

SUPERIOR DAM

Ann Arbor, MI

QUICK LOOK

Owner: City of Ann Arbor

Purpose: Retired hydropower

Height/Head: 27.5'/25'

Crest length: 330'

Spill width: 160'

Pond size: 93 acres

Lake level: 730.2 to 730.8

Dam Type: Earth, Gravity

Contact: Brian Steglitz
734-794-6426, ext. 43905
BSteglitz@a2gov.org

HISTORY AND LOCATION

Superior Dam was constructed in 1920 and operates as a hydropower dam. Superior Dam is the last of the four dams operated by the City of Ann Arbor.

Original designer: Gardner Williams

Original Construction Contractor: *unknown*

Original Construction Cost: *unknown*

Location: 42.2653 N, 83.6445 W

Nearest cross streets: Superior Rd & First St.

Miles to nearest upstream dam: Geddes Dam, 2.5 river miles

Miles to nearest downstream dam: Peninsular Paper Dam, 1.5 river miles

Water time between Geddes Dam and Superior Dam: *unknown*

Water time between Superior Dam and Peninsular Paper: *unknown*

OPERATION DETAILS

Dam description Superior Dam is a concrete barrel arched buttress dam. A portion of the dam has a fixed crest at a length of 140 feet. Adjacent to the fixed crest portion of the dam is a concrete sluiceway that has a width of 23 feet. The dam is operated to maintain a constant pond level within 1 tenth of a foot.

Operator agency: City of Ann Arbor

Owner agency: City of Ann Arbor

Dam type/mechanism: Concrete gravity spillway, earthen embankments.

Operational mode: automated

Height: 27.5'

Head: 25'

Embankment crest length: 330'

Spill width: 160'

Spillway capacity: 17,200 cfs at embankment crest elevation.

Pond Size: 93 acres

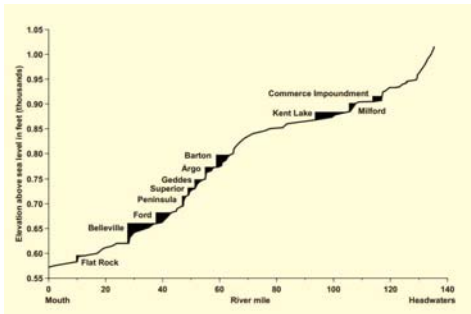
Lake Level: 730.2 to 730.8

Impoundment storage capacity: 700 Ac-ft at elev. 730.5'.

Monitoring equipment:

- Pressure transducers, gauge height sensors, sluice gate controls
- SCADA system; remote and automatic controls





Elevation changes, by river mile, from the headwaters to the mouth of the Huron River. Major mainstem dams and the impoundments they create are shown. (MDNR Huron River Assessment, 1995)



View of Superior Dam from downstream.

Contact Us

Huron River Watershed Council

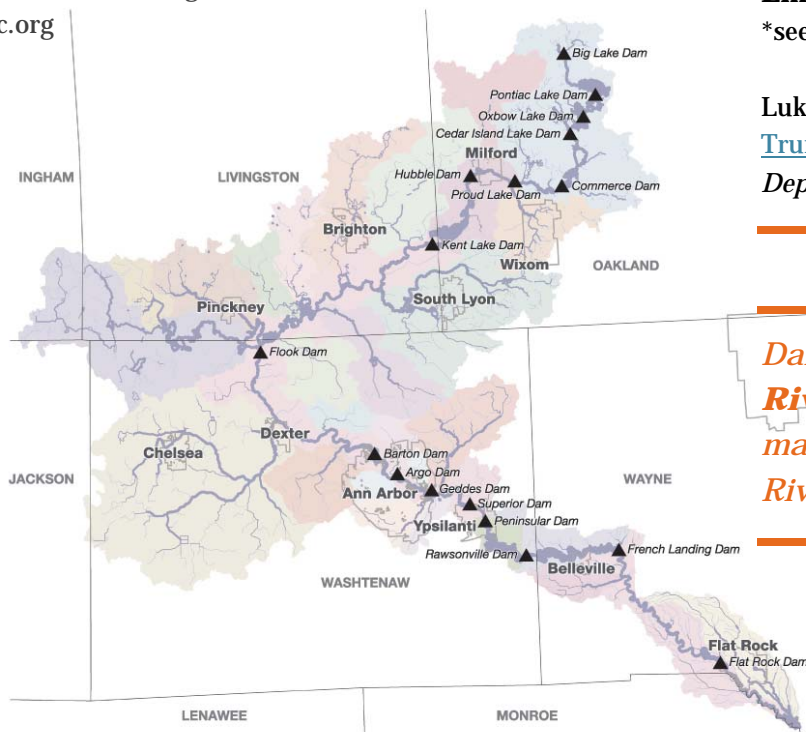
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SAFETY AND ASSESSMENT

Regulations: FERC

Most Recent Inspection: Annually

Inspection requirements and schedule: Annually

Emergency Action Plan required: yes

Safety signage. At dam: yes. At portage: yes. Below dam: yes.

Barricades: pontoon float buoys upstream and downstream

Portage: yes

Lighting: warning sign lighting upstream and downstream

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Superior Dam Contact: Brian Steglitz, 734-794-6426, ext. 43905

Backup Contact: Rob Coon, 734-845-0776

Nearest Upstream Dam (non AA owned/operated): Flook Dam

Contact: Arthur Stauch, 734-216-4009

Backup Contact: Bob Griffin, 734-260-0465

Nearest Downstream Dam: Pensinsular Paper Dam, City of Ypsilanti

Contact: Stan Kirton, City of Ypsilanti, 734-483-1421

Emergency Response Agency: 911

*see Emergency Action Plan

Luke Trumble

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Dept. of Environmental Quality, Dam Safety Unit

*Dam Reports produced through the **Huron River Dams Network** connecting the 17 mainstem dam operations on the Huron River from Big Lake to Flat Rock.*
