	-3.3	
Munising	1.11	-0.81		18.3	-6.4	
Ontonagon	1.18	-0.37		29.5	-2.9	

## Other monthly precipitation totals from coop observers:

Location	Precipitation	Snowfall
	(inches)	(inches)
Amasa (Iron County)	1.09	19.0
Atlantic Mine (Houghton County)	1.71	30.5
Baraga (Baraga County)	0.79	9.2
Bergland Dam (Ontonagon County)	3.50	31.8
Big Bay (Marquette County)	1.34	18.2
Big Bay 9SW (Marquette County)	M	M
Chatham (Alger County)	0.67	10.0
Clarksburg (Marquette County)	0.97	21.8
Cooks (Schoolcraft County)	1.32	13.0
Copper Harbor (Keweenaw County)	1.36	13.7
Garden Corners (Delta County)	1.23	14.0
Gladstone (Delta County)	1.35	12.6
Greenland (Ontonagon County)	1.36	24.5
Gwinn (Marquette County)	0.76	11.8
Harvey (Marquette County)	0.76	13.1
Herman (Baraga County)	1.48	28.8
Ishpeming 7NNE (Marquette County)	2.54	33.6
Jacobsville (Houghton County)	0.99	15.9
Mohawk (Keweenaw County)	1.87	24.6
Menominee (Menominee County)	M	M
Norway (Dickinson County)	1.46	21.0
Painesdale (Houghton County)	1.91	32.0
Stambaugh (Iron County)	1.30	22.5
Twin Lakes (Houghton County)	1.41	31.0
Watersmeet (Gogebic County)	1.36	24.4
Watton (Baraga County)	1.16	17.8

## **Drought Discussion**

According to the March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 release of the U.S. Drought Monitor, the Keweenaw Peninsula and northern Huron Mountains were classified under Moderate (D1) Drought. Otherwise, areas roughly west of a line from Munising to Iron Mountain were classified as Abnormally Dry (D0). East of this line, no drought was indicated. The drought continues due to long term precipitation deficits.

For the latest drought status, please go to <a href="http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html">http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html</a>.

## **February Temperatures**

Below is a table of some of the larger cities in the Upper Peninsula, with average monthly temperature and number of degrees above or below normal for the month, and the rank of an all-time warmest or coldest month, where applicable.

Location	Temperature	Above/Below	Rank
	(degrees)		
WFO Marquette	23.4	8.3	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Marquette City	28.1	8.4	6 <sup>th</sup>
Houghton Airport	24.6	9.4	4 <sup>th</sup>
Ironwood	22.5	8.0	8 <sup>th</sup>
Iron Mountain	25.6	8.9	6 <sup>th</sup>
Manistique	27.1	8.5	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Munising	26.1	8.1	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ontonagon	26.2	7.1	5 <sup>th</sup>

#### **February River Levels**

According to the United States Geological Survey, February streamflow was below normal in Lake Superior drainage basins, and normal in Lake Michigan drainage basins.

## **February Products Issued**

Flood Warnings (FLW): 0
Flood Advisories (FLS): 0
River Statements (RVS): 0
Flash Flood Watches (FFA): 0
Flash Flood Warnings (FFW): 0
Flash Flood Statements (FFS): 0