Illinois Department of Natural Resources
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Fox River Status Update
April 17th, 2024

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

Summary

The current forecast shows the recent rainfall had little impact to overall inflows (Figure 1). It appears that the heaviest rain was limited to the Chain of Lakes area, with lower amounts further upstream. Currently the watershed is forecasted to receive 0.2" of rain over the next 7 days. Water levels are predicted to continue dropping until they reach scheduled transition levels (Figures 2 & 3).

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

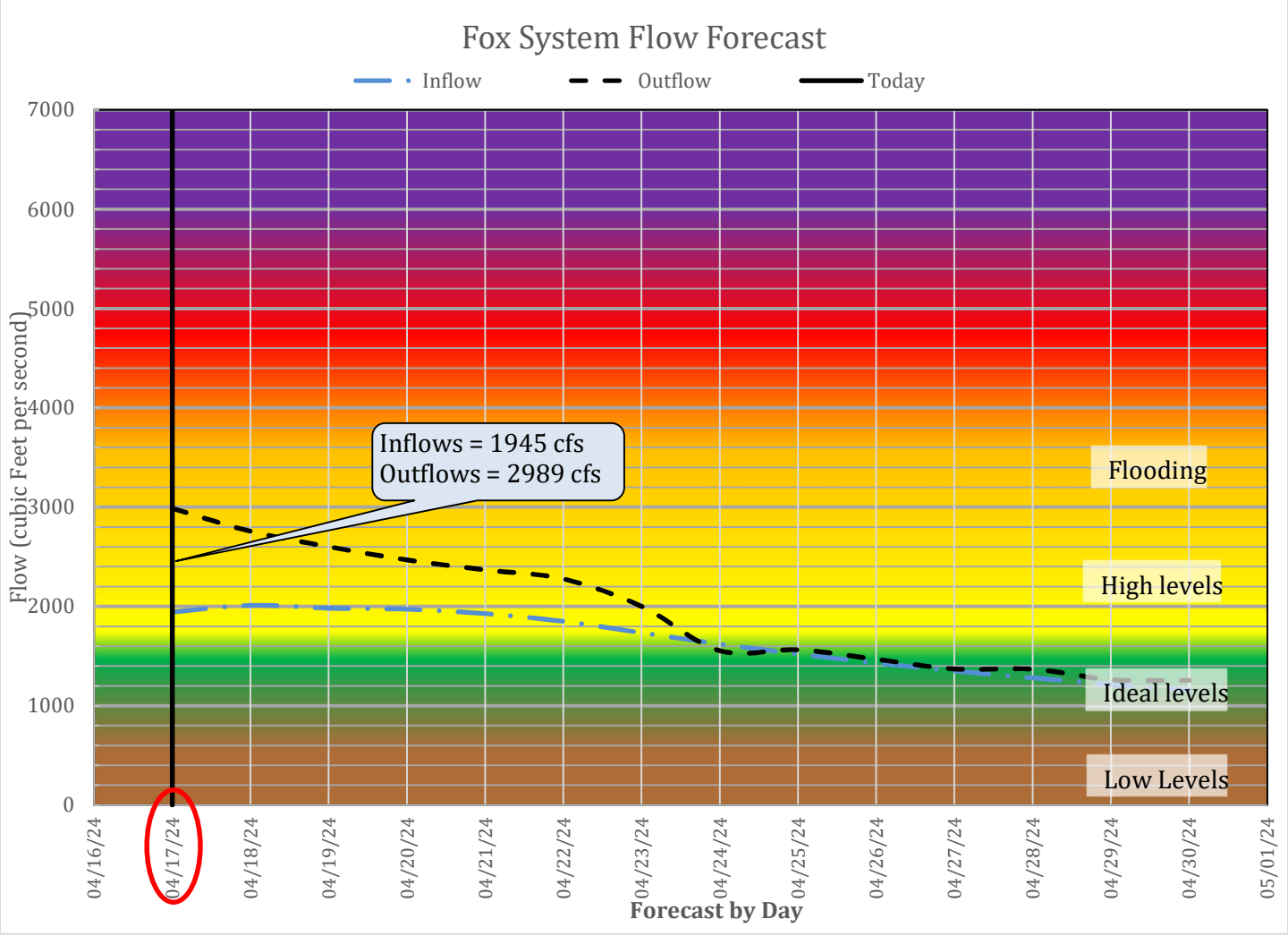


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights

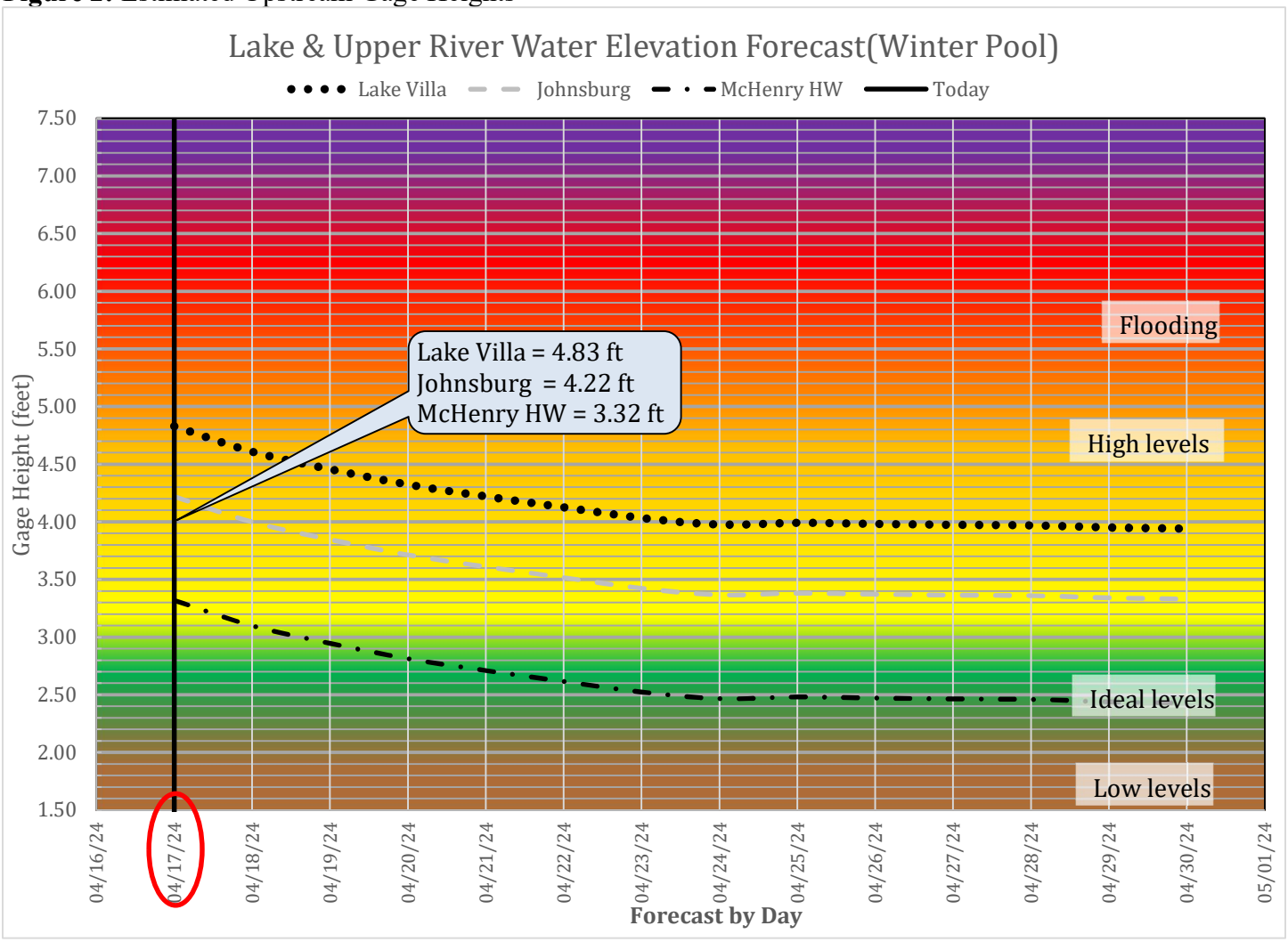
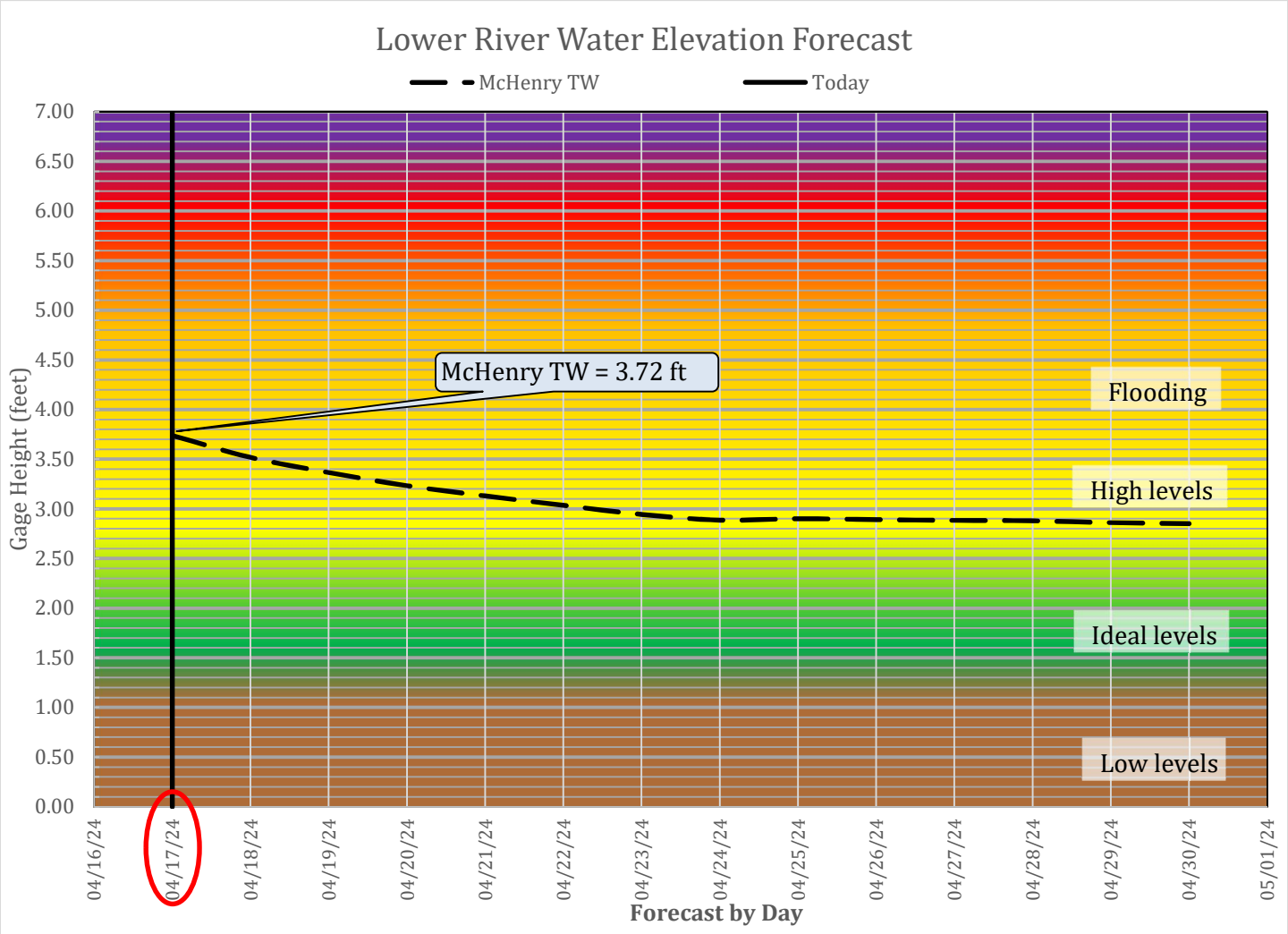


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 1180 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 418 cfs. The total system inflow is 1945 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.83 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 3.72 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.53 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to hold near 2000 cfs and then begin dropping again, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake is forecasted to drop to 4.00' this time next week, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River will also see water levels continue to drop for the duration of this forecast, **Figure 3** above. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing 0.2" rain for the watershed.

System Outlook

All Areas of the System

It is anticipated that the system will return to scheduled summer pool transition water levels next week. Any additional rainfall will require further adjustments.

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

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham
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