

# **Great Lakes Division The Company of Master Mariners of Canada**

**Tuesday February 16, 2021**

**1900 hrs.**



# **Industry News Update**

**February 2021**

# **SEAWAY NOTICE NO. 1 - 2021**

**The opening of the 2021 navigation season is scheduled to take place on the following dates and times:**

- Welland Canal: March 19, 2021 - 0800 hours (D.S.T.)**
- Montreal / Lake Ontario Section: March 22, 2021 - 0800 hours (D.S.T.)**

## **Sault Ste. Marie Locks and Canals**

- Opening of the Sault Ste. Marie Locks (U.S.A.) is currently scheduled for March 25, 2021.**

# Canada Labour Code Proposed Regulatory Amendments – Marine Employees

## Employees on vessel for longer than 24 hours

**13 (1)** The following employees who are employed on board a vessel for longer than 24 consecutive hours are exempt from the application of sections 173.01 and 173.1 of the Act (i.e., see Canada Labour Code Part III):

- (a) masters; (b) deck officers; (c) engineering officers; (d) radio operators; (e) electrotechnical officers; and (f) ratings.

## Modifications — subsection 169.1(1) and section 169.2 of the Act

**(2)** With respect to employees referred to in subsection (1),

- (a) subsection 169.1(1) of the Act is modified as follows:

# Canada Labour Code Proposed Regulatory Amendments (con't)

## Break

**169.1 (1) Every employee is entitled to and shall be granted an unpaid break of at least 30 minutes for every period of five consecutive hours of work. The employer may grant this break at any time during the work period or shift and it may be divided into periods of at least 15 minutes. If the employer requires the employee to be at their disposal during the break period, the employee is to be paid for the break.**

## Rest period

**169.2 (1) Every employee is entitled to and shall be granted a rest period of at least eight hours, with at least six of those hours being consecutive, during each 24-hour period in which they work a work period or shift.**

## Exception

**(2) Despite subsection (1), an employer may require that an employee work additional hours to their scheduled work periods or shifts, which would result in them having a rest period of fewer than eight hours in total or fewer than six consecutive hours during each 24-hour period in which they work a work period or shift, if it is necessary for the employee to work in order to deal with a situation that the employer could not have reasonably foreseen and that presents or could reasonably be expected to present an imminent or serious**

- (a) threat to the life, health or safety of any person;**
- (b) threat of damage to or loss of property; or**
- (c) threat of serious interference with the ordinary working of the employer's industrial establishment.**

# Drone Technology to Track Whales in Canada



**A hi-tech drone tested in Britain will be flown in Canada to help save whales. It will be used to “support maritime environmental protection missions in the Arctic and along the Canadian eastern and western coasts, as part of the Canadian National Aerial Surveillance Program”, according to manufacturer Elbit Systems.**

# Drone Technology to Track Whales in Canada



The drone will monitor the endangered North Atlantic right whales (Image: Boston Globe)

The drone will examine “environmental impacts, including detection of oil pollution, ice patrol and reconnaissance and wildlife surveys”, the firm added.

Fewer than 366 North Atlantic right whales are left in the western North Atlantic, and in the eastern part of the ocean scientists believe they may already be functionally extinct. The giants can weigh up to 70 tonnes on average and grow to 52ft.

# Changing of the Seaway “Guard”



**After 25 years at the Seaway, Captain Farrokh Kooka has decided to retire. Capt. Kooka has been recognized for always having in mind the best interest for the Seaway, and has earned tremendous respect in the marine industry. On the succession front, former ship inspector with the seaway, Captain Tito DeConcily, begins his replacement role on March 8th. after finishing a 20 year career as a Marine Captain with the Toronto Fire Services, as well as teaching as a Marine Instructor at Georgian College.**

## **Shipping industry demands vaccine priority for seafarers amid renewed crew change struggles**, *International Chamber of Shipping (London, England), January 19, 2021.*

**The International Chamber of Shipping is leading calls for governments to put seafarers and frontline maritime shore workers at the head of the vaccine queue and to designate seafarers as keyworkers, to avoid a repeat of the 2020 ‘crew change crisis’.**

**ICS is demanding that governments, who are once again restricting travel as a reaction to new COVID-19 mutations, recognise the vital role seafarers play in the global supply chain.**

**However, COVID-19 related restrictions have forced hundreds of thousands of workers to overrun their contracts, raising concerns over ship safety, crew fatigue and access to healthcare. Seafarers are currently being severely impacted by crew change crisis, with some approaching two years stuck at sea. With limited support from national governments, there is real concern that, under new restrictions, this number will rapidly increase rather than reduce.**

# Windsor Salt / CSL Partnership for New Self Unloader



**2/12 - Montreal, QC – K+S Windsor Salt Ltd. and Canada Steamship Lines have announced the construction of a new, state-of-the-art self-unloading ship with a deadweight of 26,000 metric tons for service in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Great Lakes region. It will deliver deicing salt from its Mines Seleine salt mine on the Magdalen Islands to stockpiles in Montreal, Quebec City, and other destinations. Diesel-electric tier 3 engines, a unique hull design, ballast water treatment system, and quieter machinery make up the new design. The keel laying ceremony at Chengxi Shipyard in Jiangyin, China, on January 29, 2021 with expected delivery for 2022. CSL**

# Marine Recycling Corporation *(Wayne Elliot)*

**New technology is literally allowing vessels being scrapped at Port Colborne to ‘come ashore’ for the cutting and scrapping operation. The first and smallest of 3 ships to be mechanically removed from the water is out, high and dry.**



# Marine Recycling – Port Colborne (Wayne Elliott)



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# Marine Recycling – Port Colborne (Wayne Elliott)



# Pandemic scuttles Port Colborne's cruise ship plans for 2021 - Transport Canada

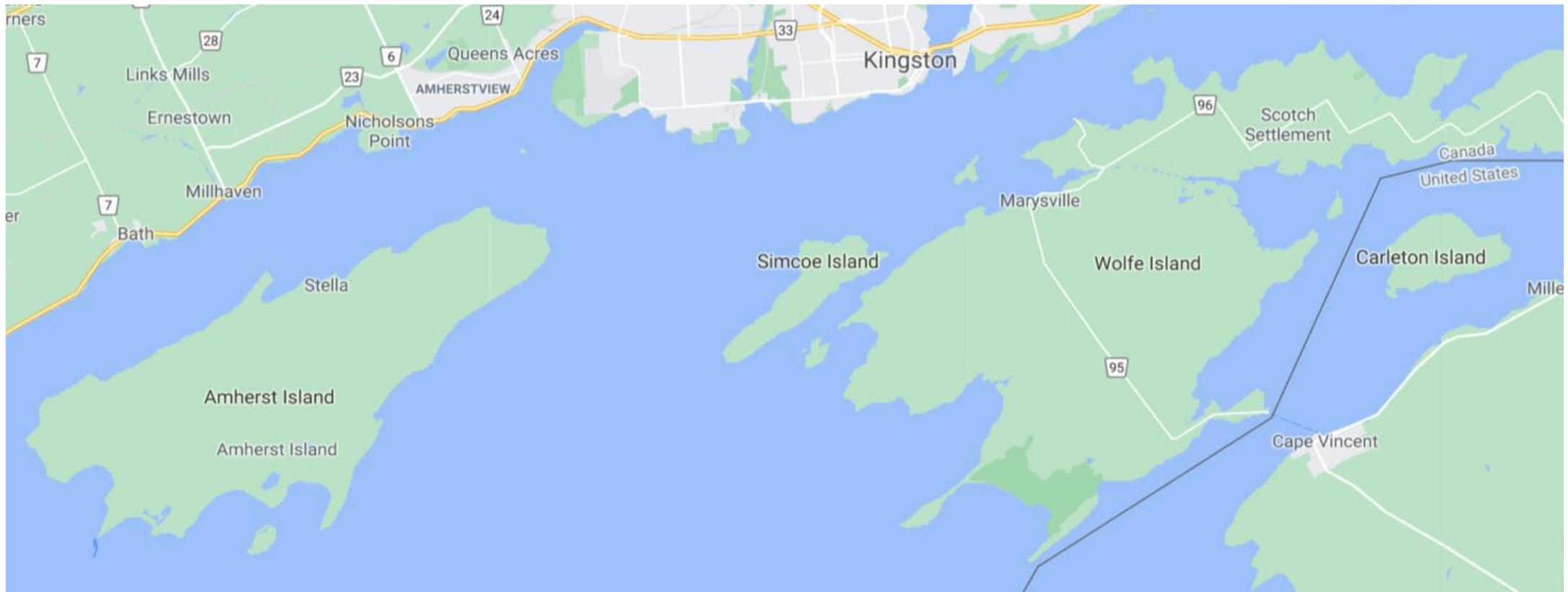
temporarily bans cruise ships from entering Canadian waters [James Culic](#) Port Colborne Leader Monday, February 8, 2021

A temporary ban on cruise ships has forced Port Colborne to dock its plan to make the city a cruise ship destination this summer. In early February, the federal government announced it was implementing a one-year ban that prevents all cruise ships carrying more than 100 people from operating in Canadian waters. The ban extends until Feb. 28, 2022. The government also advised all Canadians to avoid going on cruise ship vacations outside Canada. The pandemic has definitely put a damper on the new cruise ship dock at the end of West Street and Sugarloaf," said Mayor Bill Steele.



# Status of New Ferries for Eastern Ontario (ISMA Capt. Seann O'Donoghue)

Two new ferries slated for Amherst Island and Wolfe Island on Lake Ontario will be delivered to Ontario Ferries by late 2021 or early 2022. The ferries will be the first fully electric, non-cable vessels in Canada, operating on battery power. Approximately 900,000 passengers and 400,000 vehicles between Wolfe Island and Kingston are moved each year, and approximately 300,000 passengers and 145,000 vehicles to and from Amherst Island annually. The Ontario Government signed a \$61-million contract in 2018 with Damen Shipyards of the Netherlands, to design and build both ships.



