



Fox River Status Update April 6th, 2023

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

Summary

There is no rain forecasted in the watershed for the next 7 day. The current 7-Day inflow forecast has increased to 4017 cfs, peaking tomorrow. Fox Lake is expected to reach near 5.2' on Monday. McHenry pool will raise to 3.2'. Gates will be maintained in an attempt to keep maximum outflows, while keeping the Lower River below 3.8' on the Tailwater Gage. The Algonquin Gate was completely lowered yesterday to try to prevent any flooding on the lower river, as Stratton outflows will exceed 3100 cfs. All gates will be adjusted accordingly to minimize the impact for everyone on the system. All forecasts are subject to change as NWS forecasts are revised.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

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

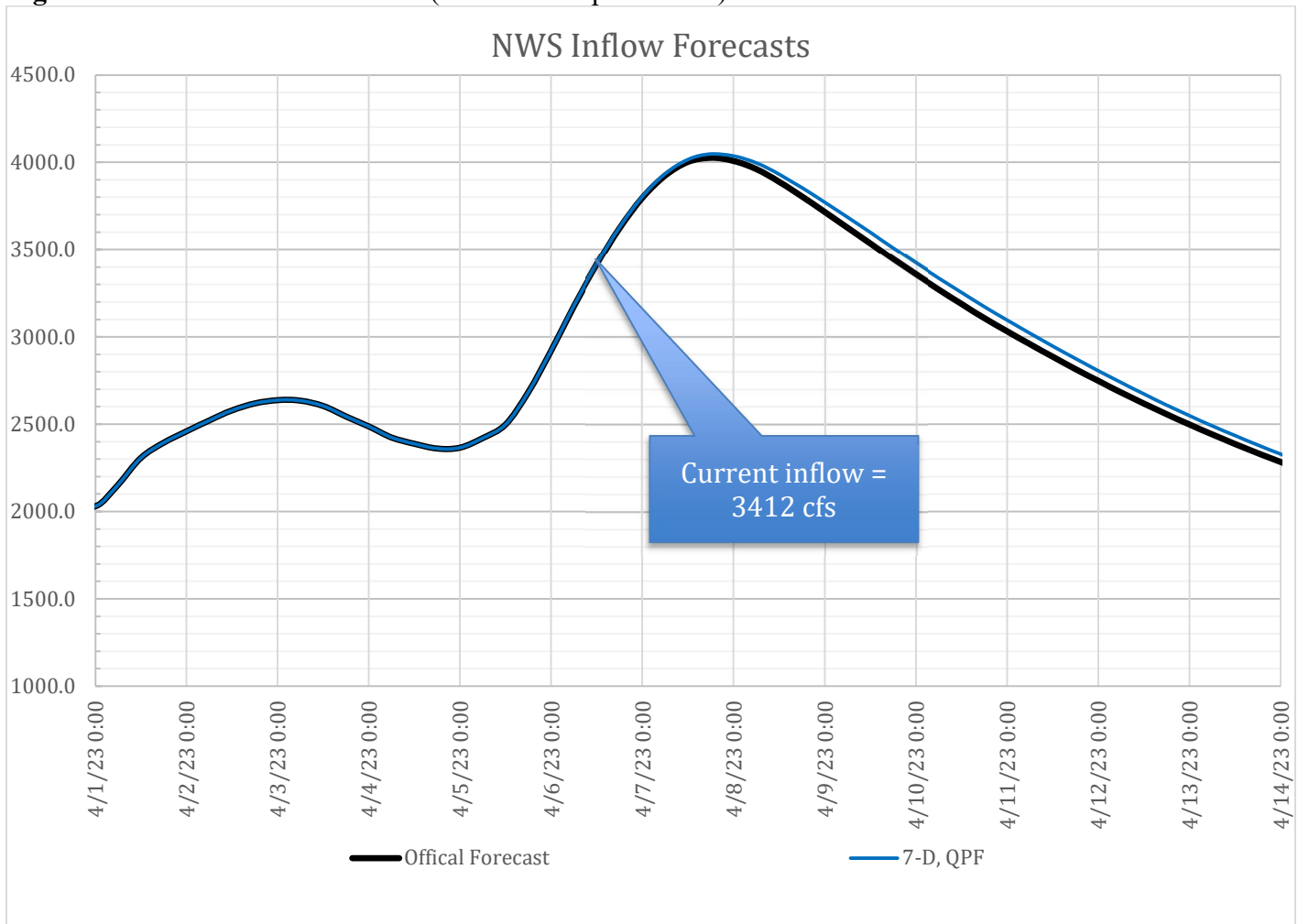
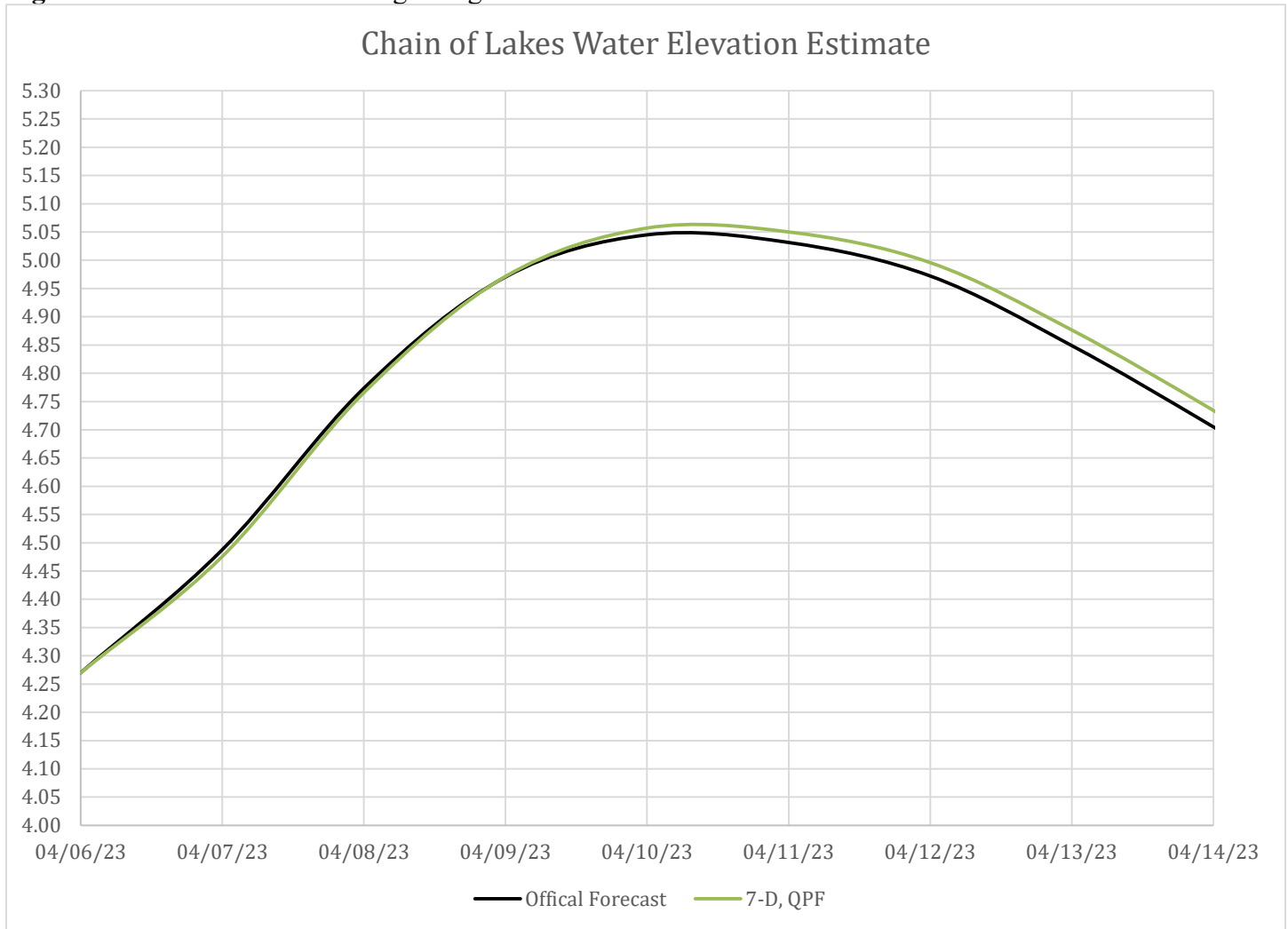


