



Fox River Status Update October 23rd, 2025

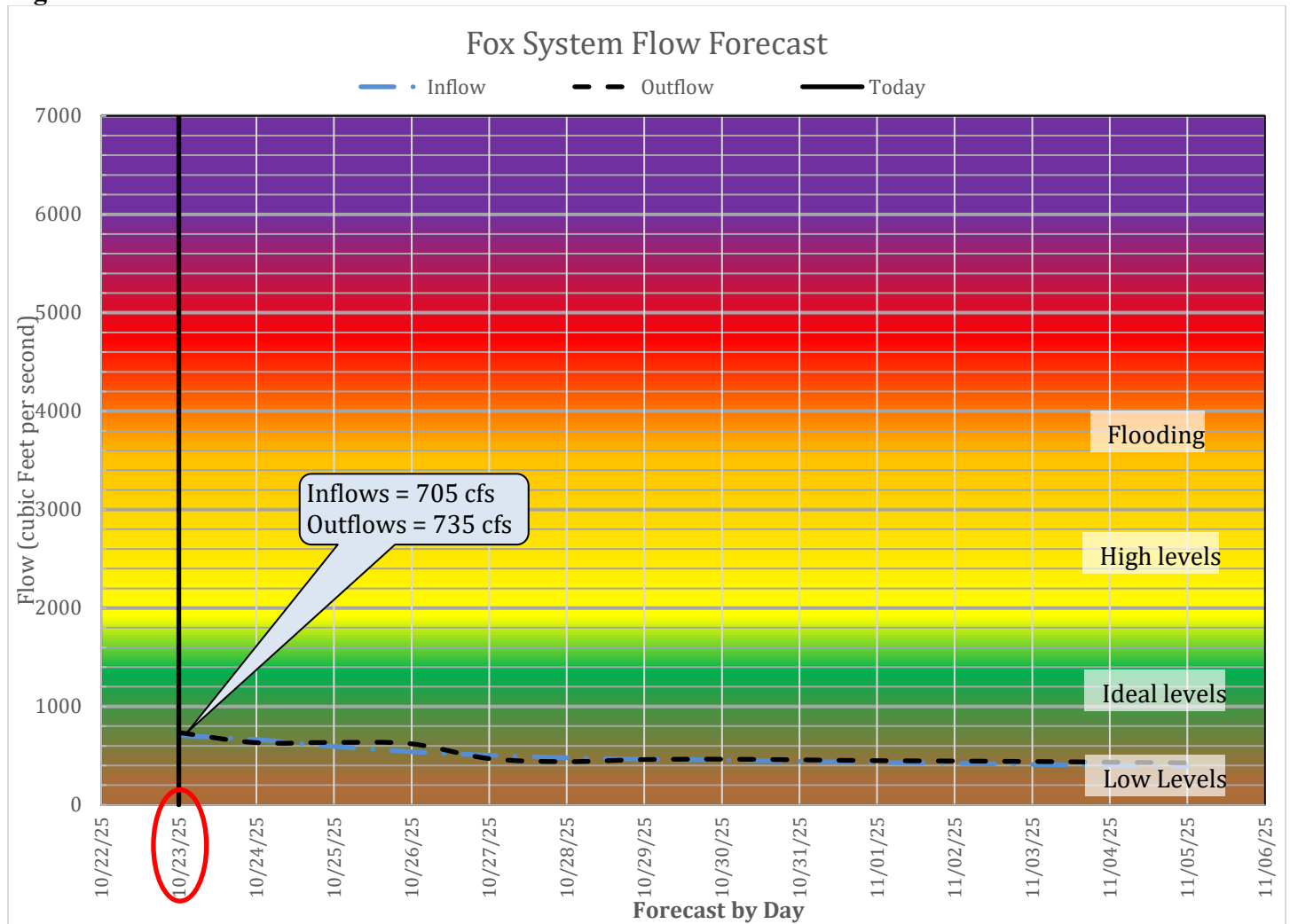
**This Update is based on the current forecast and will be adjusted based on future forecasts and rainfall.*

Summary

Despite the extension to Summer Pool, the lock will be closed on November 1st. Due to construction needs at Chain O'Lakes State Park, the start of winter drawdown will be delayed until November 17th or when dredging is completed, whichever comes first. There is currently just over 0.25" of rain forecasted for the lakes over the next 7 Days (Figure 4). Inflows are forecasted to continue dropping over the next week (Figure 1). Fox Lake, the Upper River, and Pool are all forecasted to remain near current levels (Figure 2). The Lower River is expected to see a slight drop as inflows reduce (Figure 3).