# Status of New Ferries for Eastern Ontario (ISMA Capt Seann O'Donoghue)

## *New Wolfe Islander IV*



# Status of New Ferries for Eastern Ontario *(ISMA Capt Seann O'Donoughue)*

*Amherst Island's new ferry "Amherst Islander II" will carry 300 passengers and up to 40 vehicles, as compared to the current 33 vehicles.*



**Icebreakers sent to clear ice jams on St. Clair River (Feb. 2, 2021)** ALGONAC, Mich. (AP) - The U.S. and Canadian coast guards have each deployed icebreaking ships to the St. Clair River northeast of Detroit to break up ice jams contributing to flooding in the area.

A Canadian icebreaker worked in the area past nightfall Tuesday and a U.S. ship was set to resume operations Wednesday morning, a statement from the U.S. Coast Guard said.

A flood warning for the area expired Wednesday morning but not before causing some significant flooding in and around Marine City and East China Township, the National Weather Service said.



**Federal officials probing 'path of destruction' train crash at Goderich 2/3 Goderich, ON**  
The Transportation Safety Board of Canada is investigating a train derailment in Goderich. A freight train on the Goderich-Exeter Railway left a path of destruction shortly after 1:30 p.m. Monday. The runaway train demolished a transport truck and trailer that had just been loaded at the grain elevators. Ten cars derailed as the train headed west toward Lake Huron, striking a pickup truck and plowing into an historic ice fishing shanty before coming to a stop. Goderich Signal Star, Phil Nash



Damage is seen in Goderich, Ont. on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021, the day after a train derailment. (Scott Miller / CTV News)

**New Captain Henry Jackman launched in China 1/28** - Algoma Central Corp.'s new Captain Henry Jackman was launched Dec. 25, 2020 at the Jiangsu Yangzi-Mitsui Shipbuilding Co. in China. This Seaway-Max gearless bulk carrier is expected to be delivered during the second quarter of 2021 and she will be the newest and most efficient vessel in Algoma's domestic fleet. The design is being coined "Equinox 3.0" and it includes improvements in cargo deadweight capacity and equipment, all while maintaining the numerous performance efficiencies of the original Equinox Class design. A previous Capt. Henry Jackman was scrapped in Turkey in 2019. (Algoma Central Corp.)



## **Great Lakes just set a record for lack of ice**

- 1/24 - The Great Lakes are currently dealing with record low ice. According to the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (GLERL), the Great Lakes total ice coverage right now is sitting at 3.9%. This same time last year, it was sitting at 11.3%, and the year before at 18.5%. The previous record low for this date was 5% back in 2002.**
- The reason for this lack of widespread ice coverage is due to the lack of extremely cold air across the region.**
- Since January 1, much of the Midwest and Northeast -- including Minneapolis, Chicago, Cleveland and Buffalo -- have had air temperatures at least 5 to 10 degrees above average.**
- With no real robust areas of cold air in the future, the long-term forecast for Great Lakes ice coverage also looks meek. "The Great Lakes region is experiencing warmer-than-usual weather, and the max ice cover is projected to be 30%, way below the average of 53%," Wang said. That means by the end of winter, less than one-third of the Great Lakes will be covered by ice.**
- In order to build significant ice over the lakes, a blast of cold air needs to settle in -- but the long-term forecast does not reflect that. The one-month outlook from NOAA shows warmer than average temperatures to settle in across much of the country.**
- Read more and view graphs at this link: <https://www.cnn.com/2021/01/22/weather/great-lakes-record-lack-of-ice/index.html>**

## **Great Lakes ice coverage has more than doubled in the last 8 days (WXYZ)**

- **2/13 - Detroit, MI – Ice coverage on the Great Lakes has been low after a relatively mild winter, but with the arctic air that has moved into Michigan over the last few days, it has more than doubled on all of the Great Lakes.**
- **On Feb. 2, total ice coverage on all five of the Great Lakes was at 11.8%, below-average for this time of year. As of Feb. 10, after several days of arctic air, the total ice coverage for all five Great Lakes is at 24.4%. The breakdown by date and by lake is below.**
- **Feb. 2**
  - Lake Superior – 6.8%**
  - Lake Michigan – 10.9%**
  - Lake Huron – 20.8%**
  - Lake Ontario – 4%**
  - Lake Erie – 14.2%**
  - Total - 11.8%**
- **Feb. 10**
  - Lake Superior – 12.2%**
  - Lake Michigan – 17.7%**
  - Lake Huron – 32.3%**
  - Lake Ontario – 8.3%**
  - Lake Erie – 77.1%**
  - Total - 24.4%**
- **Seasonal winter ice coverage on the Great Lakes is expected to be significantly below average for 2020-2021, according to the NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab. As of Jan. 30, the GLERL predicts a maximum ice coverage of 30% on the Great Lakes. The average maximum ice coverage is 53.3%, according to the NOAA.**
- **WXYZ**

