



Fox River Status Update May 12th, 2023

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

Summary

There is currently 0.5” inch of rain forecasted for the next seven days. Inflows are below the median for New Munster and Nippersink Creek is near the median for this date. The current rainfall amount forecasted is not expected to have a significant impact on inflows and water levels.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

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

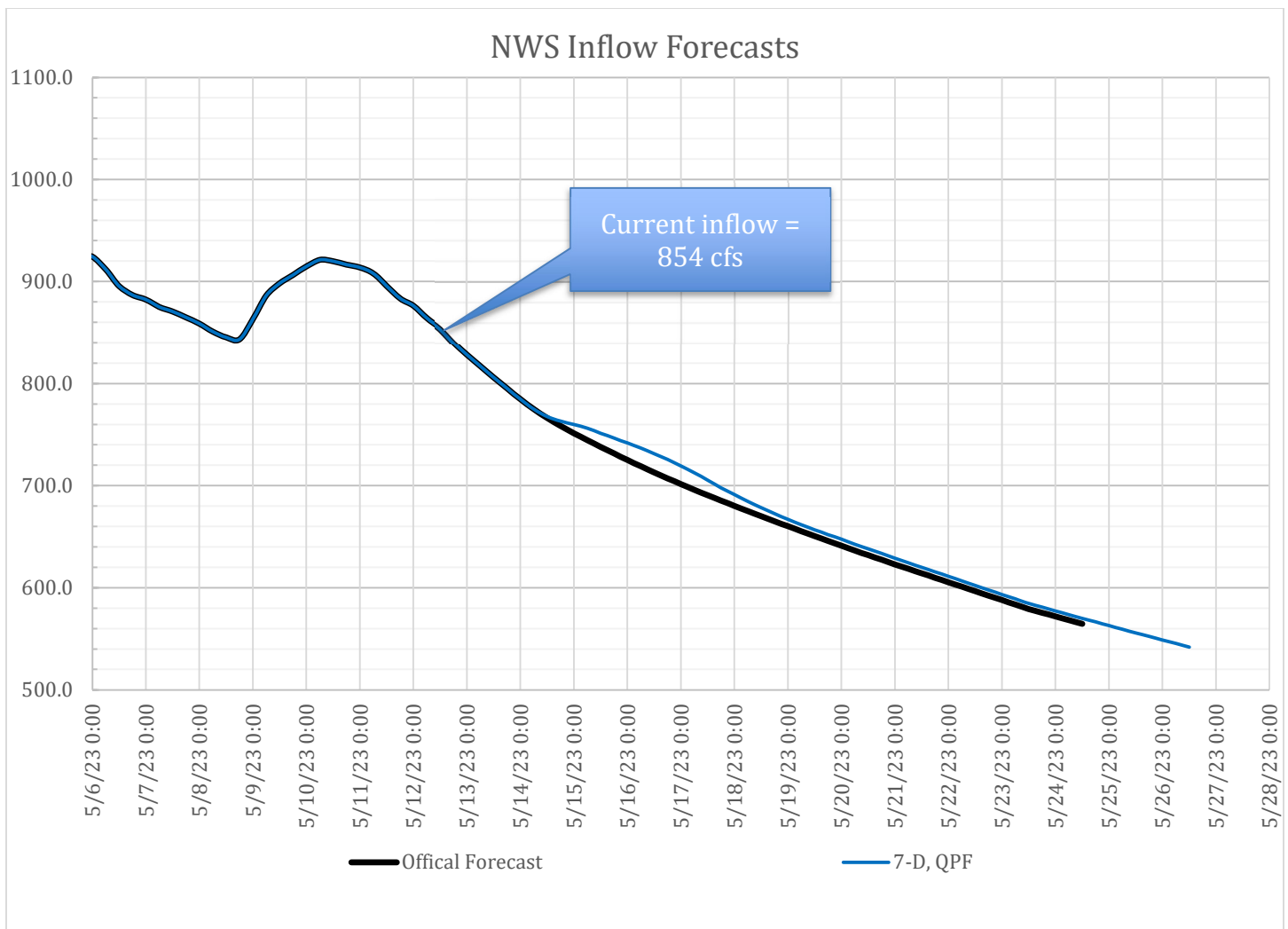
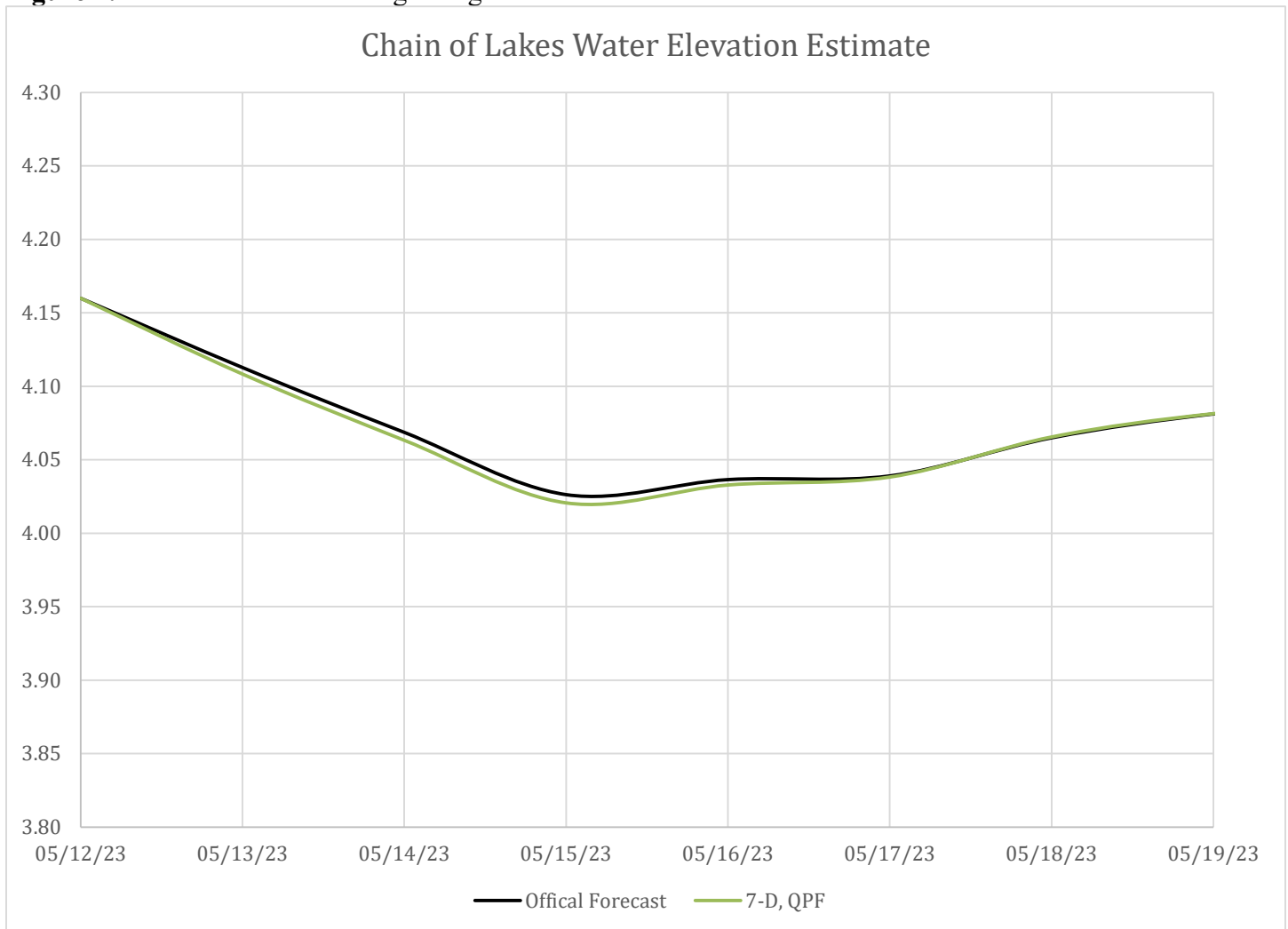


