



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

JB Pritzker, Governor

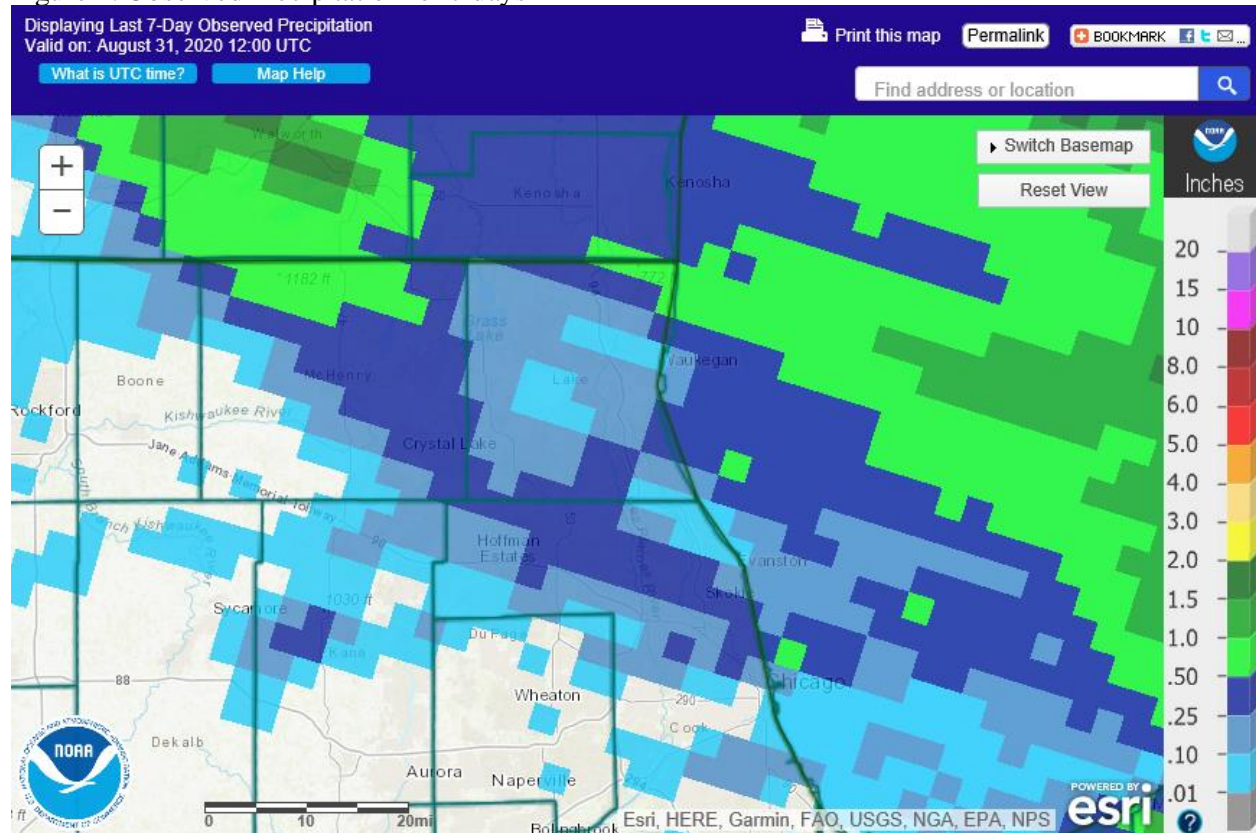
Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update August 31, 2020

Current Conditions

The observed precipitation from the National Weather Service (NWS) indicates 0.1” to ½” of precipitation in the last 7 days (Figure 1). Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 430 cfs and dropping; flows on Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 90 cfs and dropping. The Fox Lake stage is 3.77 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.15 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam Tailwater stage is 5.38 ft.