# GREAT LAKES SURFACE ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS (GLSEA)



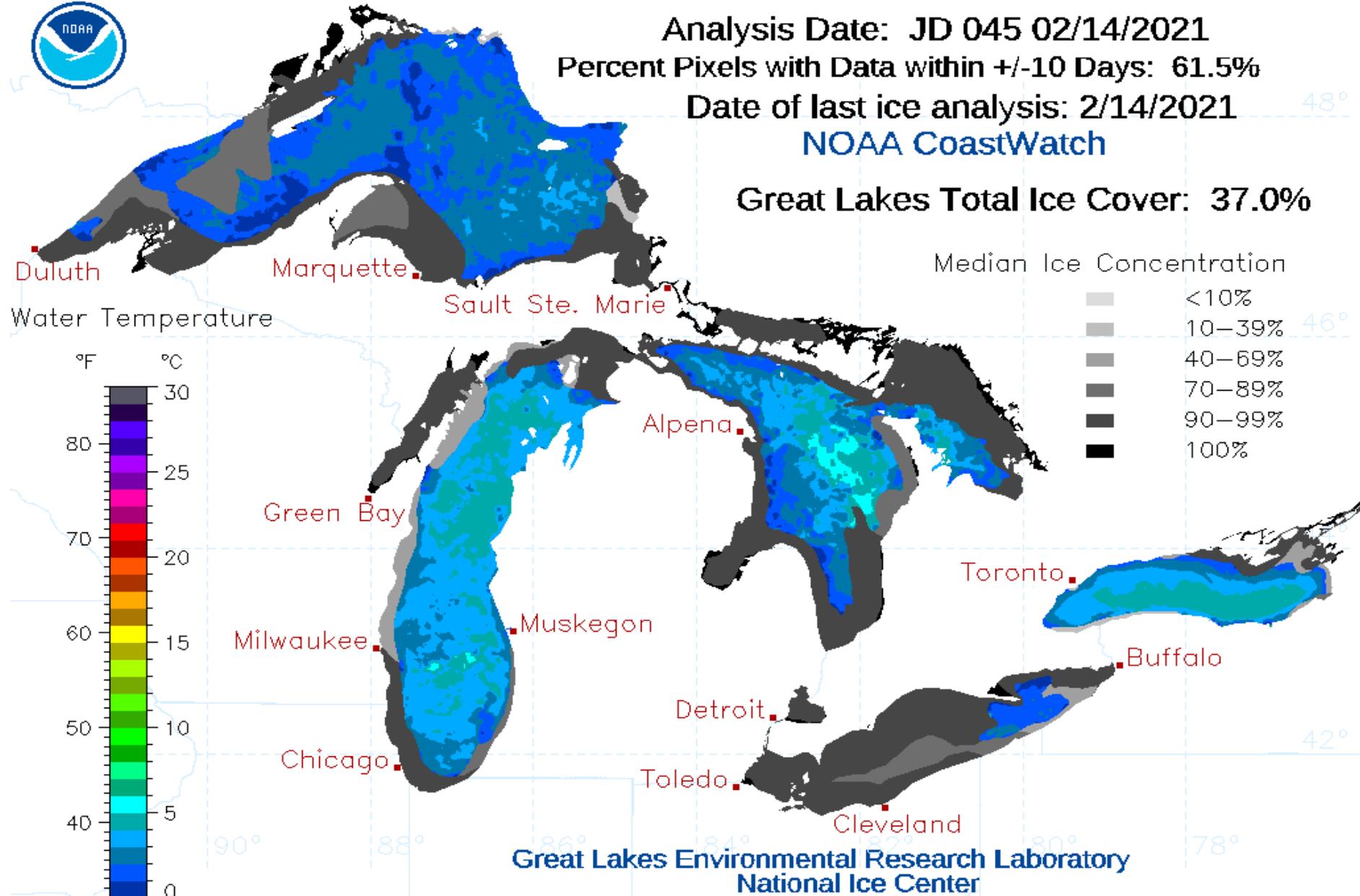
Analysis Date: JD 045 02/14/2021

Percent Pixels with Data within +/-10 Days: 61.5%

Date of last ice analysis: 2/14/2021

NOAA CoastWatch

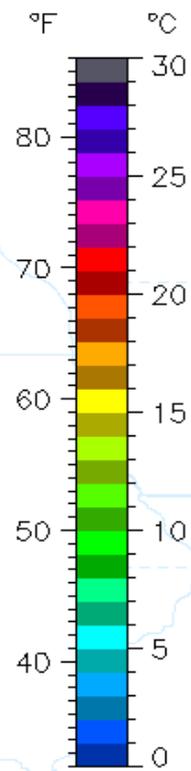
Great Lakes Total Ice Cover: 37.0%



Median Ice Concentration

	<10%
	10-39%
	40-69%
	70-89%
	90-99%
	100%

Water Temperature

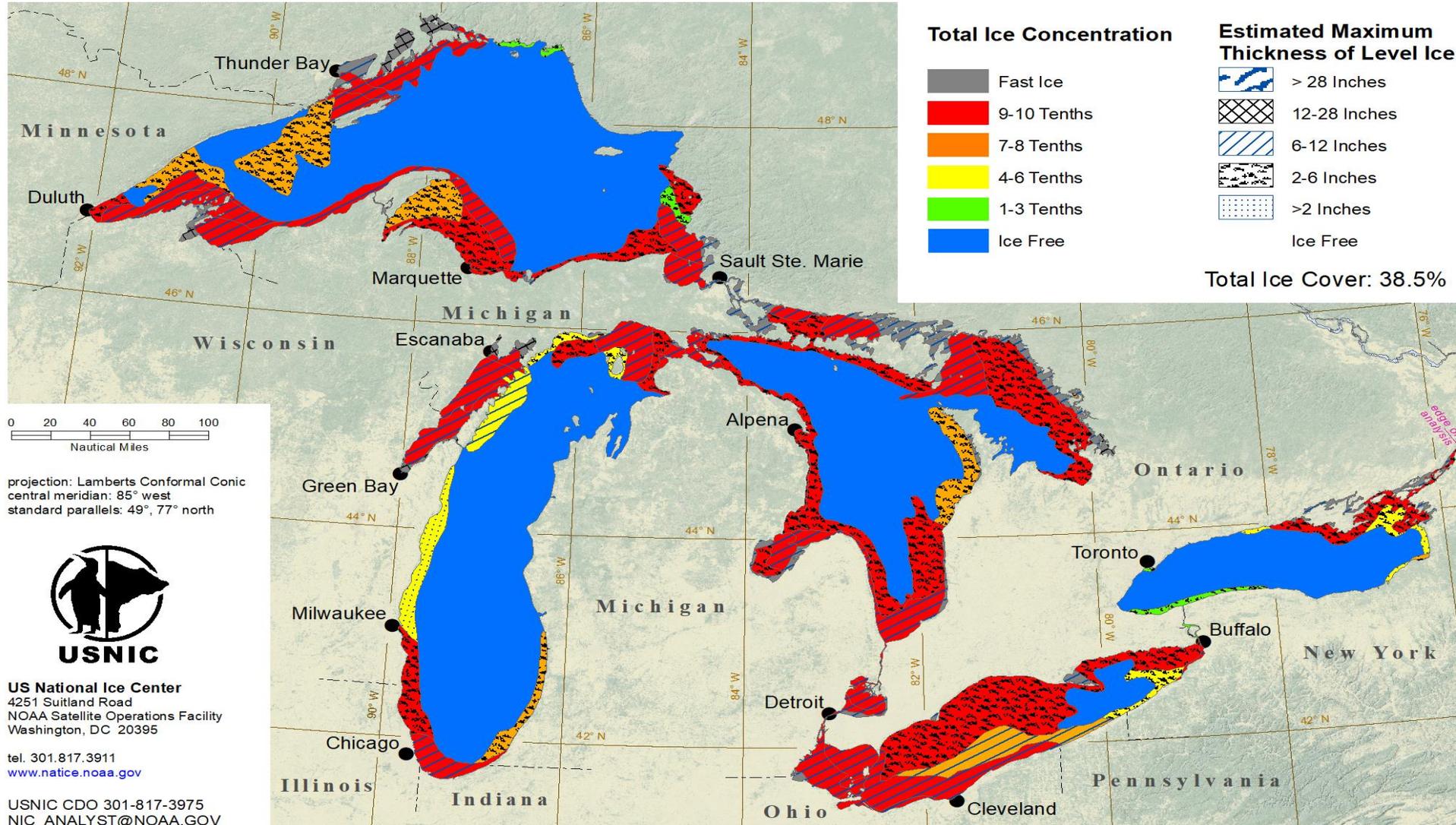


Cloud Free - Superior: 0.5 %, Michigan: 1.4 %, Huron: 2.0 %, Erie: 5.7 %, Ontario: 26.9 %, St Clair: 0.0 %

Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Ice Center

U. S. NATIONAL ICE CENTER  
**USCG DISTRICT 9 GREAT LAKES ICE**  
**ICE CONCENTRATION AND LEVEL ICE THICKNESS**

ICE DATE: 14 FEB 2021  
 MAP PRODUCED: 14 FEB 2021





# NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

Forecast (12Z+1h)

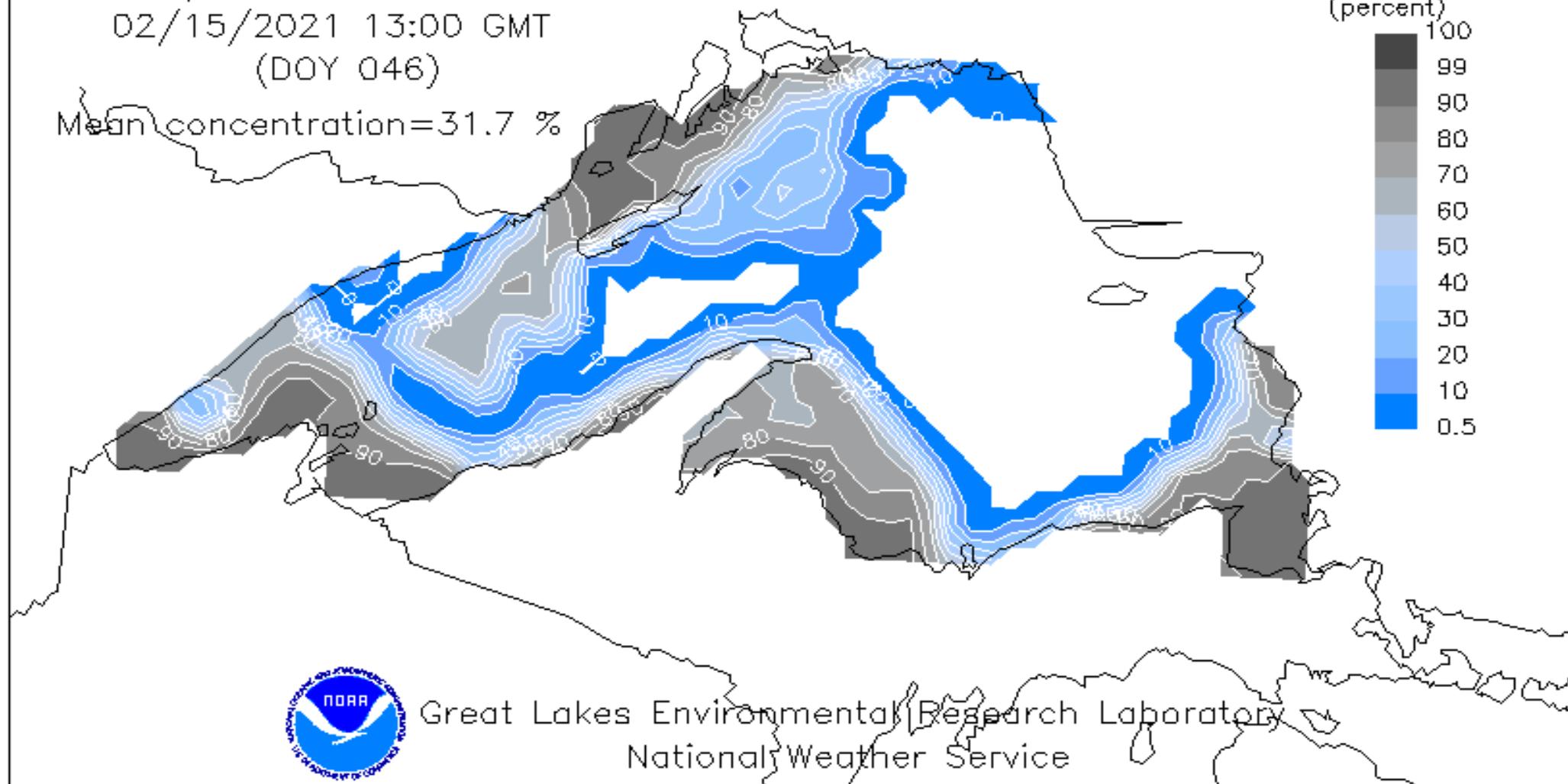
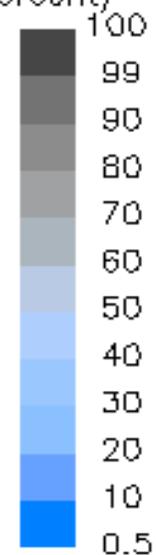
Lake Superior Ice Concentration

02/15/2021 13:00 GMT

(DOY 046)

Mean concentration=31.7 %

ICE Concentration  
(percent)



