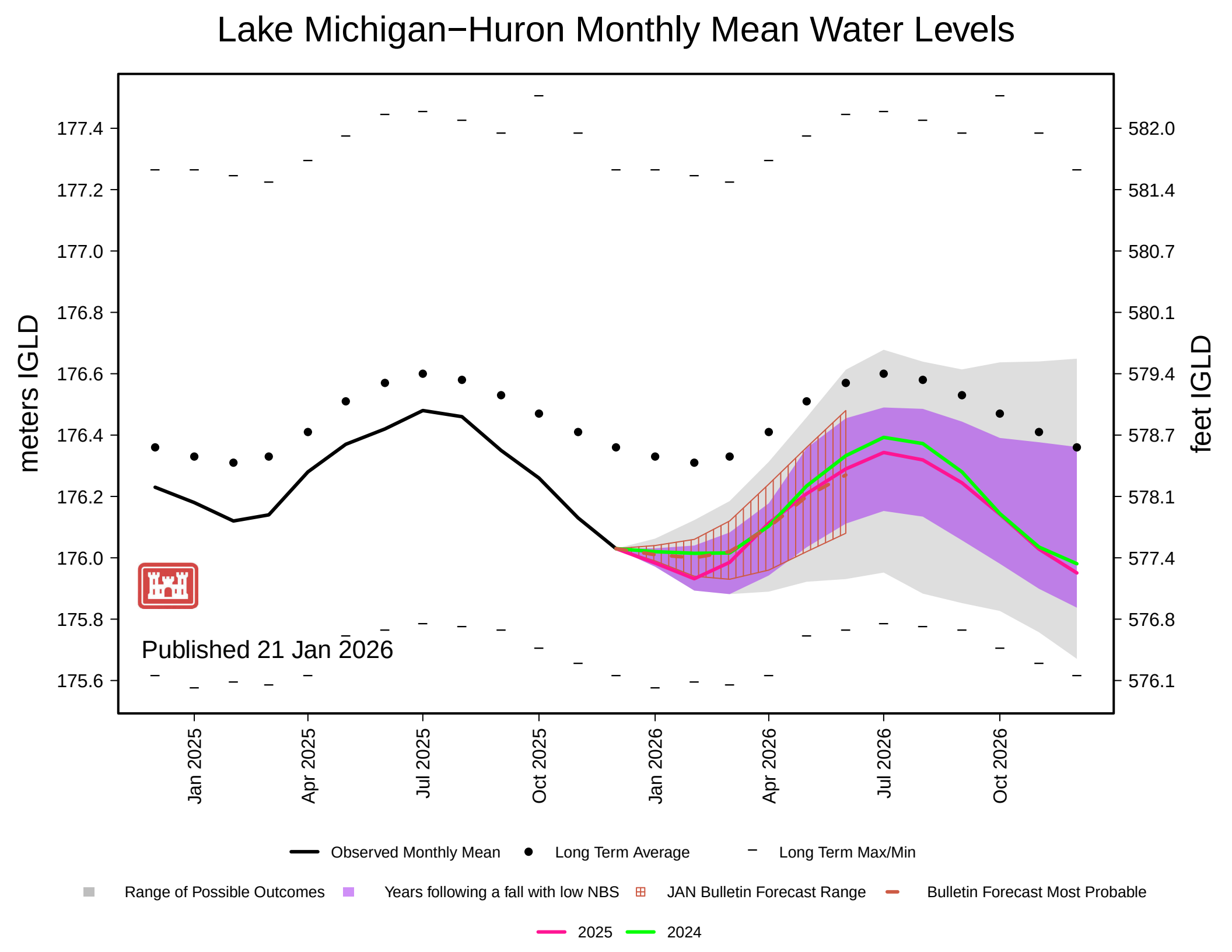
Harbormaster's Report to the Village Council

January 2026

<u>Things happening at the Marina:</u>

1. **Current Status of Marina** – Lake levels remain very low and are projected to be below last summer at this point. Most of the snow-pack we're seeing is just lake effect snow, so it's basically pulling moisture off the lakes and the spring melt will dump it right back in. (see attached Army Corps of Engineers forecast)
2. **Seasonal Slip Agreements** – Seasonal agreements went out via email on January 7th. Deposits are due by February 10th with full payment due by March 1st. It looks as though I'll be placing three 32-foot slips, one 42-foot slip, and zero 60-foot slips this season.
3. **Waiting List Renewals** – Waiting list renewals are scheduled to go out the first week of February.
4. **Lowering Finger Piers** – Chris Holton met with representatives from 45th Parallel Marine, Inc on January 13th at the marina to discuss lowering the 32-foot finger piers. (Unfortunately, I was out of town that day.) There are 29 32-foot finger piers that could be lowered. We hope to receive an estimate for the work by the end of January.
5. **Dock Post Replacement** – When Chris met with 45th Parallel Marine, he also mentioned the dock posts that need to be replaced. Most of them were marked. We hope to see that estimate by the end of February.
6. **Water Levels and Dredging** – I remain concerned about the low water levels and Army Corps of Engineers forecasts for the coming year. I believe the fairways will have adequate depth, but I'm concerned about a few slips where we have sailboats. I'm also concerned about the depth at the entrance. If we decide to contract with 45th Parallel Marine for either the finger pier lowering and/or the dock post replacement, we could have them do some soundings to determine if any maintenance dredging will be needed.
7. **Incidents** – There were no incidents this past month.

Bill Rosemurgy, Harbormaster


Lake Michigan−Huron Monthly Mean Water Levels
meters IGLD
feet IGLD
177.4
177.2
177.0
176.8
176.6
176.4
176.2
176.0
175.8
175.6
582.0
581.4
580.7
580.1
579.4
578.7
578.1
577.4
576.8
576.1
Jan 2025
Apr 2025
Jul 2025
Oct 2025
Jan 2026
Apr 2026
Jul 2026
Oct 2026
Published 21 Jan 2026
Observed Monthly Mean
Long Term Average
Long Term Max/Min
Range of Possible Outcomes
Years following a fall with low NBS
JAN Bulletin Forecast Range
Bulletin Forecast Most Probable
2025
2024