



Fox River Status Update June 8th, 2023

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

Summary

There is currently 0.85" of rain forecasted for the next seven days. Flows at New Munster and Nippersink Creek continued to drop over the past week. Conditions on the lower river may improve slightly, depending on how much rainfall reaches the system.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

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

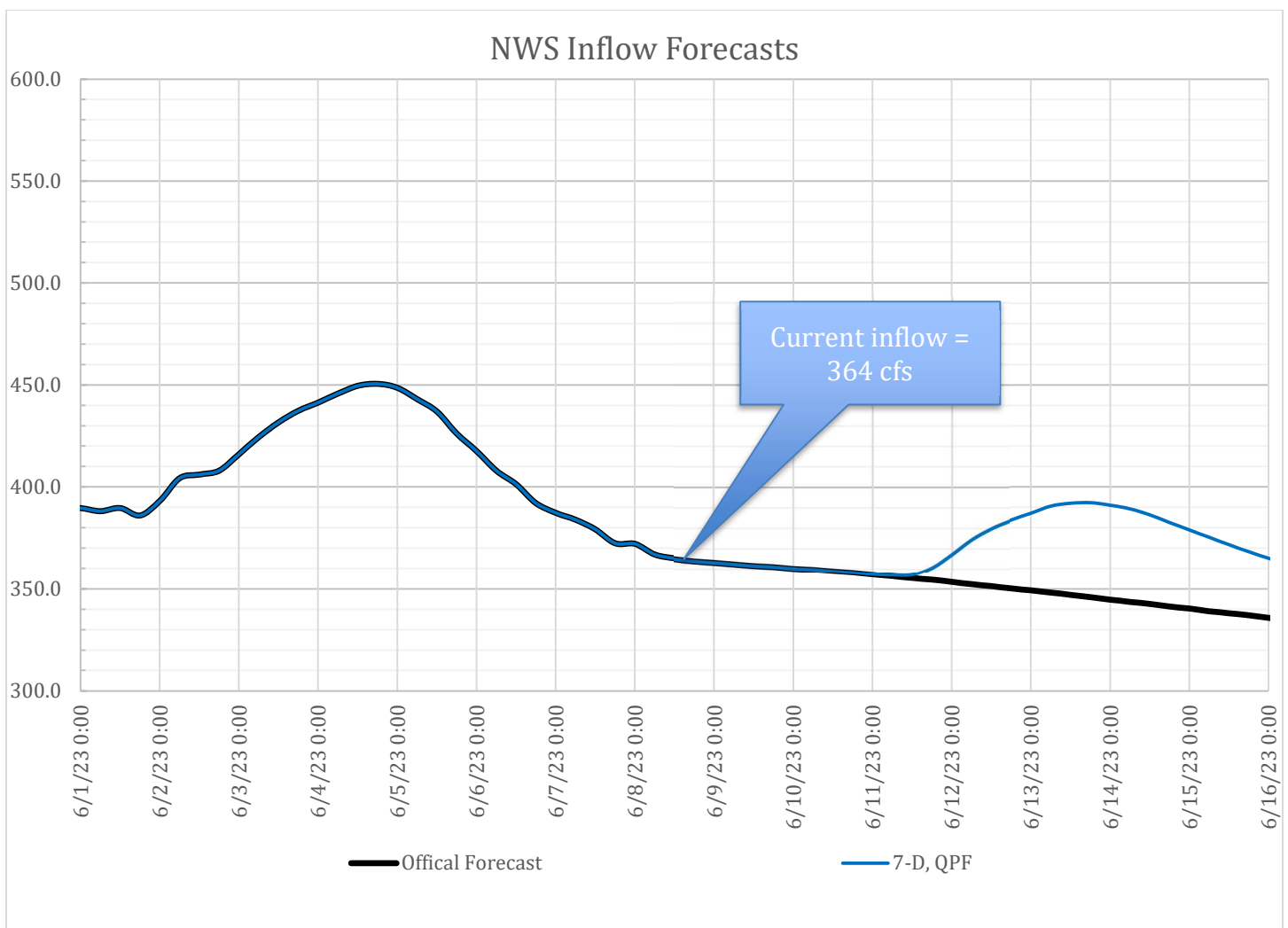
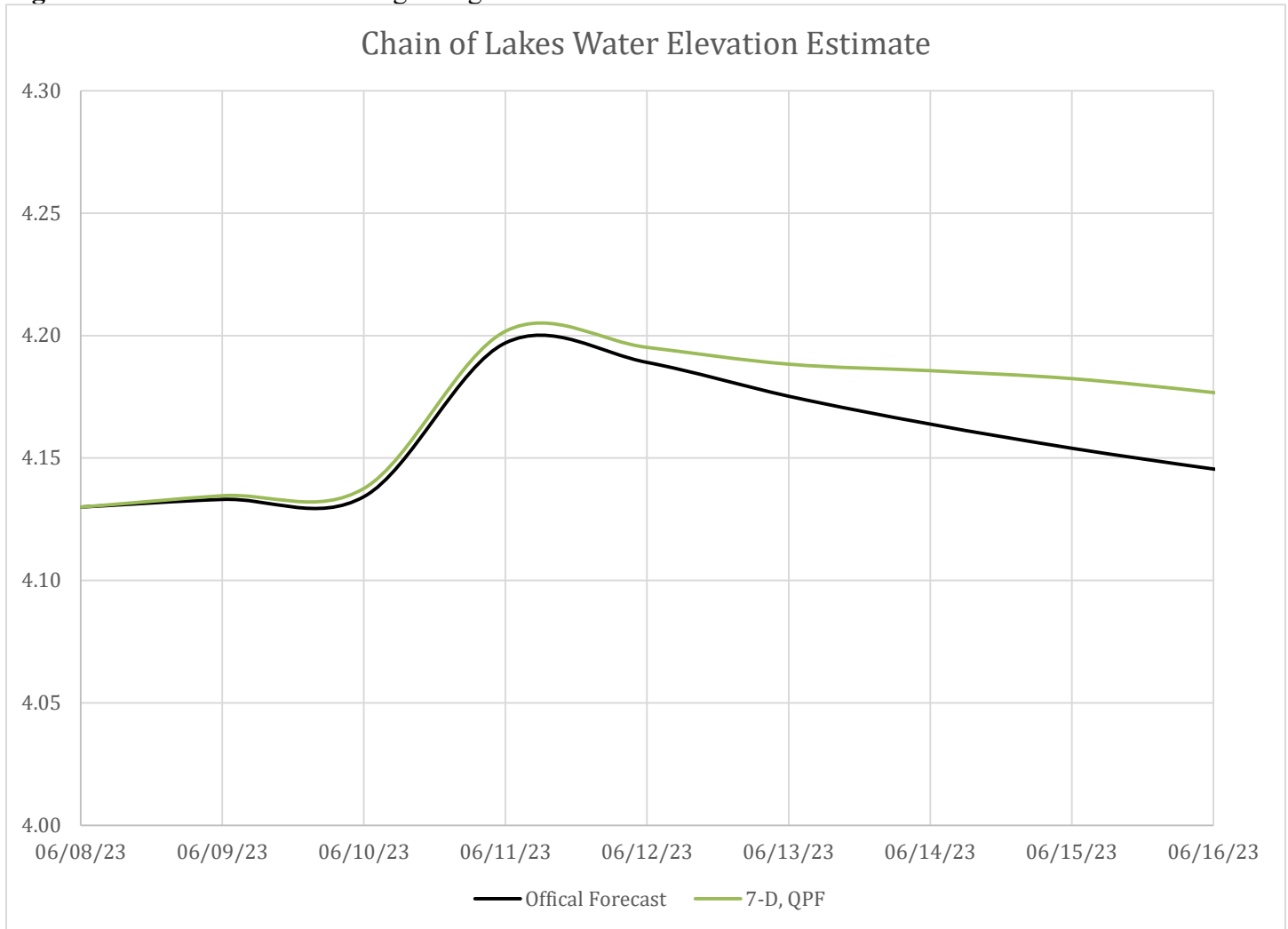