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: National Weather Service Forecasted Inflows



Lake & Upper River Water Elevation Forecast (Summer Pool)

Legend: ●●● Lake Villa — Johnsburg - · - McHenry HW — Today

The chart displays water elevation forecasts from 10/22/25 to 11/06/25. The y-axis represents Gage Height (feet) from 2.50 to 7.00. The x-axis represents the forecast by day. A vertical line at 10/23/25 is circled in red. A callout box indicates current levels: Lake Villa = 4.18 ft, Johnsburg = 4.13 ft, and McHenry HW = 4.02 ft. Annotations on the right side include 'Flooding' (red), 'High levels' (yellow), 'Ideal levels' (green), and 'Low levels' (brown).

Date	Lake Villa (ft)	Johnsburg (ft)	McHenry HW (ft)	Today (ft)
10/22/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	2.50
10/23/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/24/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/25/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/26/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/27/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/28/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/29/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/30/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
10/31/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/01/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/02/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/03/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/04/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/05/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18
11/06/25	4.18	4.13	4.02	4.18

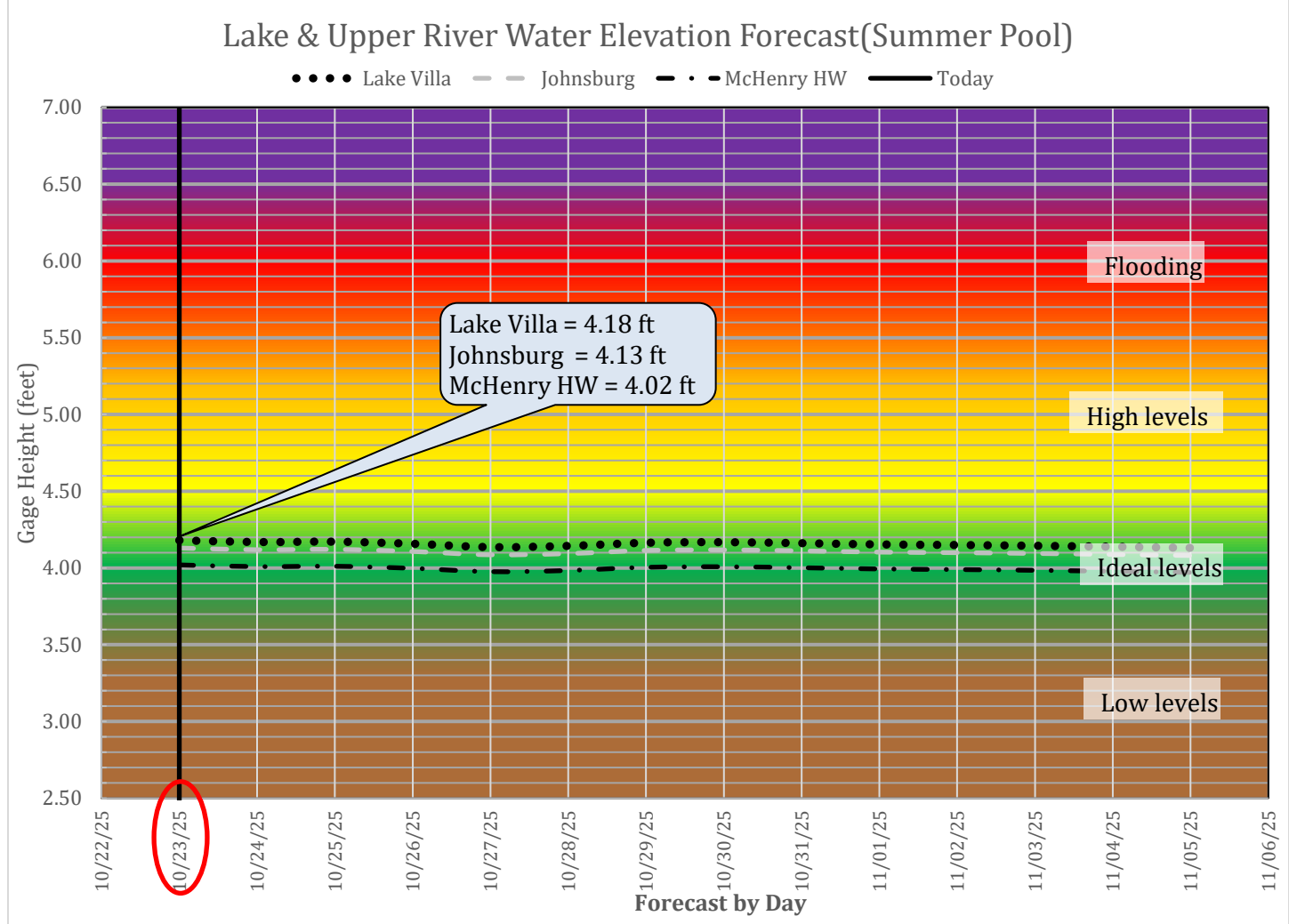
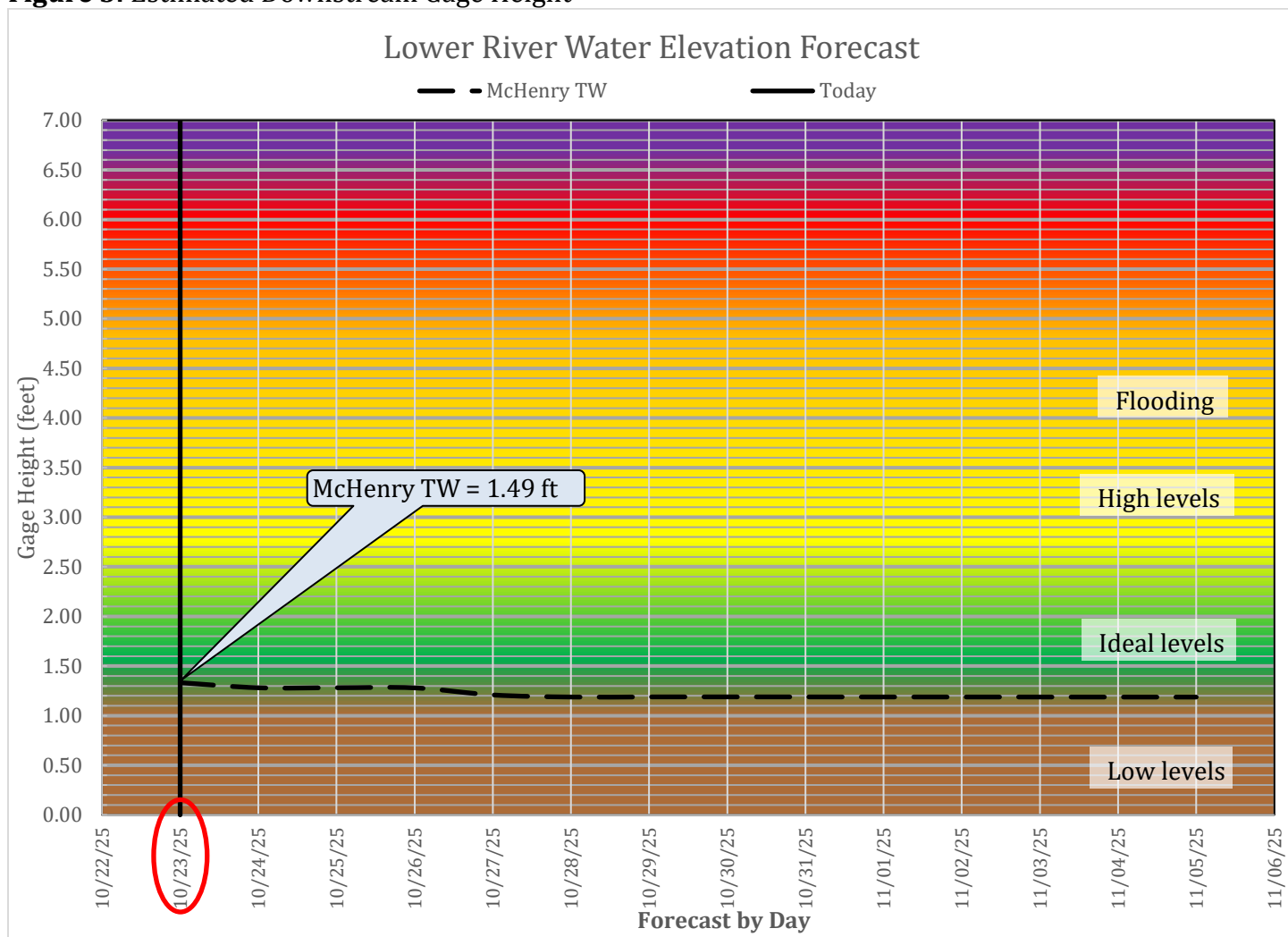