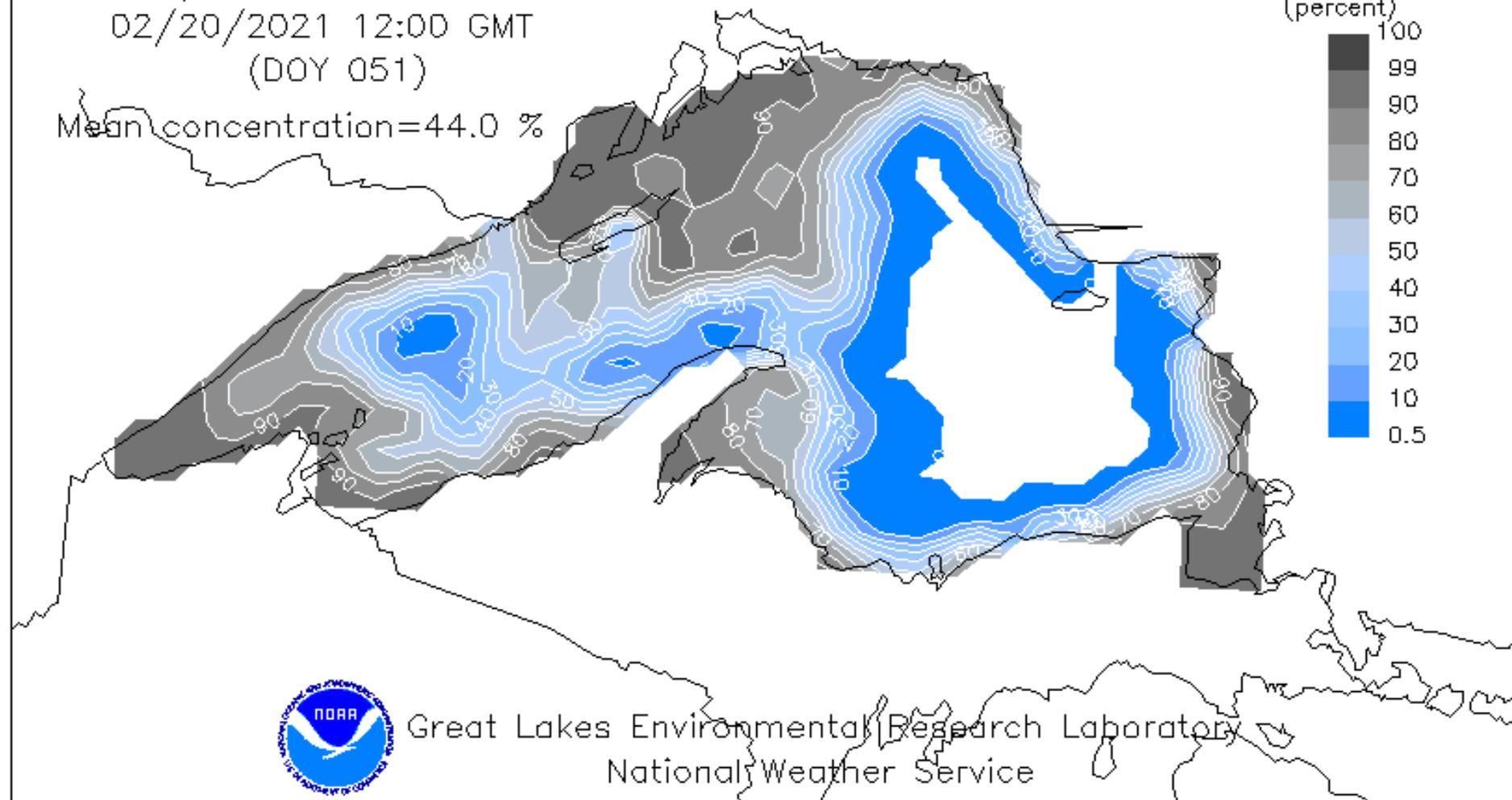
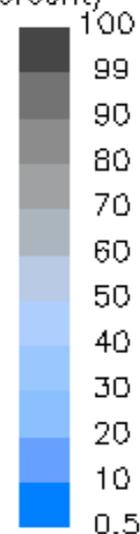
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

# NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

Forecast (12Z+120h)  
Lake Superior Ice Concentration  
02/20/2021 12:00 GMT  
(DOY 051)

Mean concentration=44.0 %

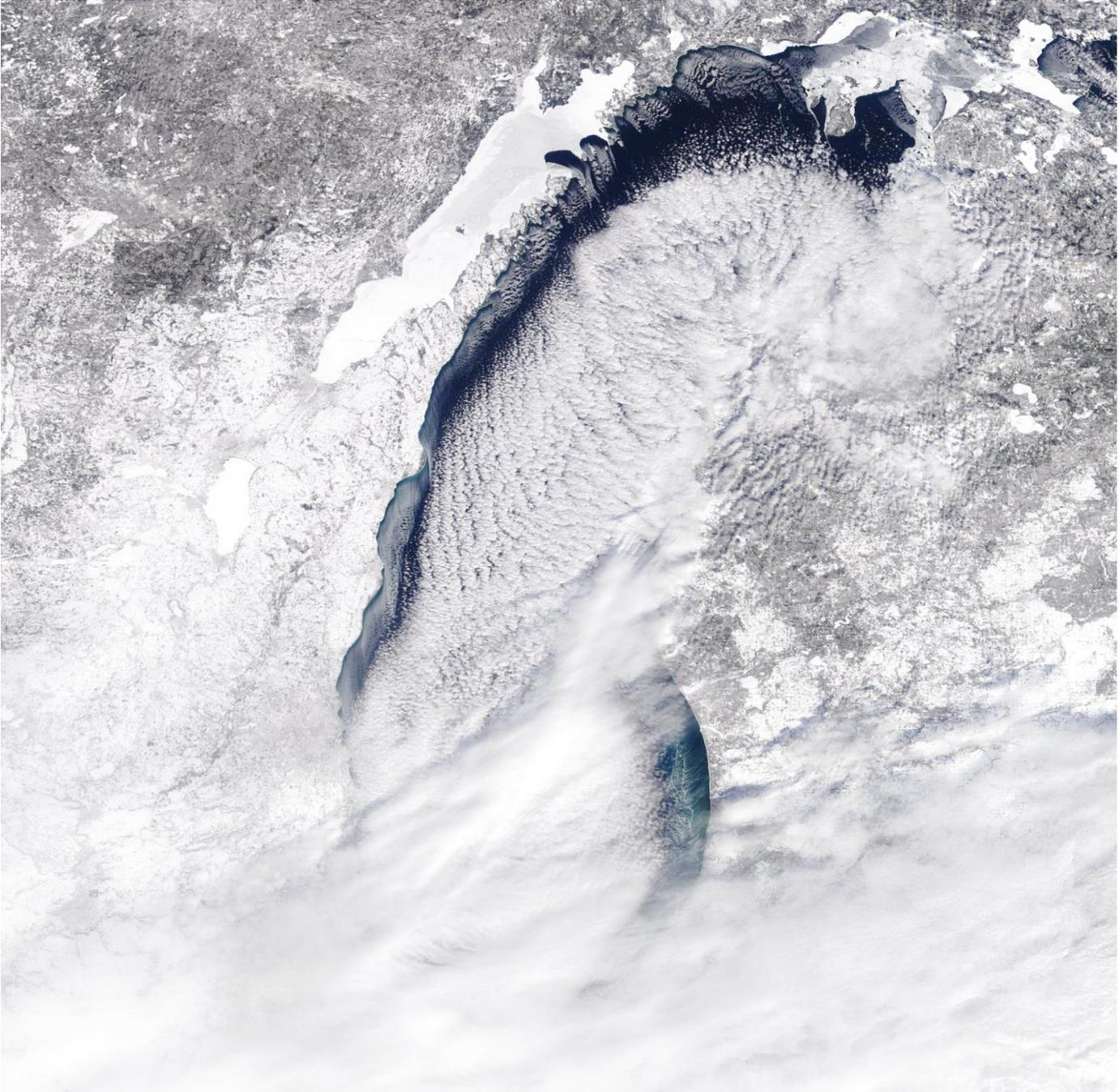
ICE Concentration  
(percent)



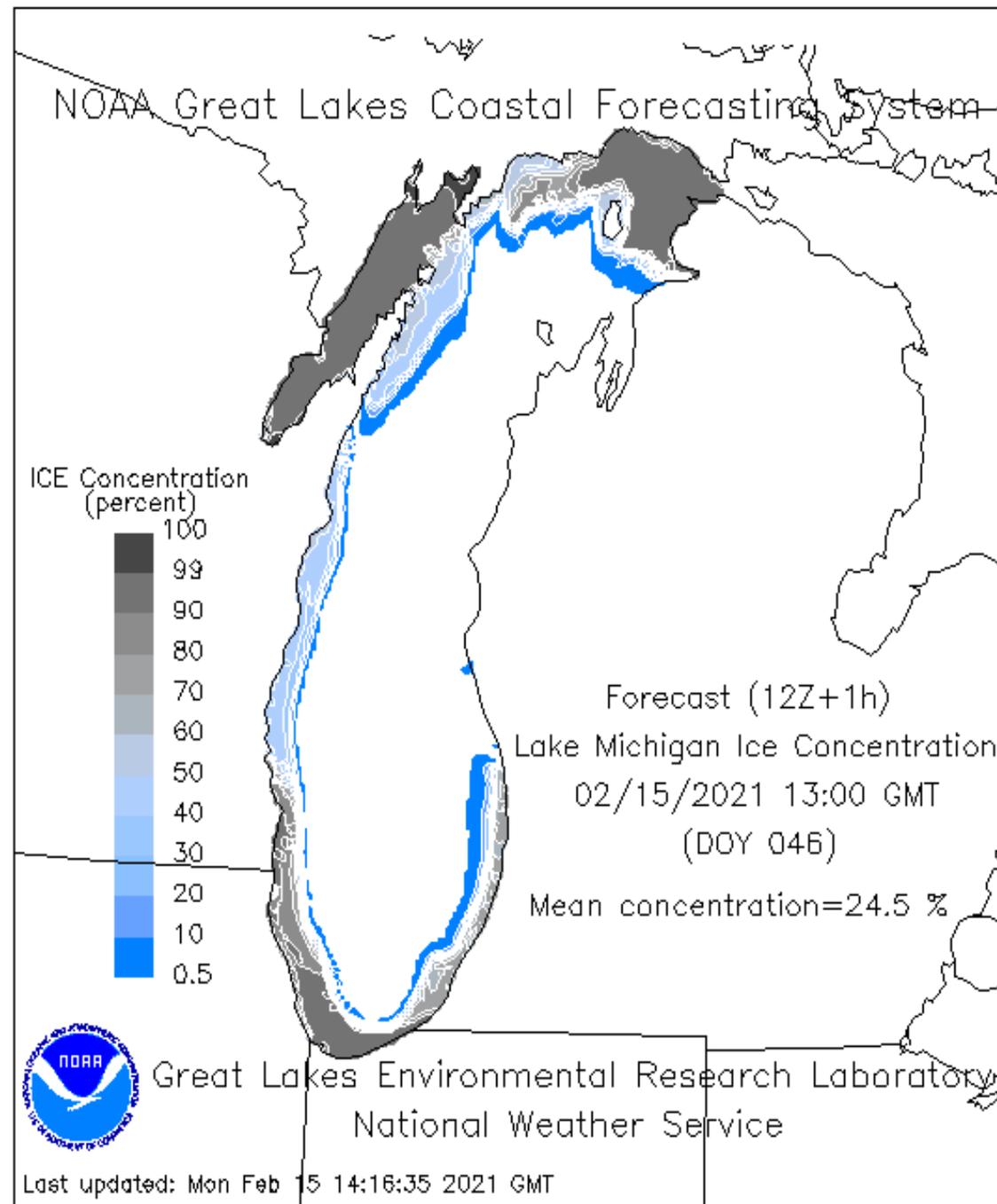
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

