



Fox River Status Update
April 4th, 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 due to a possible issue with the readings at the Fox Lake gage. The current forecast uses the gage reading for Nippersink Lake. This has resulted in an increase to predicted lake levels. Inflows are still forecasted to peak on Friday at over 6000 cubic feet per second (Figure 1). The lakes are predicted to crest at approximately 5.94' (Figure 2); the Lower River is still forecasted to peak at approximately 5.40' for the McHenry Tailwater gage (Figure 3), now on Tuesday, April 9th. It is currently anticipated that all areas of the system will be at or very near Minor Flood Stage.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

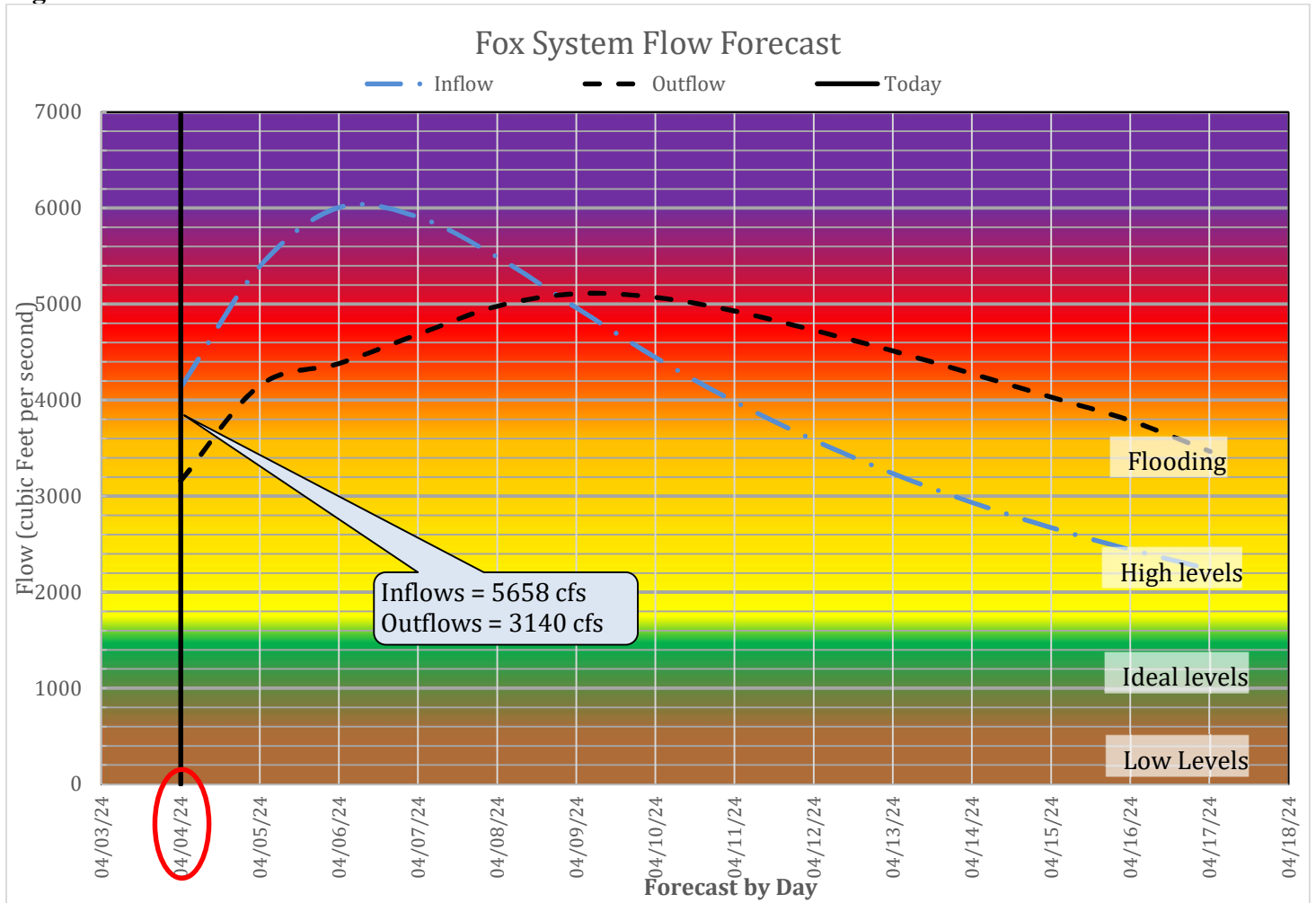


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights

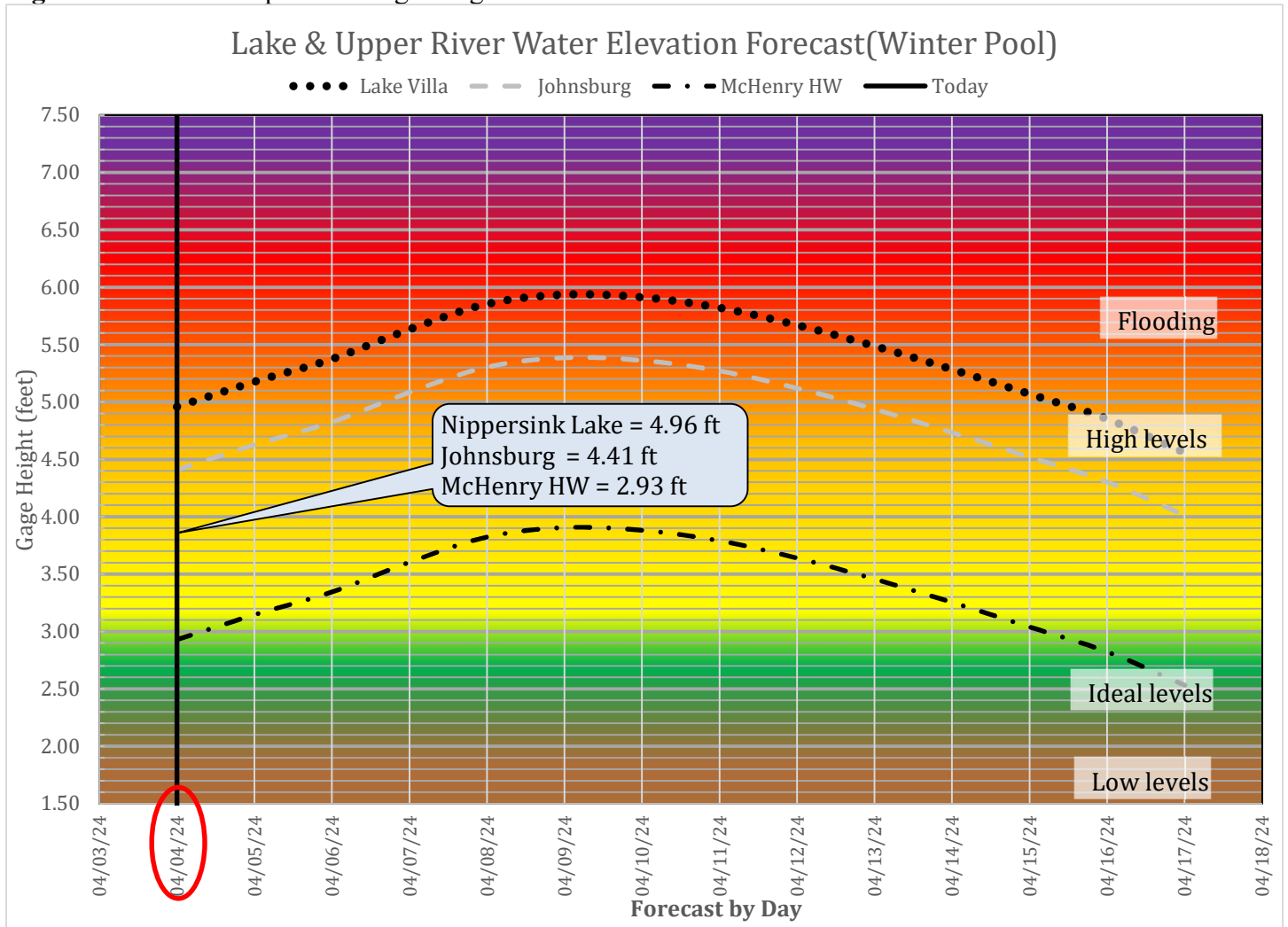
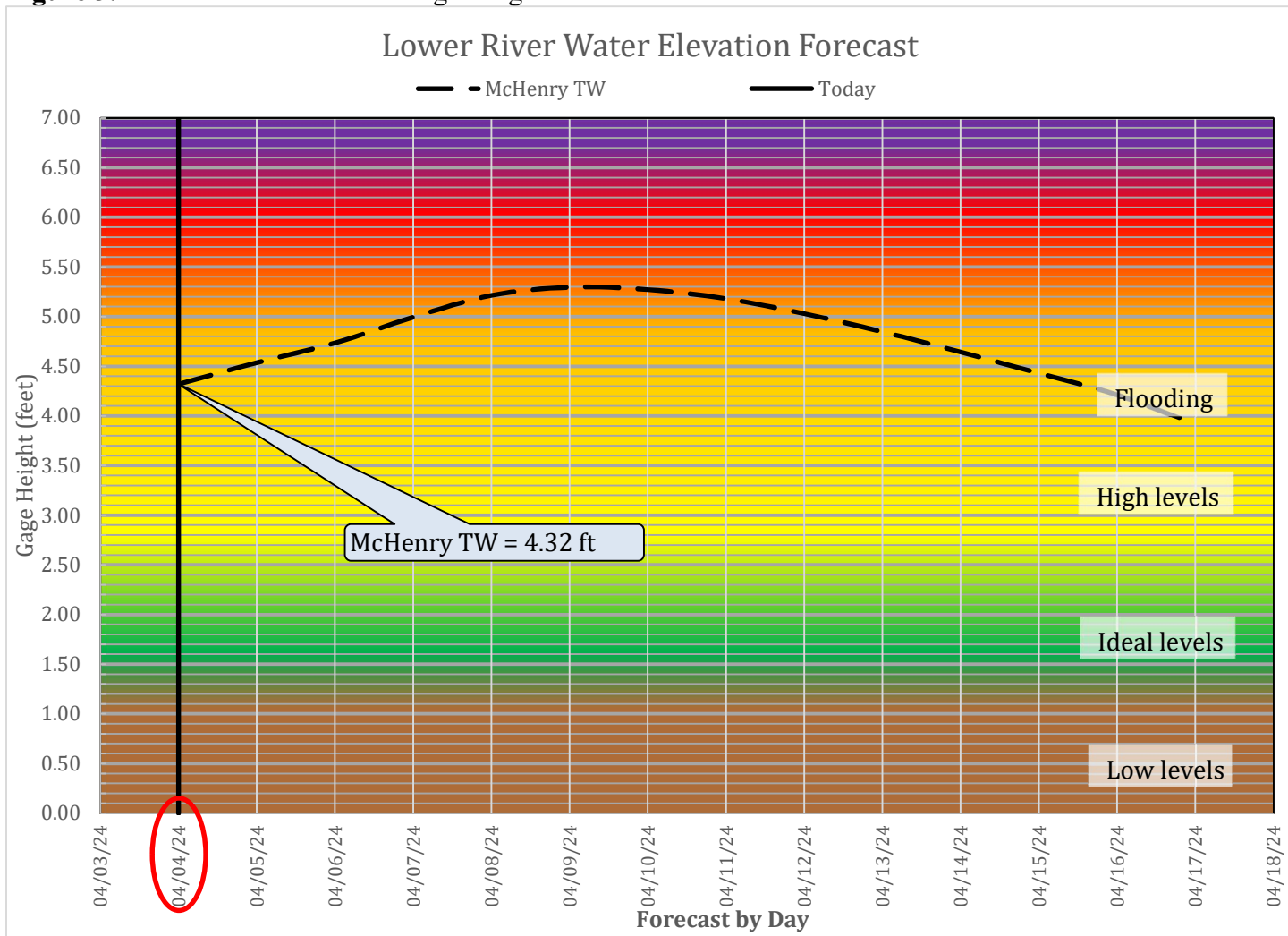


