



Fox River Status Update
July 15th, 2024

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

Summary

There is currently between 0.25 - 0.75” of precipitation forecasted for the next 7 Days (Figure 4). Based on the current forecast, inflows will peak at near 3500 cfs (Figure 1). Fox Lake is forecasted to rise to just over 5.0’, (Figure 2). The Lower River should expect to be just below “River Closed” status (Figure 3). It is expected that the entire system will be near or at “No Wake” levels.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

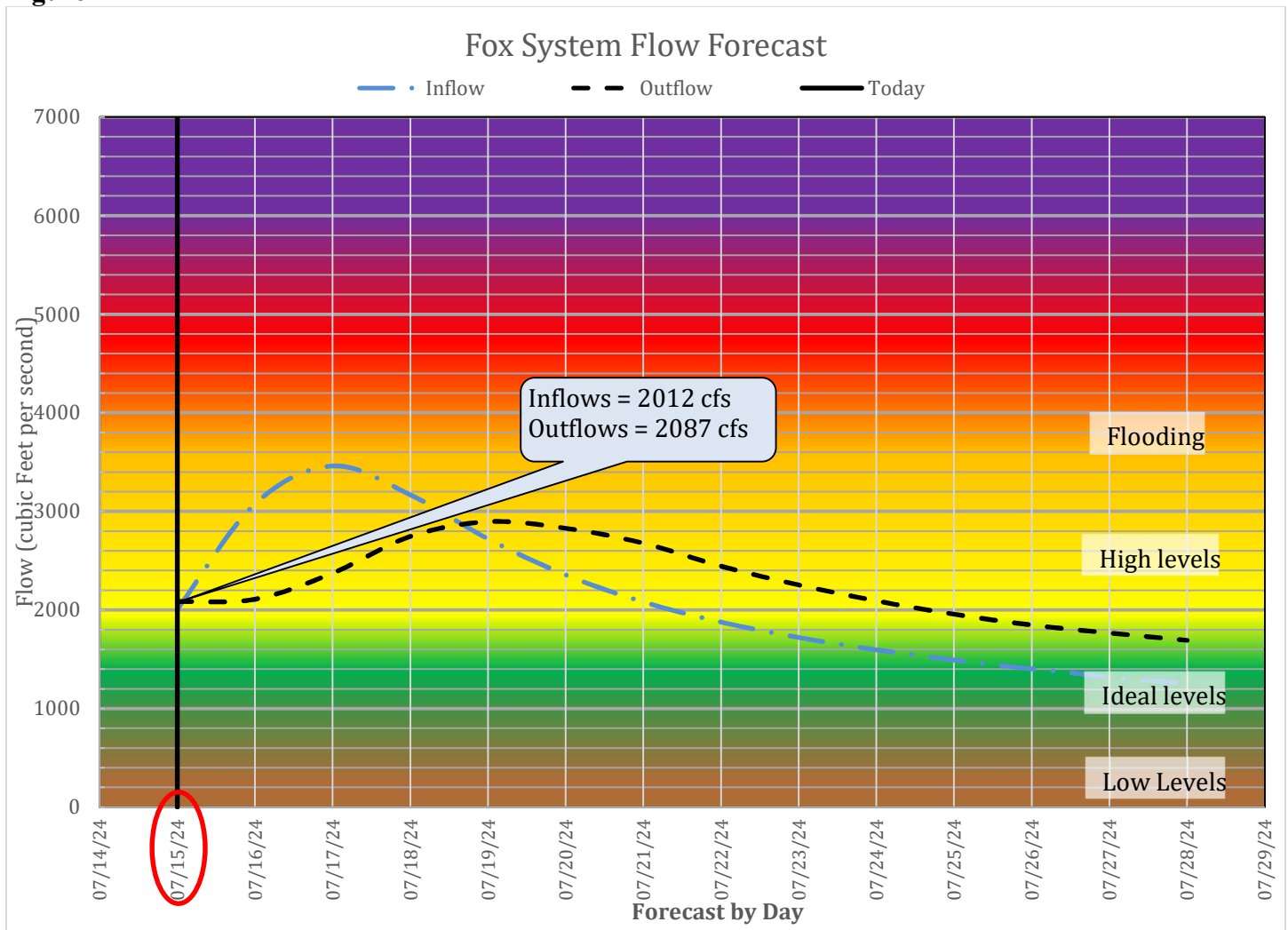


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights

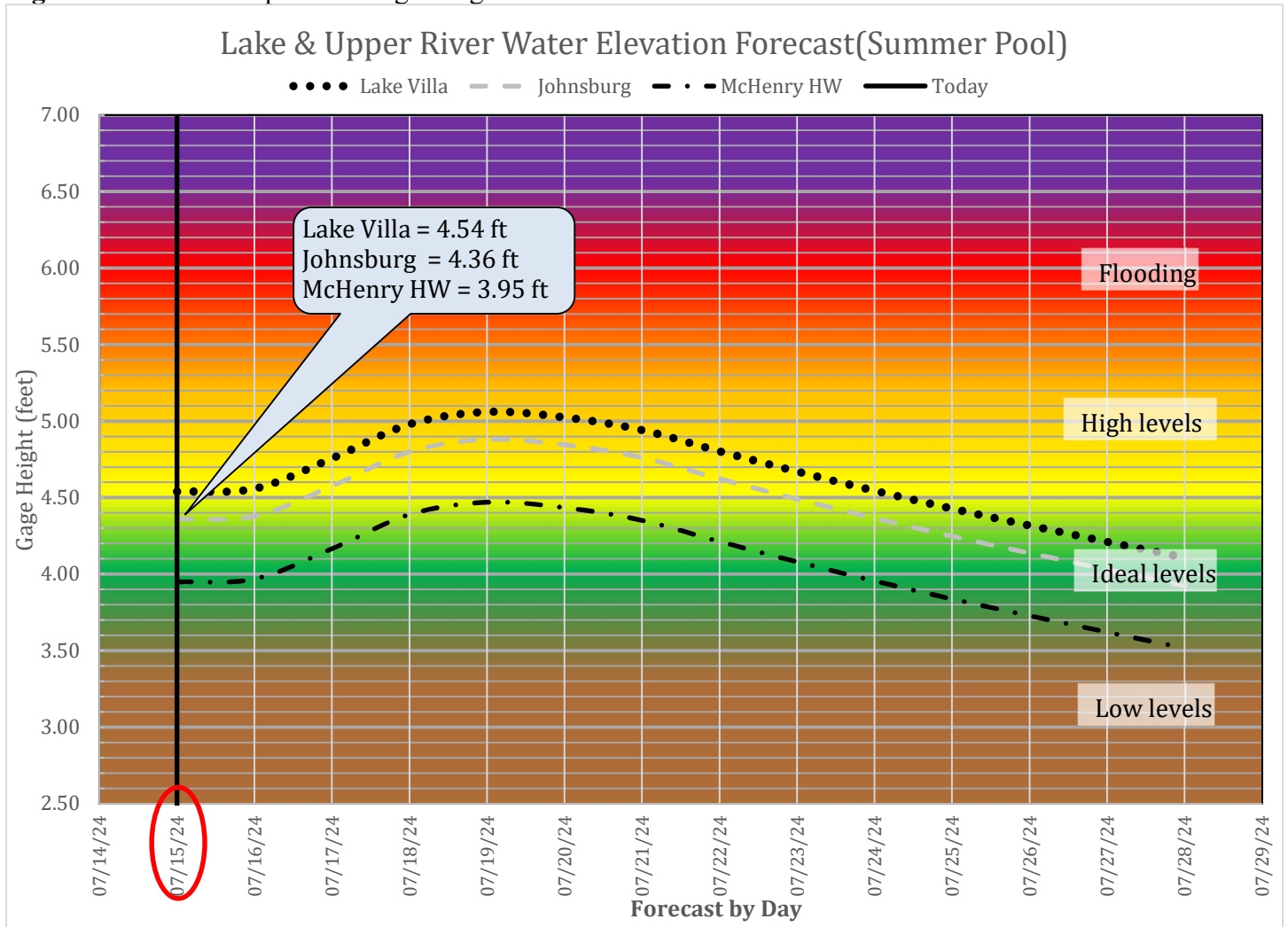
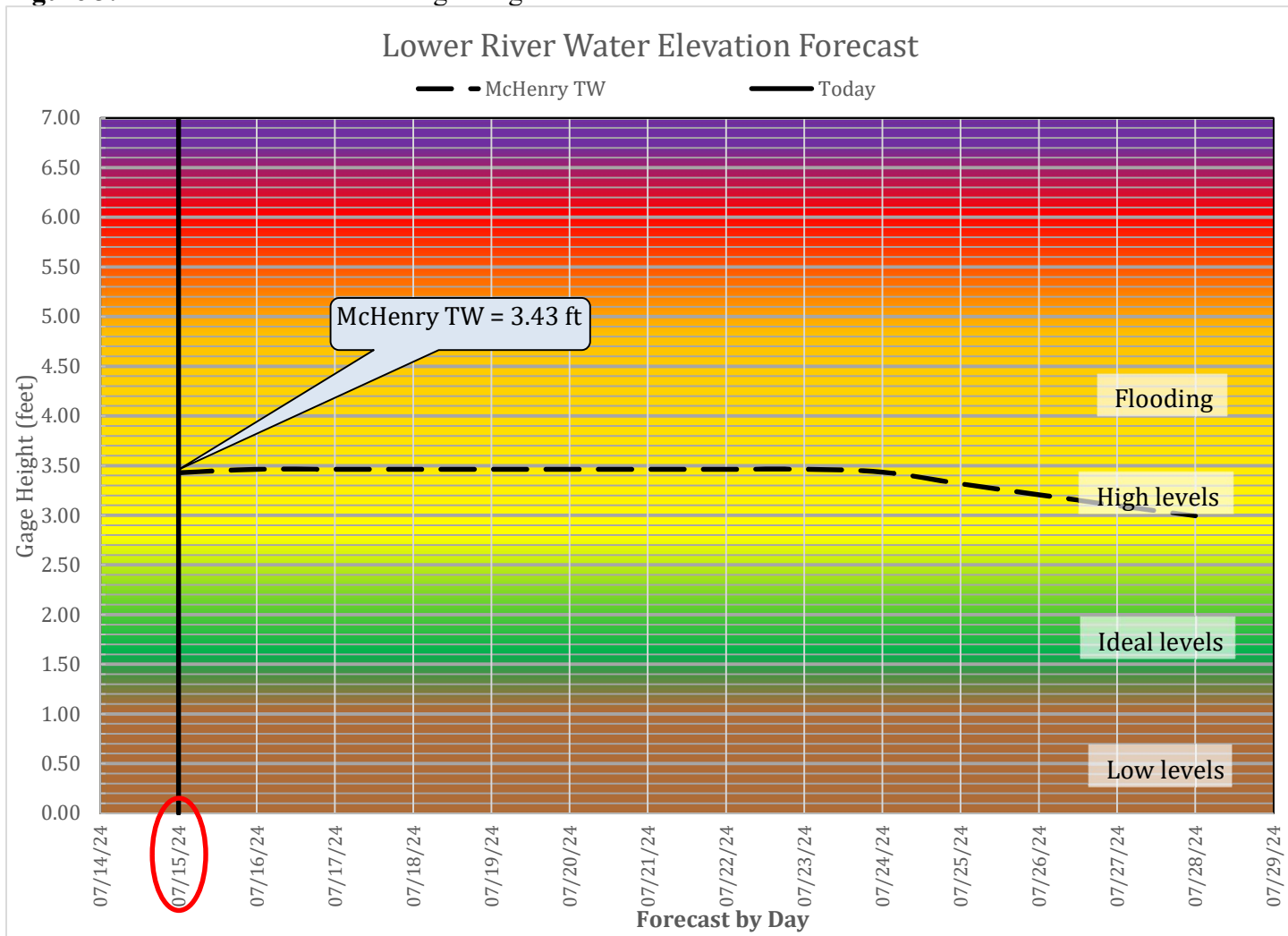