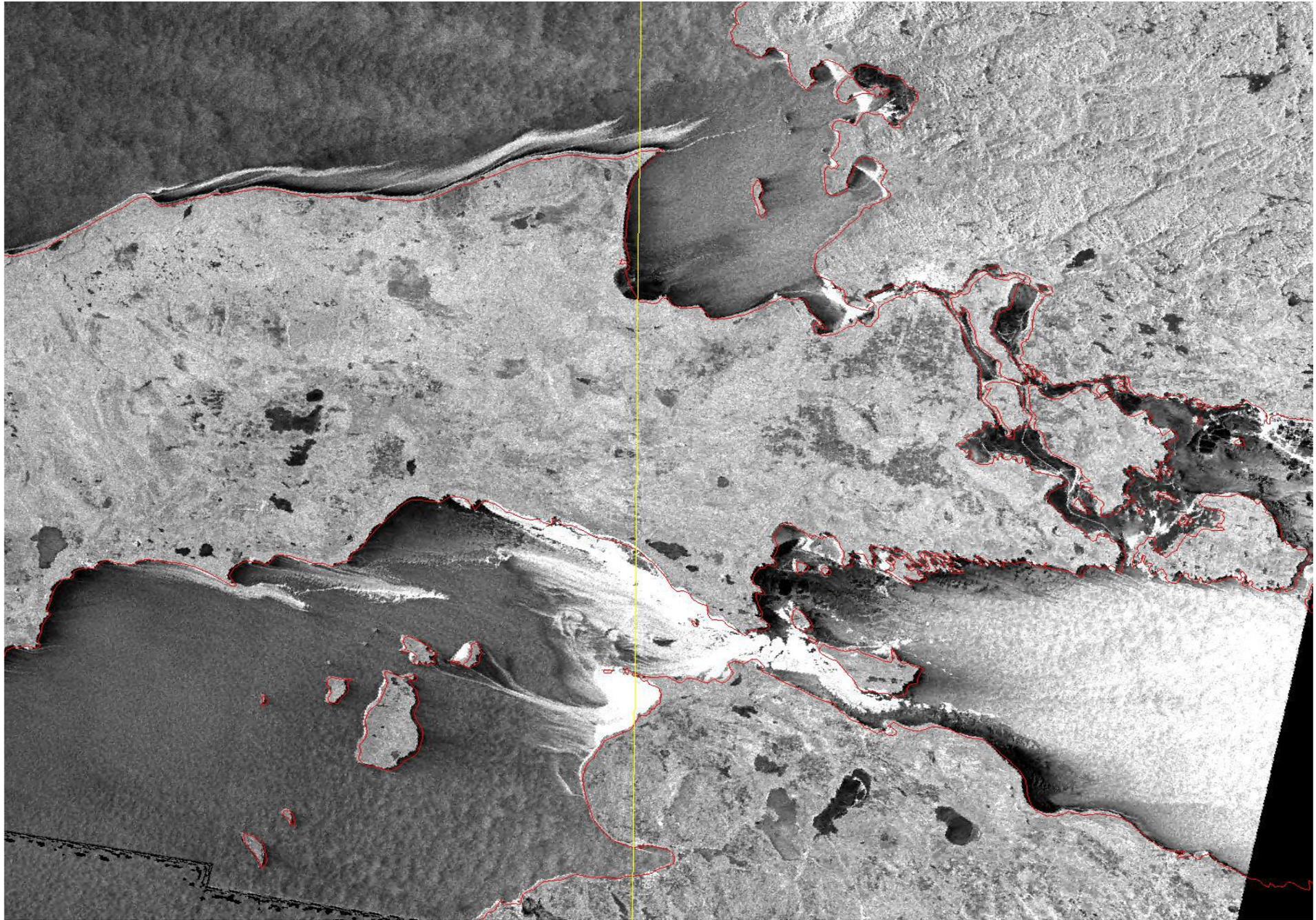
Last updated: Mon Feb 15 14:19:07 2021 GMT

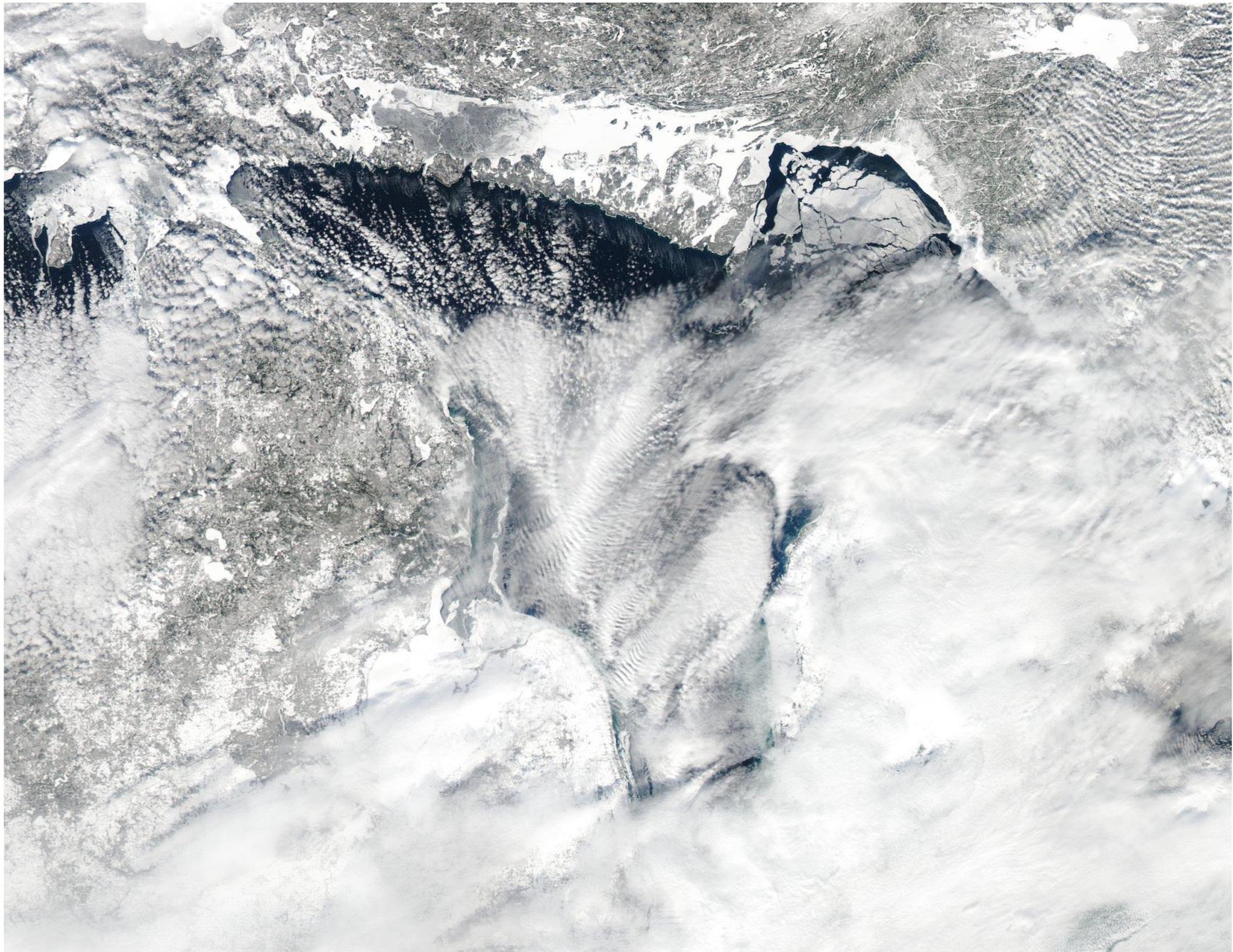
**Analysis and Satellite  
Imagery of Lakes  
from Environment  
and Climate Change  
Canada**



**Satellite Imagery of  
Lakes from  
Environment and  
Climate Change  
Canada and NOAA**

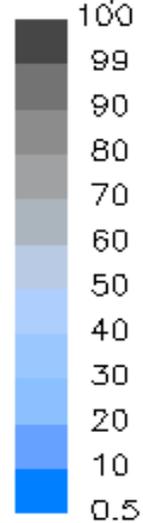






NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

ICE Concentration  
(percent)



Forecast (12Z+1h)  
Lake Huron Ice Concentration  
02/15/2021 13:00 GMT  
(DOY 046)  
Mean concentration=47.1 %

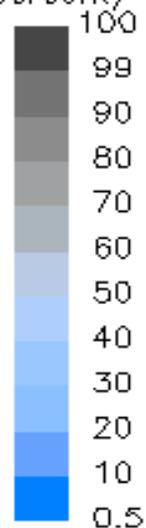


Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

Last updated: Mon Feb 15 14:12:40 2021 GMT

NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

ICE Concentration  
(percent)



