

Fox River Status Update April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

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

## **Summary**

This update is being released to inform everyone that if preparations need to be made for the elevated water levels, it would be wise to do so. Inflows are still forecasted to peak on Friday at over 6000 cubic feet per second (Figure 1). The Fox Lake gage is predicted to crest at approximately 5.47' (Figure 2); the Lower River is forecasted to peak at approximately 5.40' for the McHenry Tailwater gage (Figure 3), both on Monday, April 8th. It is currently anticipated that all areas of the system will be at or very near Minor Flood Stage. Attempts will be made to allow for as much time to prepare as possible for those impacted.

## **Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts**

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

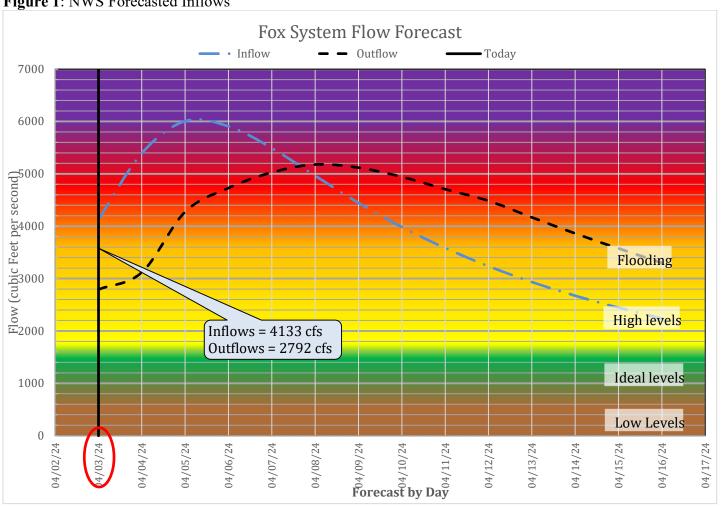


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights Lake & Upper River Water Elevation Forecast(Winter Pool) • • • • Lake Villa — — Johnsburg — • • McHenry HW — Today 7.50 7.00 6.50 6.00 Flooding 5.50 Gage Height (feet) High levels 3.50 Lake Villa = 3.97 ft Johnsburg = 4.03 ft 3.00 McHenry HW = 2.59 ft 2.50 Ideal levels 2.00 Low levels

42/01/24 Forecast by Day 64/11/24

04/12/24

04/13/24

04/15/24

04/14/24

04/17/24

1.50

04/02/24

04/04/24

04/05/24

04/06/24

04/07/24

04/08/24

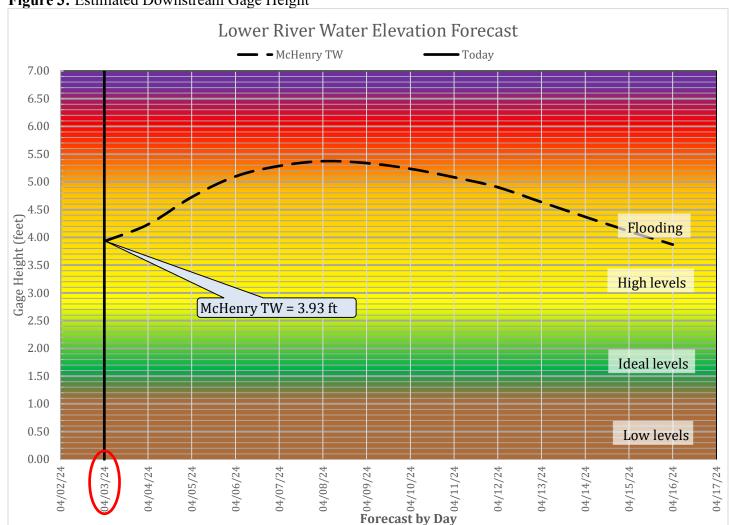


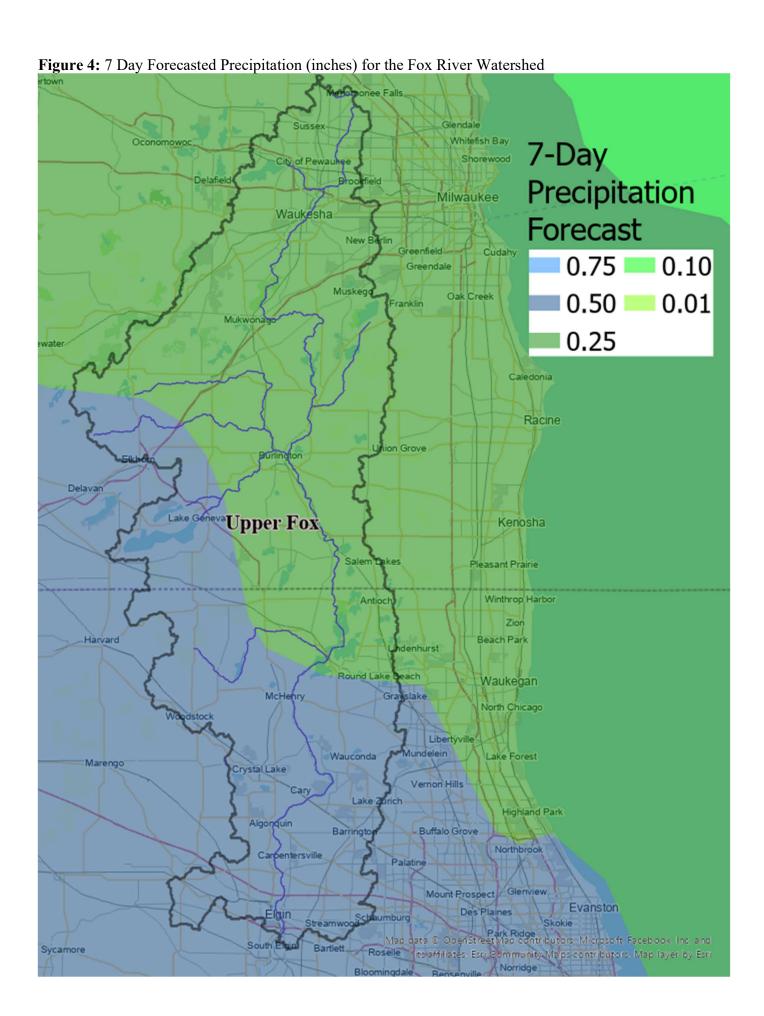
Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height

### **Current Conditions**

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 3230 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 950 cfs. The total system inflow is 4133 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 3.97 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 3.93 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.75 ft.

#### **Forecast**

Inflows are forecasted to peak Friday evening at over 6000 cfs, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam are forecasted to peak Monday, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River should anticipate reaching Minor Flood Stage. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing between 0.25"-0.5" rain for the watershed, **Figure 4**.



# **System Outlook**

### Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels are forecasted to peak on Monday 04/08/24 at 5.41' on the Fox Lake gage.

### McHenry Pool Area Outlook

Water levels are forecasted to be lower than the lakes at the pool while as much water as possible is allowed to exit the system. The Johnsburg gage is forecasted to peak on Monday 04/08/24 at 5.47'.

### **Lower River Outlook**

Based on the current forecast, the Lower River will reach Minor Flood Stage on Friday 04/05/24. It should also peak on Monday 04/08/24 at 5.37'.

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

Thank you,

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