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



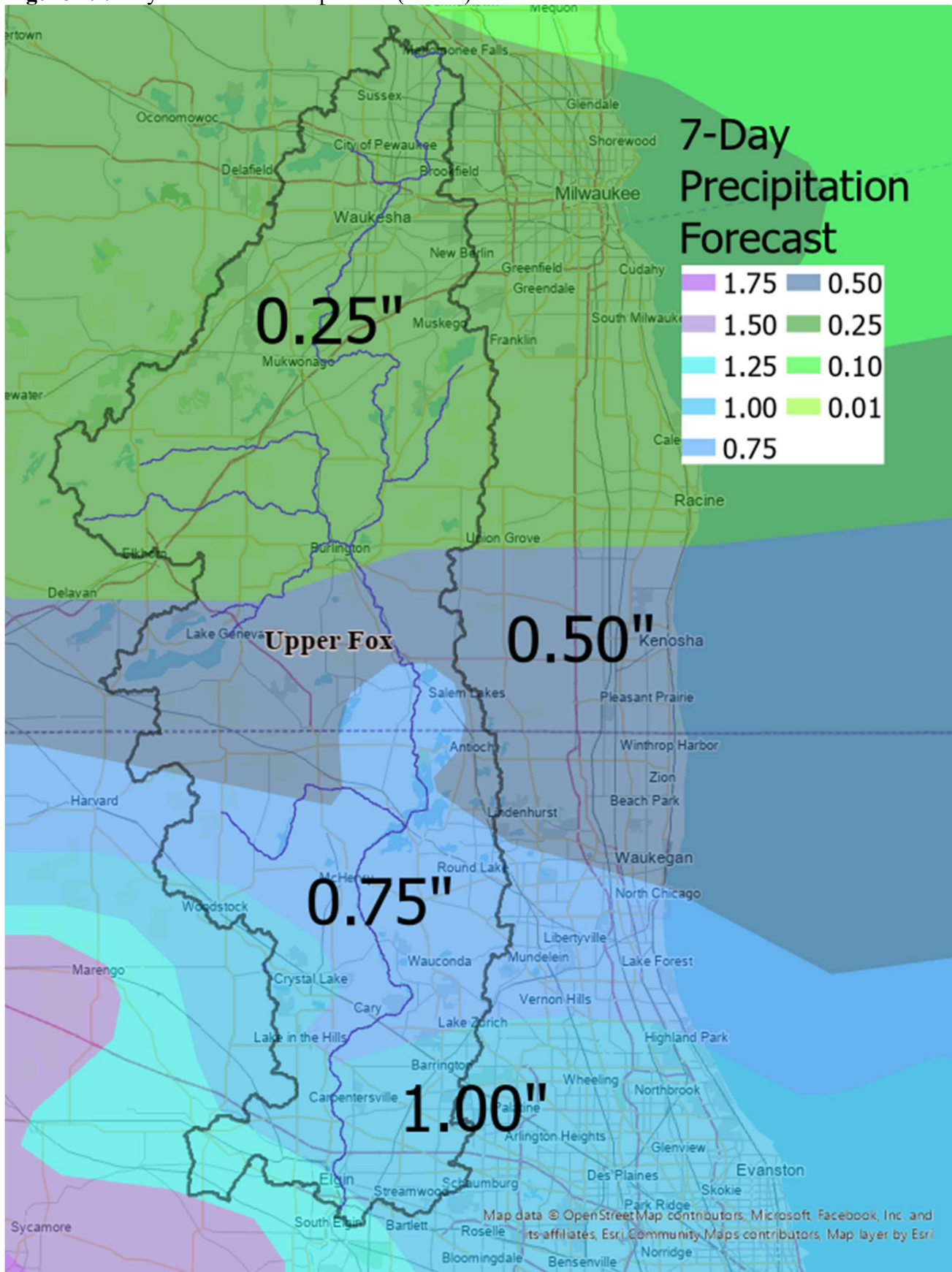
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 1300 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 623 cfs. The total system inflow is 2012 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.54 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 3.43 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.71 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to peak at near 3700 cfs on Wednesday, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake is forecasted to crest on Friday at 5.06', as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River will be attempted to be managed to remain below 3.5' on the McHenry Tailwater gage, **Figure 3**. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing between 0.25" – 0.75" of rain for the majority of the watershed, with the heaviest rains being further south, **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 Friday at approximately 5.06' on the Fox Lake gage.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

The Upper River is currently forecasted to peak on Friday as well, with the Johnsborg gage reaching just under 4.9'. The pool will remain lower than upstream but will approach 4.5' on the McHenry gage.

Lower River Outlook

The lower river will be managed to stay below "River Closed" and should remain near its current level. Once inflows become more manageable, attempts will be made to drop below "No Wake" as quickly as possible.

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

Thank you,

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