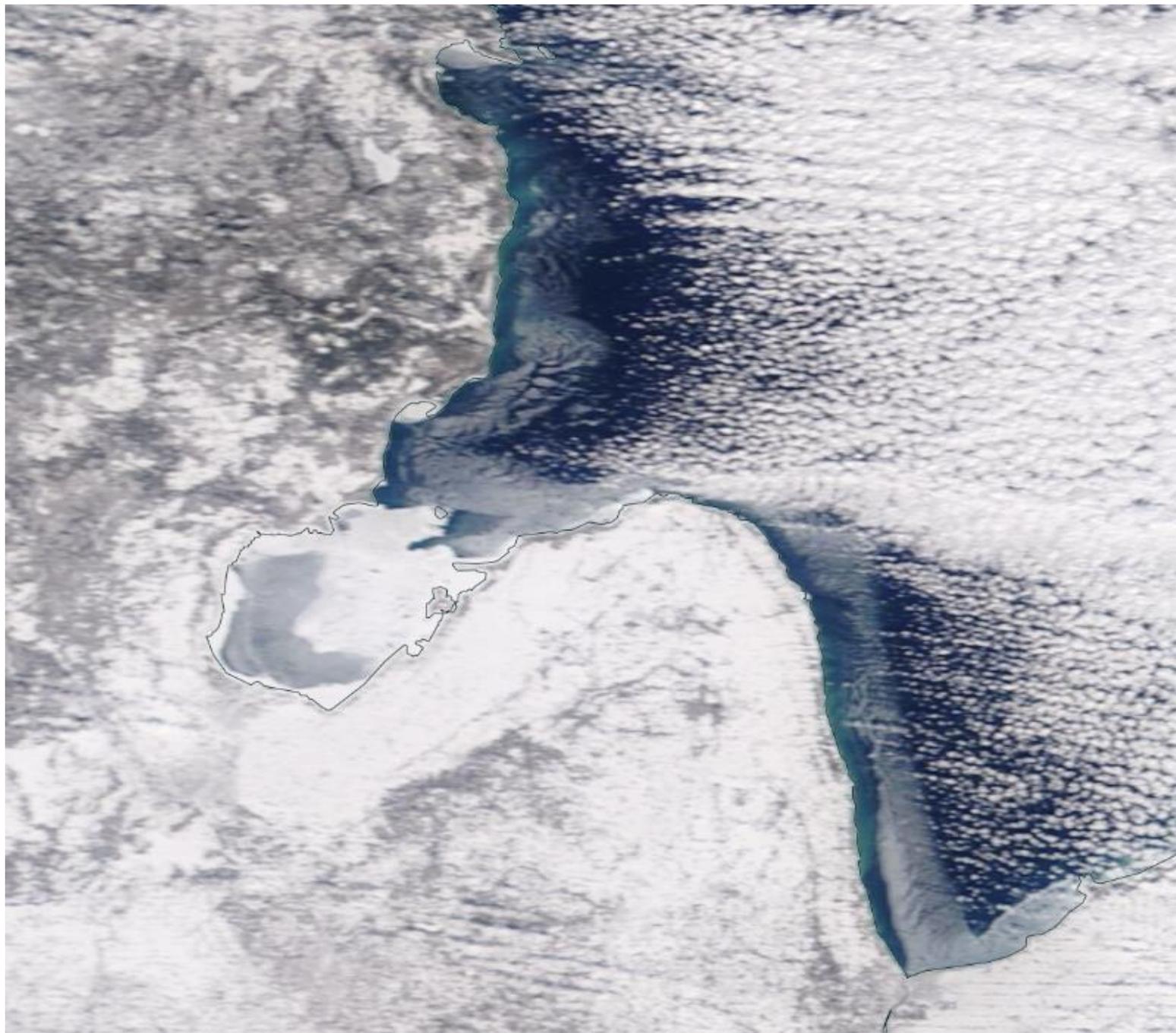
Forecast (12Z+120h)  
Lake Huron Ice Concentration  
02/20/2021 12:00 GMT  
(DOY 051)

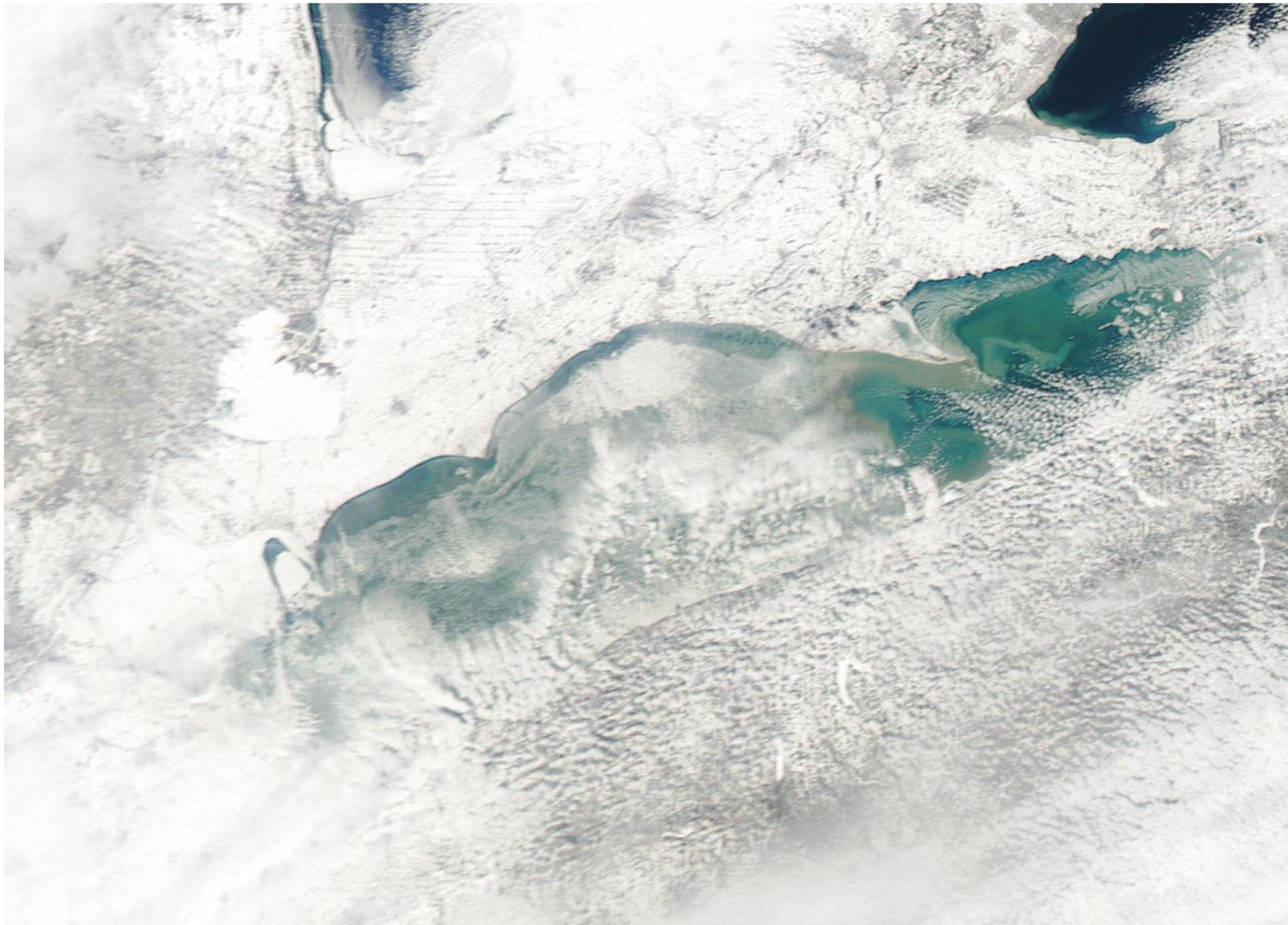
Mean concentration=51.6 %



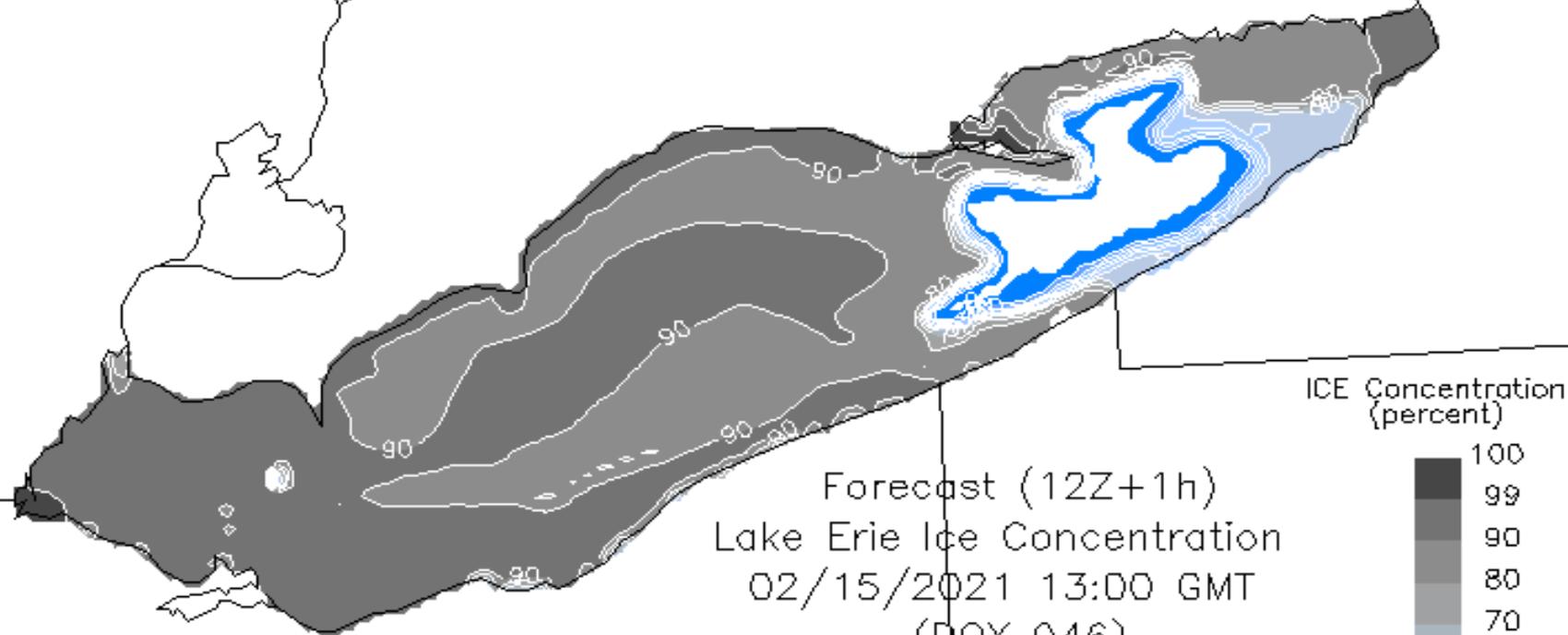
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