Figure 2: Estimated Fox Lake Gage Height



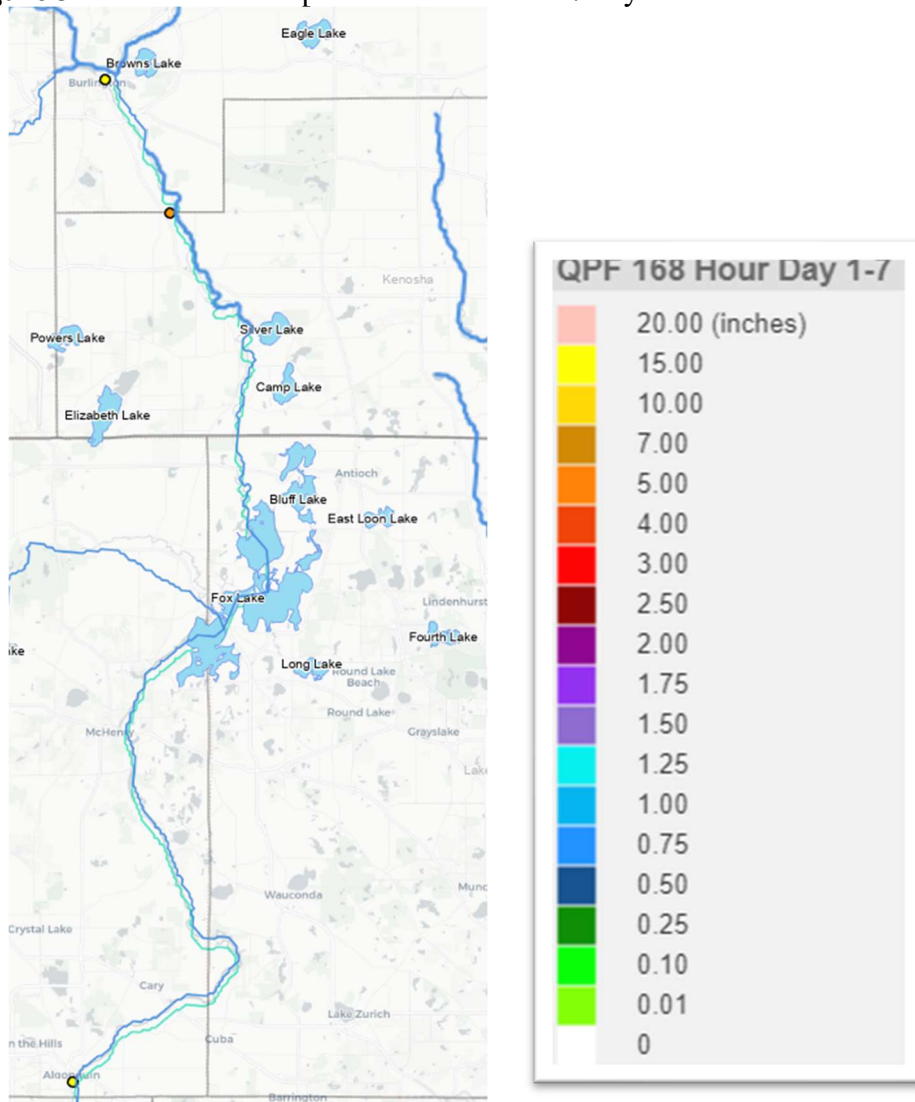
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 2470 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is 841 cfs. The total net system inflows are 3462 cfs; the outflows at Stratton Dam are 2449 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.27 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 3.65 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.90 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to peak on Friday, as shown above in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake is forecasted to peak on Monday, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting no precipitation for the Fox River watershed as shown on **Figure 3**.

Figure 3: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days



Source:

<https://viewer.weather.noaa.gov/general#/layers=35225+40090+40146+40091+42149+42377+40134&x=-88.48082&y=42.38798&z=9.6&panel=layer>

System Outlook

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels in the chain are forecasted to peak on Monday at 5.2', approaching No Wake conditions based on the current forecasts. While some low-lying areas may see some inundation, every reasonable attempt will be made to prevent the lakes from over-topping.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

The Upper River near the McHenry Pool is currently at 2.41 and will continue to rise as inflows continue to increase. The pool is expected to climb to approximately 3.2', with Johnsburg getting near No Wake.

Lower River Outlook

The Lower River should expect to see Bank Full conditions for next couple of weeks. As like the Lakes, some low-lying areas may see some water, but the ultimate goal is as minimal impact as possible.

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

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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