

Climate Factor Cards

Decreased Lake Ice Cover Variable by lake; Lake Michigan likely to become ice free soonest	Increased Air Temperature Summer warming faster than winters	Increased Rainfall Up overall, but variable by season: fall and winter much rainier, summers drier	Snowfall Increase in lake effect snow, likely decrease in snowfall otherwise
Wind Average wind speeds declining, but may have more high intensity wind events	Heat Waves Heat waves are likely to be more frequent, longer lasting, and more severe	Longer Growing Season Likely to increase by 3-6 weeks by the end of the century	Extreme Rains Frequency of heavy rainfall events increasing year-round
Evaporation and Drought Increase larger in summer; loss of winter lake ice will increase evaporation off lakes	Decrease in lake level Decrease likely, but increase also plausible; lake level variability to continue regardless	Increased Runoff Up overall, but variable by season	Increased Lake Temperature Lake Superior warming fastest; warmer water holds less oxygen for fish and other animals