Last updated: Mon Feb 15 14:13:06 2021 GMT





NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

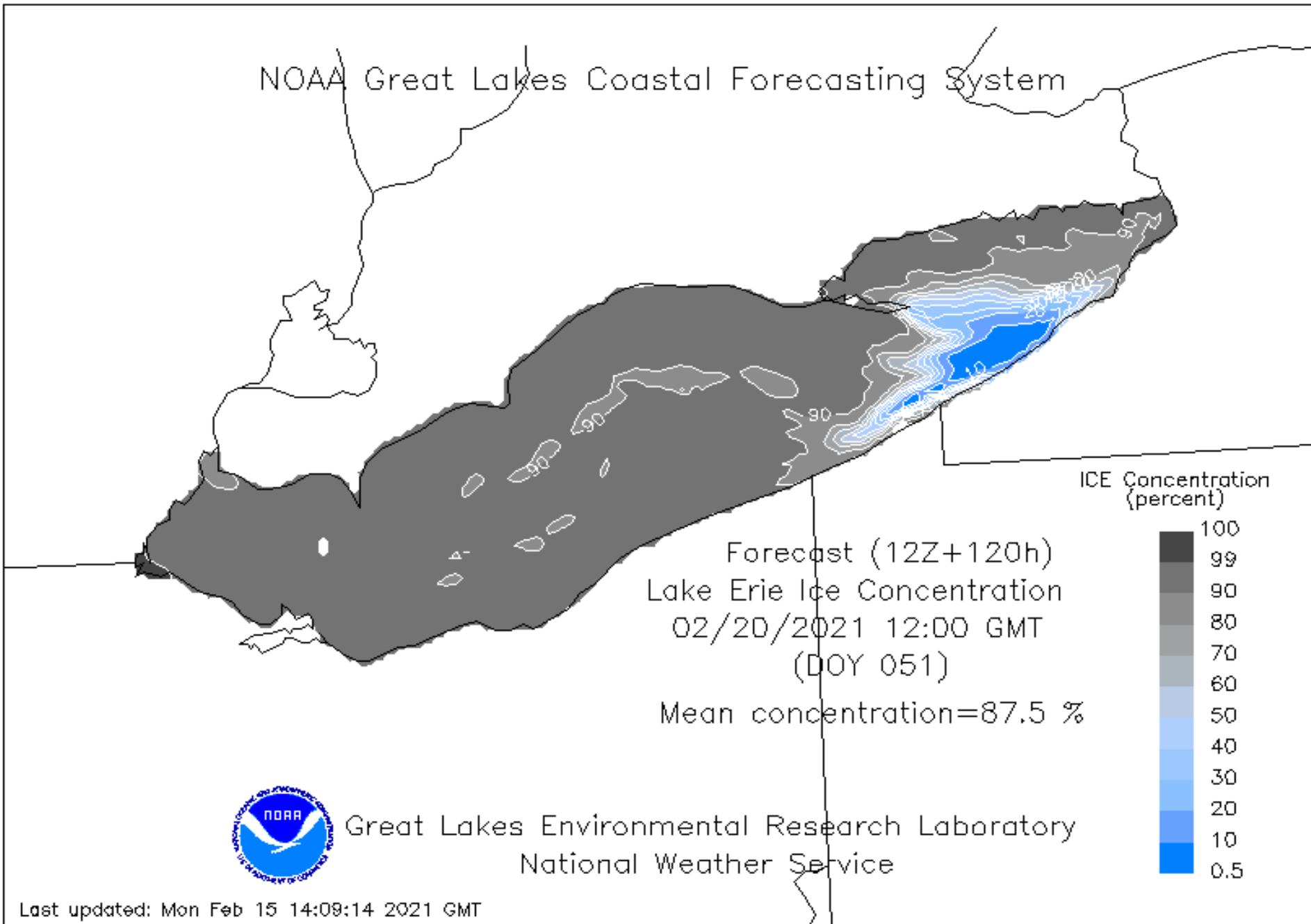


Mean concentration=78.6 %



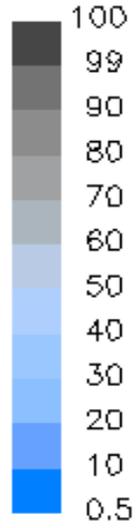
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System



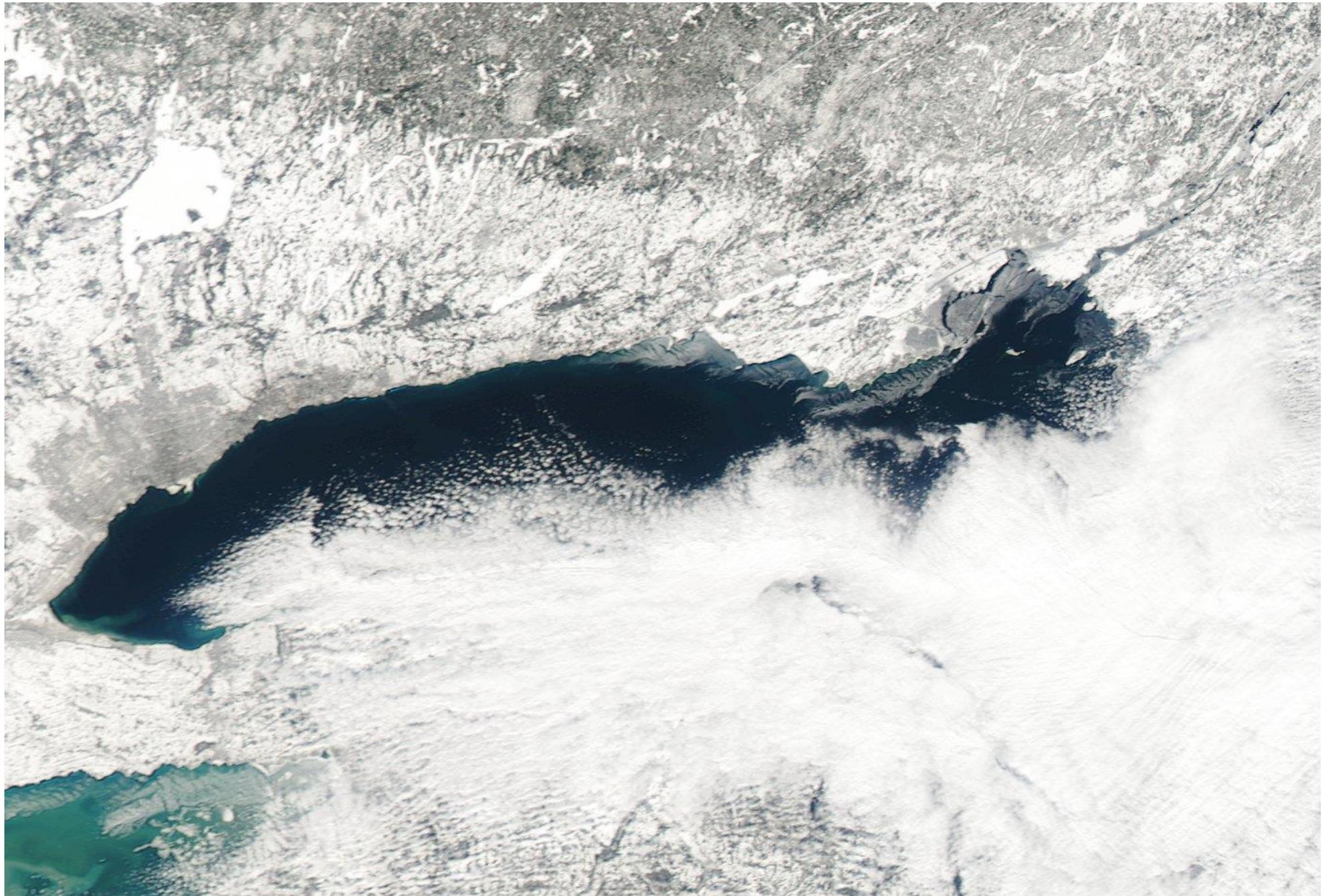
Forecast (12Z+120h)  
Lake Erie Ice Concentration  
02/20/2021 12:00 GMT  
(DOY 051)  
Mean concentration=87.5 %

ICE Concentration  
(percent)



