



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 September 12, 2022

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

Summary: Based on NOAA observed precipitation, the northern portion of the Fox River Watershed in Wisconsin, received between 3”-6” of rain in the past day. Inflows are currently forecasted to peak on Wednesday at near 3600 cfs. Based on the current forecast, Fox Lake and McHenry tailwater will peak on Friday.

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows (in cubic feet per second)

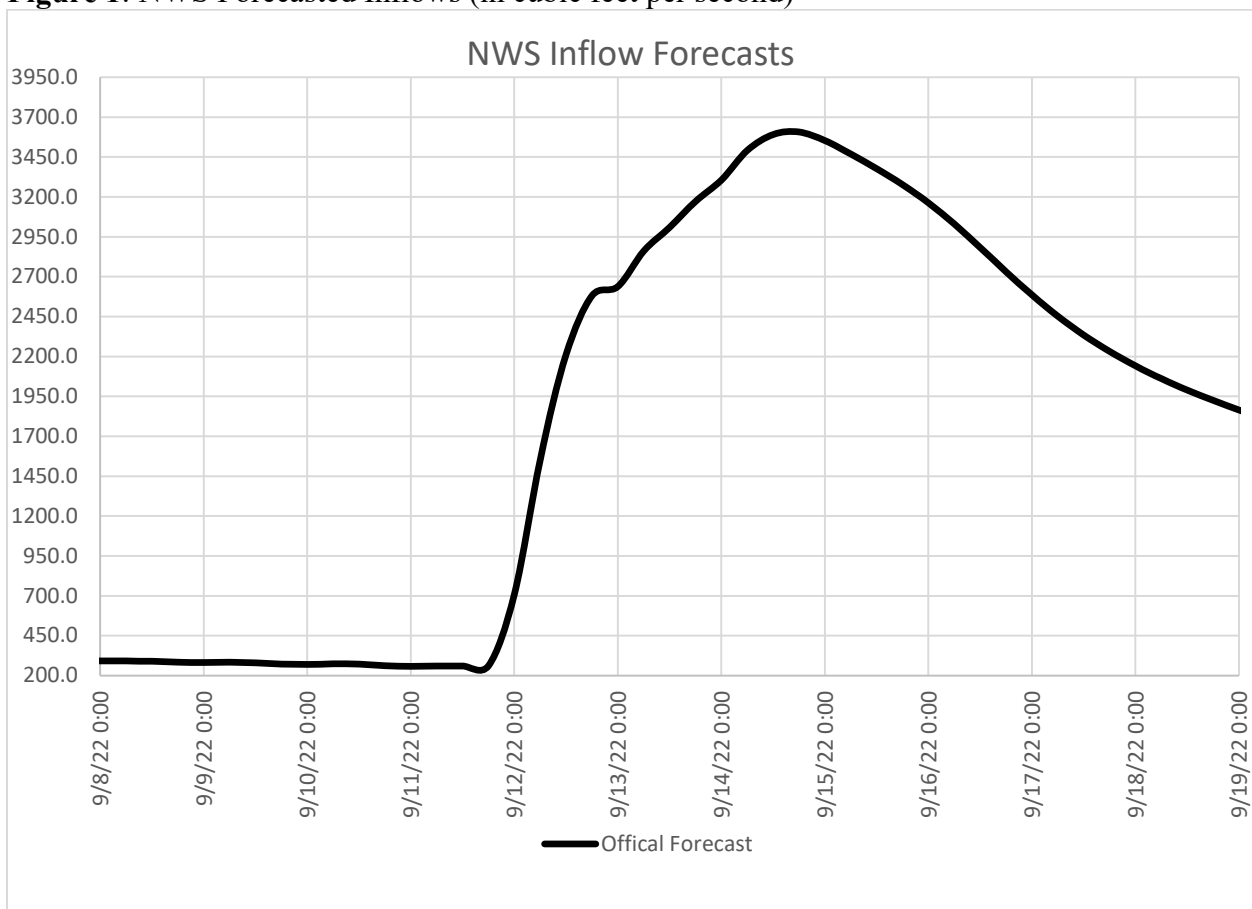
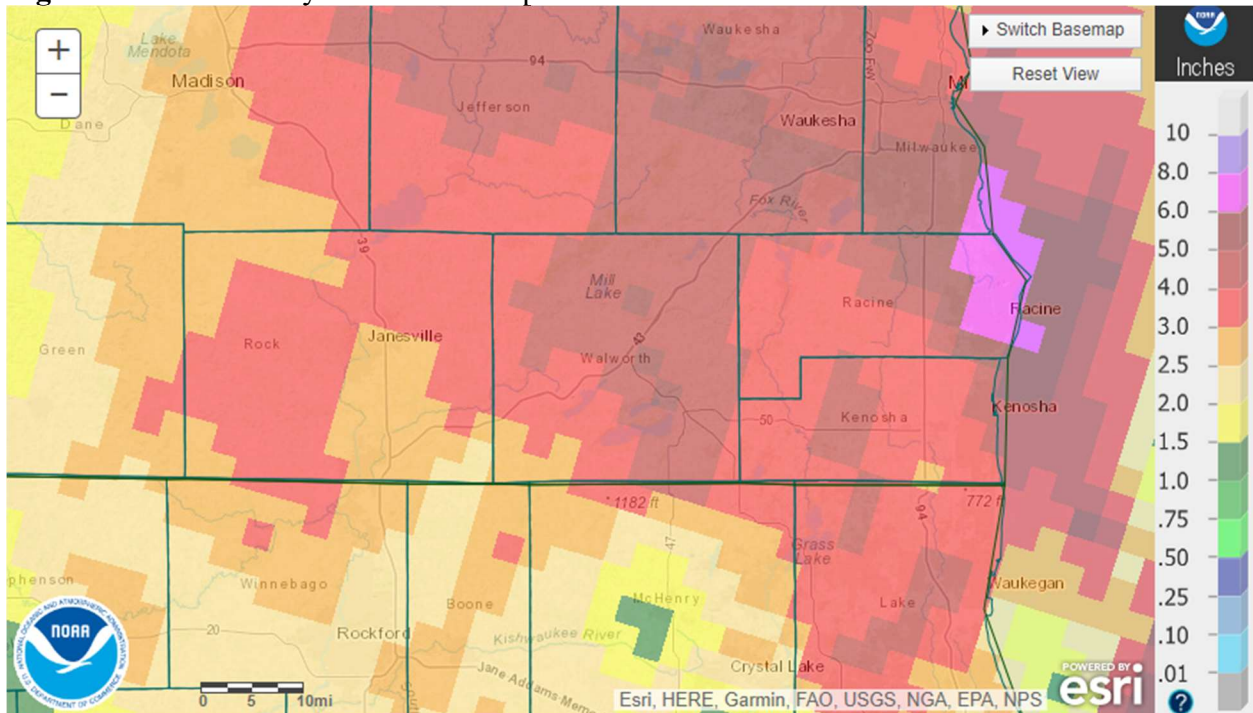


Figure 2: NOAA 1-Day Observed Precipitation



Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 995 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is 362 cfs. The National Weather Service (NWS) estimates local tributary inflows of 917 cfs. The total net system inflows are 2211 cfs; the outflows at Stratton Dam are approximately 2200 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.43 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 2.43 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.73 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to increase to near 3600 cfs, as shown above in **Figure 1**, on Wednesday. The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting no precipitation for the Fox River watershed. The Chain O'Lakes is forecasted to remain below No Wake conditions and the Lower River below Bank Full conditions.

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Inflows will peak on Wednesday near 3600 cfs. Water levels are forecasted to peak on Friday, while staying below No Wake conditions.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

The Upper River near the McHenry Pool will remain below the lake levels as water is released from the system drawing down the pool elevation.

Lower River Outlook

Water levels will rise as the result of releasing as much water as possible. This will be done with the goal of remaining below the Bank Full stage for the lower river.

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

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham, E.I.T.

Aaron.Rotherham2@illinois.gov

Office of Water Resources

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