Figure 2: Estimated Fox Lake Gage Height



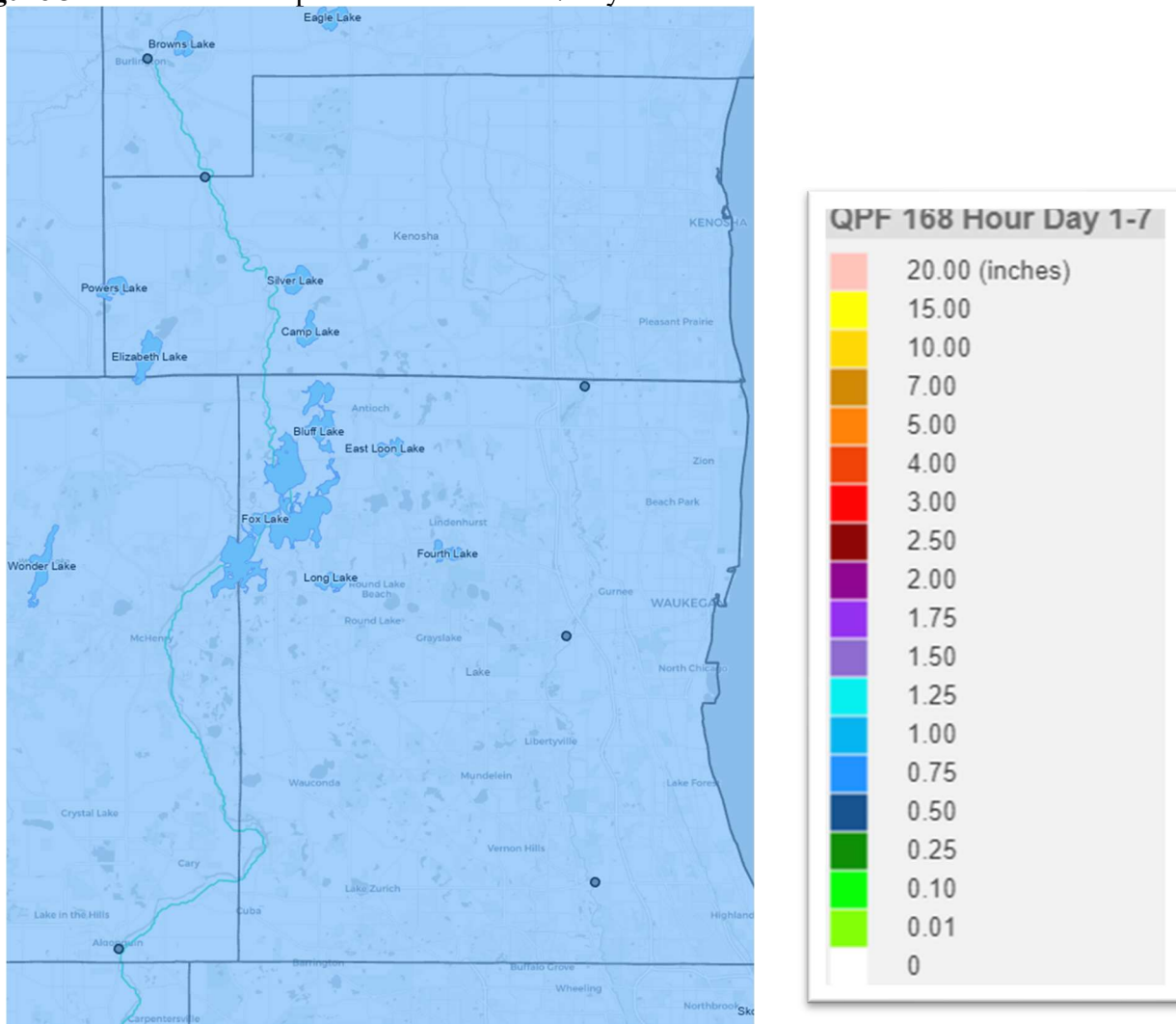
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 220 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is 68 cfs. The total net system inflows are 364 cfs; the outflows at Stratton Dam are 306 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.14 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 0.65 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.28 ft.

Forecast

Inflows may see a slight increase temporarily based on rainfall amounts, as shown above in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas of the system are holding fairly steady shown above in **Figure 2**. The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting 0.85” 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 are expected to hold near the current level for the forecast provided.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

Water levels are expected to hold near the current level for the forecast provided.