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



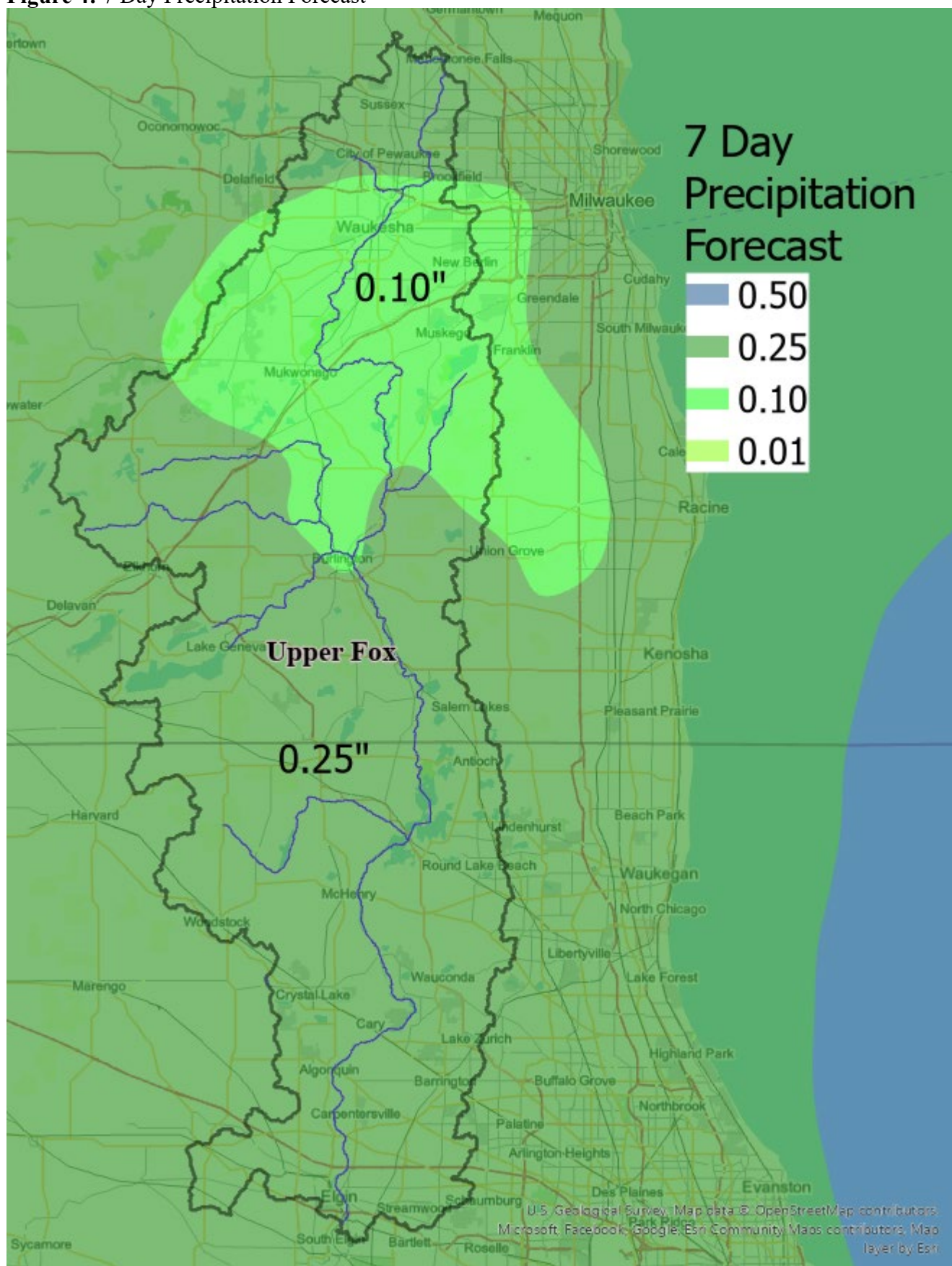
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 572 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 34 cfs. The total Stratton inflow is 705 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.18 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.49 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.73 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to continue to drop slowly, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and areas upstream of the dam will remain near 4.15', as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River should expect slightly lower levels as outflows decrease, **Figure 3**. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing 0.25" of rainfall.

Figure 4: 7 Day Precipitation Forecast



System Outlook

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels will hold near the current level.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

The Pool and Upper River should expect to see similar conditions.

Lower River Outlook

Water levels will decrease as inflows drop.

IDNR-OWR will continue to monitor conditions and make changes as necessary pending future forecasts and conditions.

Thank you,

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