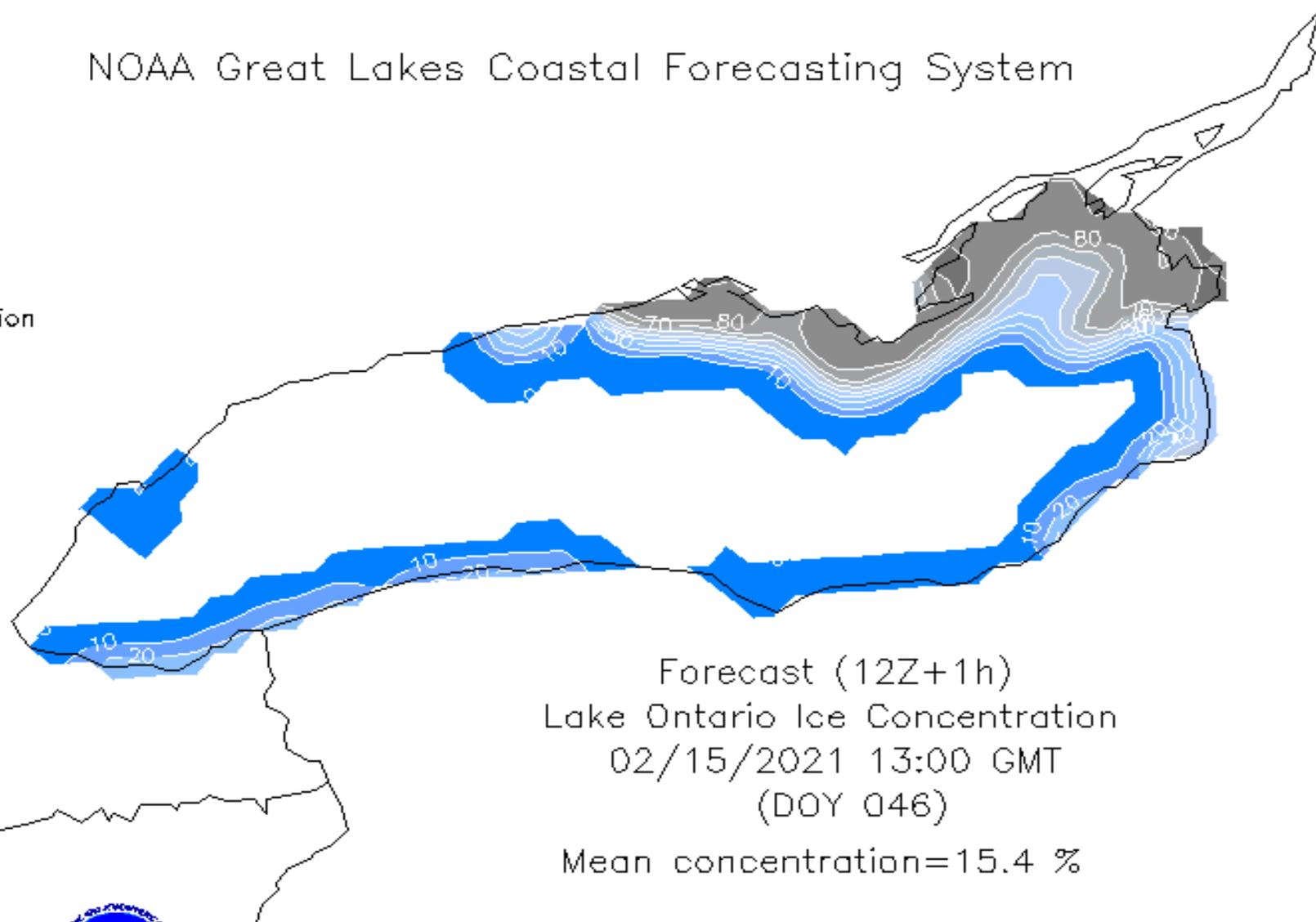
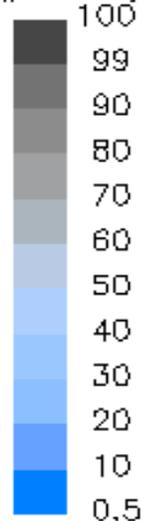
Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

Last updated: Mon Feb 15 14:09:14 2021 GMT



# NOAA Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System

ICE Concentration  
(percent)



Forecast (12Z+1h)  
Lake Ontario Ice Concentration  
02/15/2021 13:00 GMT  
(DOY 046)

Mean concentration=15.4 %



Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory  
National Weather Service

Last updated: Mon Feb 15 14:18:09 2021 GMT

**Roger Blough on fire at Bay Shipbuilding 2/1** - The Roger Blough was on fire at Bay Shipbuilding in Sturgeon Bay. Flames were coming out of the aft end where the unloading conveyor is located. The Sturgeon Bay and several other fire departments are at responded. There are no reports of injuries. Firefighters were called to the scene at about 2 a.m. [Sturgeon Bay webcam](#) Jim Conlon, WBAY



**The *St. Clair* suffered a severe fire on February 16, 2019, devastating her unloading system, engine room, and accommodations. She was declared a total loss and remains laid up at the TORCO Docks at Toledo. NTSB determined probable cause of the fire was the ignition of combustible material in the vicinity of an engine room workshop likely due to the use of portable space heaters or smoldering smoking materials, which spread to other areas of the vessel. Contributing to the extent of the fire damage was the lack of operating procedures for continuous active monitoring of the vessel while in layup status. (NTSB)**



**St. Clair in layup at Toledo, Ohio, after her fire, July 15, 2019. Photo by Sam Hankinson**

**New Tug for Picton** The 32.2-metre-long Amy Lynn D tug will tow barges loaded with locally quarried stone from Picton to construction projects along the north shore of Lake Ontario. The tugboat is a large addition to local shipping with a 9.3-metre beam and 327 gross tonnage. Amy Lynn D is large enough to comfortably house six crew and features a large bridge. Built in 2013 in the Netherlands — it was transported from Europe on a barge that was recently towed to Canada.



The Intelligencer, Derek Baldwin

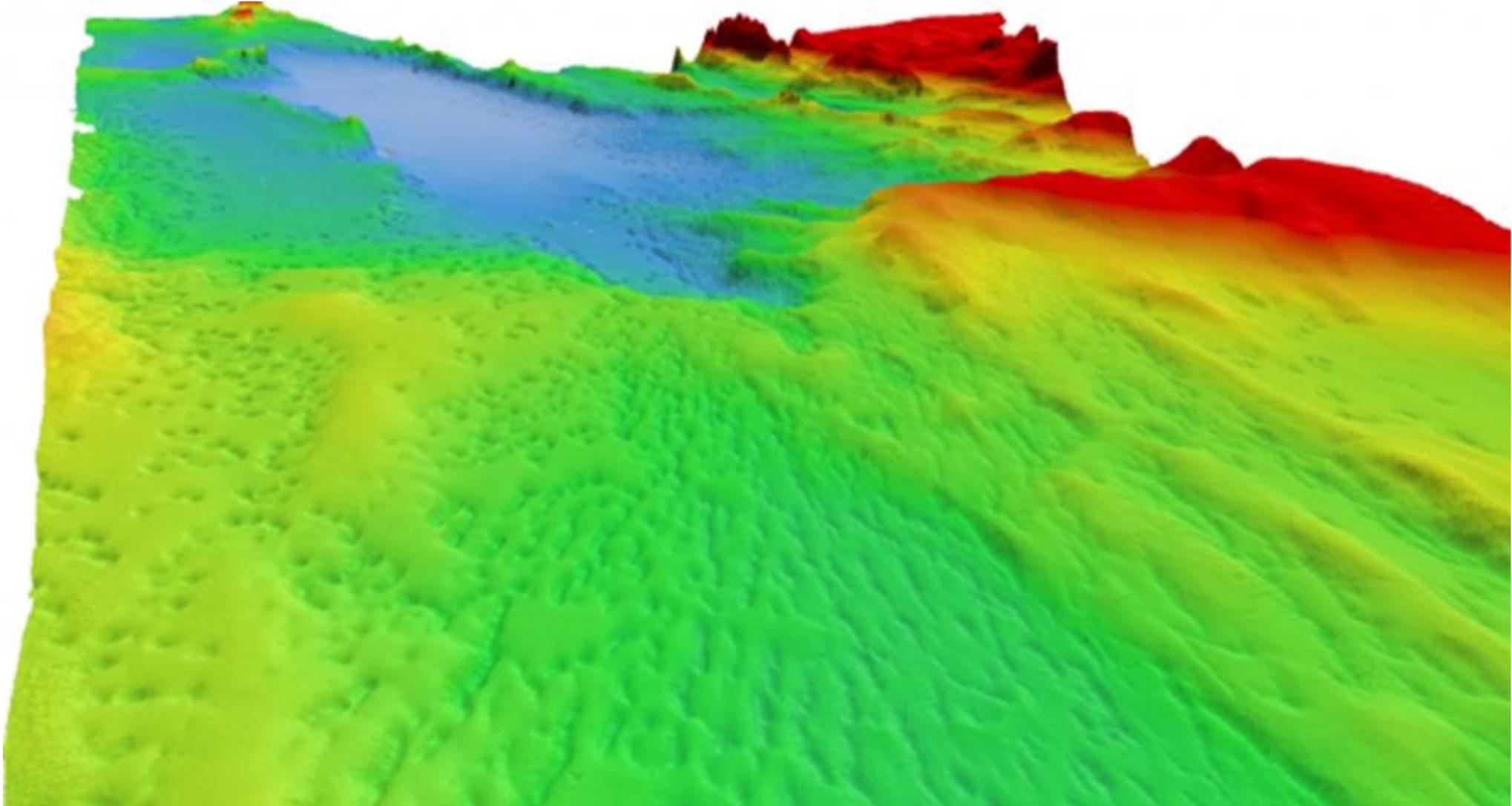
**The Amy Lynn D tugboat has arrived in Picton after making a 9,214-mile journey across the Atlantic to begin work at her new home. SANDY BERG/PICTON TERMINALS**

**Thunder Bay Hydrographic Survey** - Two XOCÉAN Uncrewed Surface Vessels (USVs), remotely controlled via satellite, took to Lake Superior this winter to conduct pioneering survey work for the Canadian Hydrographic Service (CHS) in partnership with IIC Technologies. The project marks the first time that USV technology has been used to gather bathymetry data in inland waters in Canada. [CHS](#) contracted [IIC Technologies](#) to acquire a high-resolution seabed survey in water depths up to 200m, of over 800km<sup>2</sup> off Thunder Bay, Ontario, using USV technology.

The uncrewed vessels are the size of an average car (4.5 metres) and half the weight (750kg), are remotely monitored and controlled 24/7 via a satellite connection by a team that can be located anywhere in the world.



# Thunder Bay Hydrographic Survey – Winter 2021



- **Guest Speaker Recommendations for Next Meeting (March or April 2021?)**
  - **Will continue to invite external participants (internal CMM and external) for Guest Speaker portion of meeting**
  - **Process for ZOOM invites for non members**
  - **Any Other Discussion**

- **Any Other Business**

- **Next Meeting**

- **Adjournment**