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



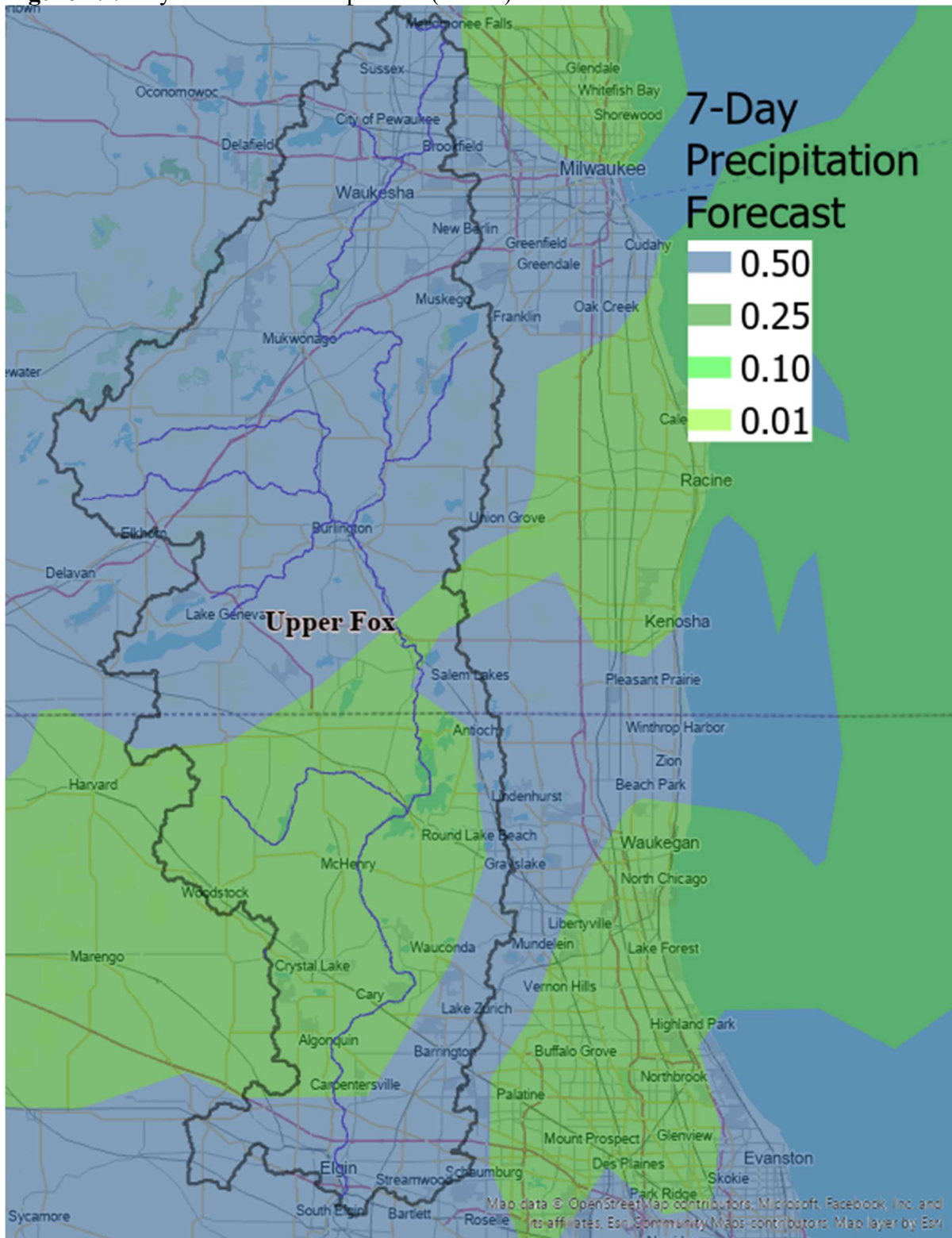
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 3680 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 1460 cfs. The total system inflow is 5658 cfs. The Nippersink Lake stage is 4.96 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 4.32 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.91 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 Tuesday, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River will also peak on Tuesday and is currently in Minor Flood Stage. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing between 0.25”-0.5” rain for the watershed, **Figure 4**.

Figure 4: 7 Day Forecasted Precipitation (inches) for the Fox River Watershed



System Outlook

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels are forecasted to peak on Tuesday 04/09/24 at 5.94' 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 Johnsborg gage is forecasted to peak on Tuesday 04/09/24 at 5.39'.

Lower River Outlook

The Lower River has reached Minor Flood Stage. It should also peak on Tuesday 04/09/24 at 5.35'.

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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