Lower River Outlook

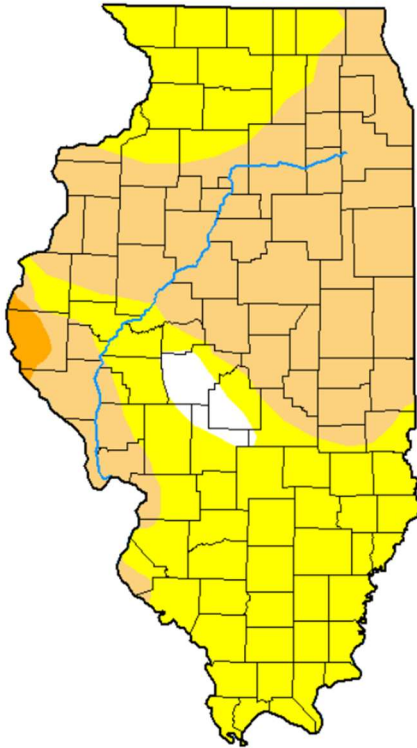
The Lower River may see some increased water levels depending on how much rainfall enters the system. Caution should still be used while navigating the lower river.

U.S Drought Monitor (This week vs. Last Week)

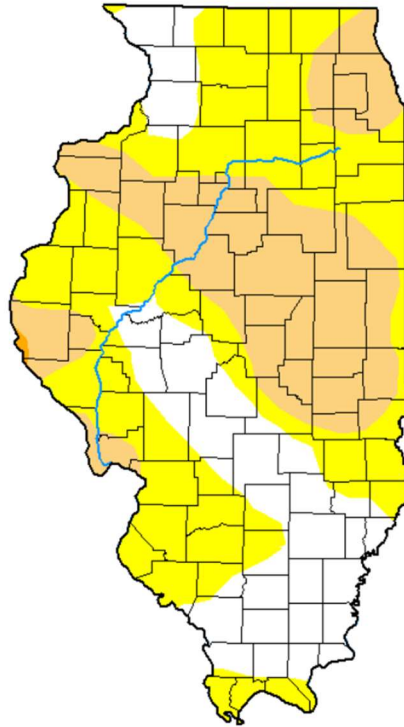
As anticipated in last week's report, the drought conditions have deepened across the area. There is currently 0.85" forecasted for the next 7 days. With as dry as the ground is, it is not expected to have the

type of impact needed for better water levels through the system. Included in the images below is the drought levels for the Wisconsin portion of the watershed.

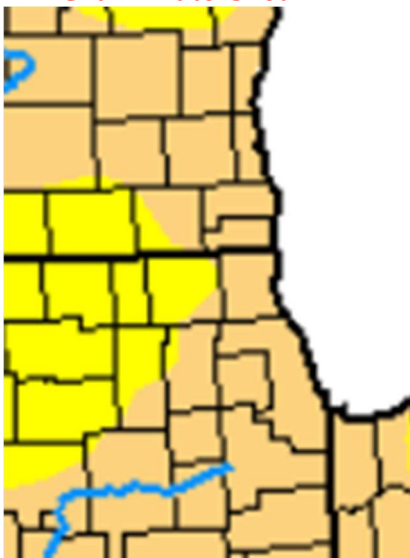
**This Week's
U.S. Drought Monitor
Illinois**



**Last Week's
U.S. Drought Monitor
Illinois**



Chain Watershed



June 6, 2023
(Released Thursday, Jun. 8, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2.26	97.74	50.11	1.08	0.00	0.00
Last Week 05-30-2023	24.45	75.55	30.75	0.13	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 03-07-2023	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2023	35.34	64.66	3.98	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2022	65.33	34.67	8.15	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 06-07-2022	87.98	12.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Intensity:
 None (White) D2 Severe Drought (Orange)
 D0 Abnormally Dry (Yellow) D3 Extreme Drought (Red)
 D1 Moderate Drought (Light Orange) D4 Exceptional Drought (Dark Red)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

IDNR-OWR will continue to monitor conditions and 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>