Figure 2: Estimated Fox Lake Gage Height



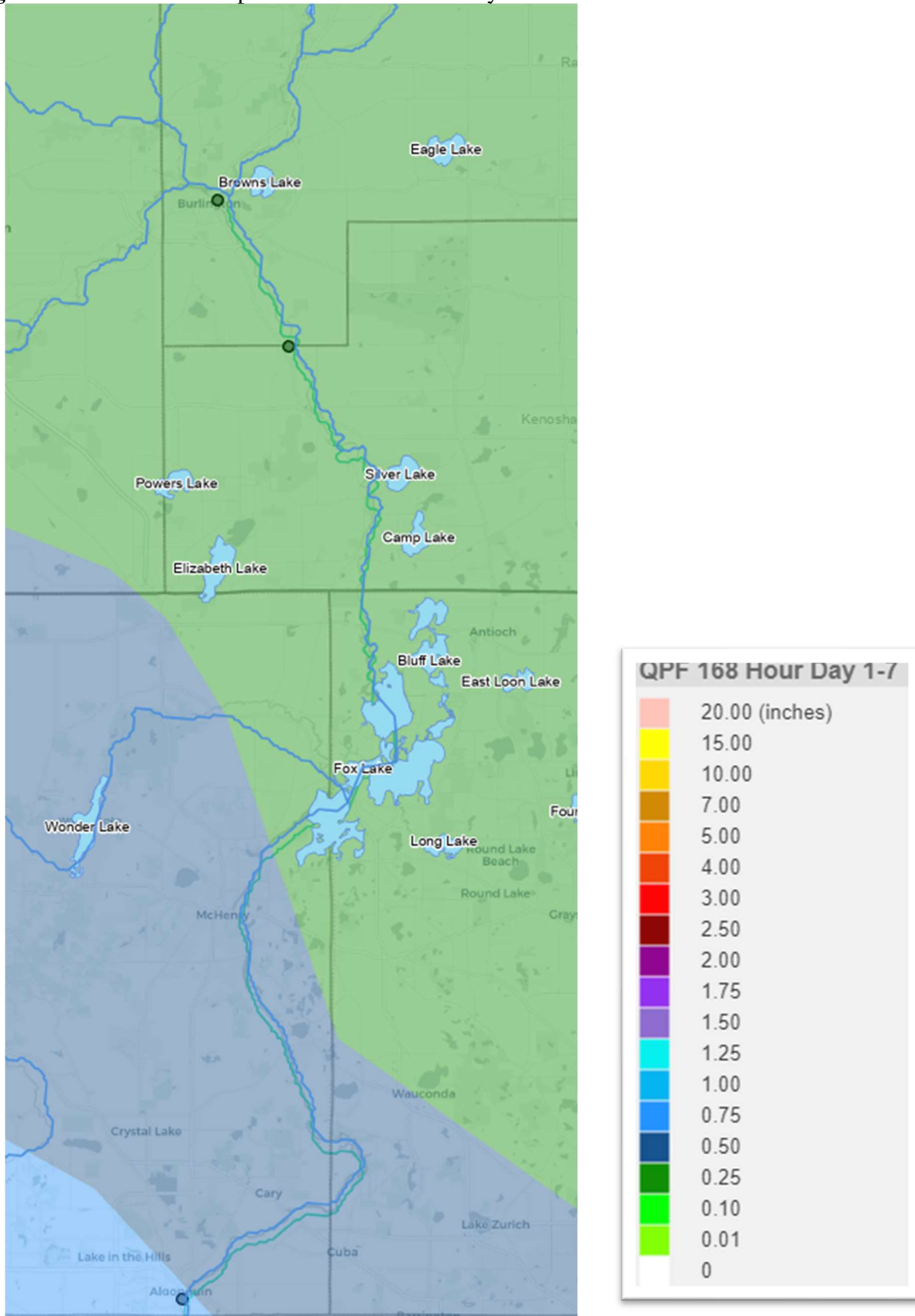
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 574 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is 140 cfs. The total net system inflows are 866 cfs; the outflows at Stratton Dam are 1085 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.16 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.8 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.87 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are slowly decreasing, as shown above in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas of the system are holding steady shown above in **Figure 2**. The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting 0.25 to 0.5 inch of precipitation for the Fox River watershed over the next week 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 are expected to hold between 4.0 and 4.2 for the forecast provided.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

Water levels are expected to hold between 3.9 and 4.1 for the forecast provided.

Lower River Outlook

The Lower River should hold between 1.6 and 1.9 for the forecast provided.

IDNR-OWR will continue to monitor conditions and will make changes as necessary pending future forecasts and conditions. As we are back into boating season, OWR plans to provide weekly updates when possible.

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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