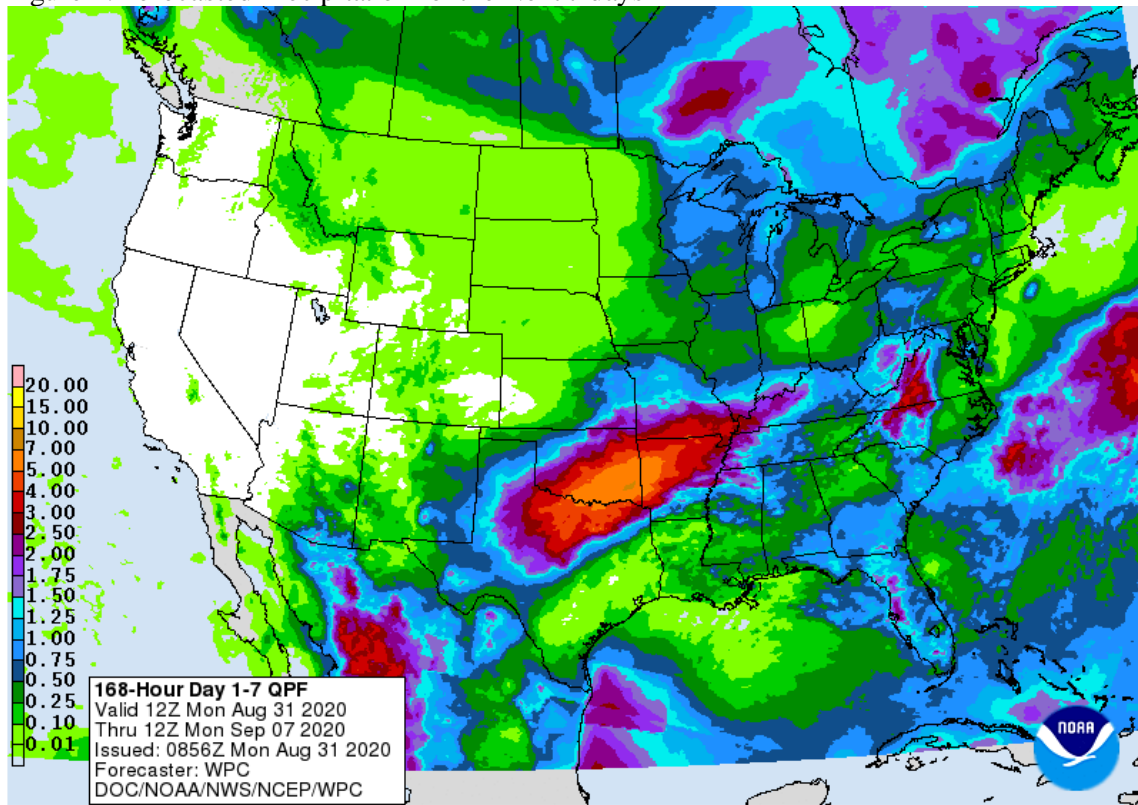
Figure 1: Observed Precipitation for 7 days



Forecast

The NWS is predicting ¼” to ¾” of precipitation for the next 7 days in the Fox River watershed as shown on Figure 2.

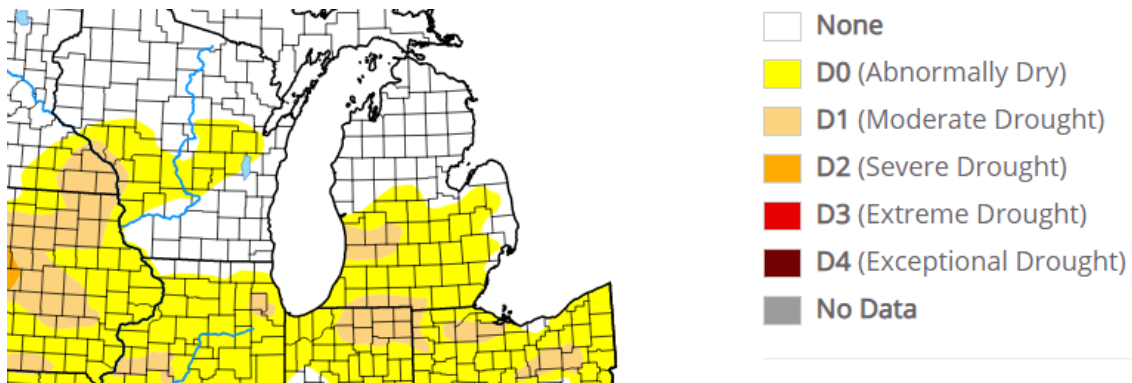
Figure 2: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days



Drought Conditions

The following information is obtained from the NWS Update dated 8/31/20:

The Drought Monitor from August 27, 2020, indicates abnormally dry conditions across most of northeast Illinois and far northwest Indiana. Some isolated areas have reached moderate drought levels, especially near the Chicago metro area. Continued dry weather this week has the potential to worsen drought conditions.



System Conditions and Operations

All gates at Stratton Dam and Algonquin Dam are completely closed. As indicated above in the Drought Monitor, the continued dry conditions this week has the potential of worsening the drought conditions. Due to the lack of precipitation in the Fox River/Chain of Lakes watershed, the navigational levels are running low. **The boaters are advised to use caution.**

Munib Ahmad, P.E.

Office of Water Resources

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<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/StrattonLockandDam.aspx>