



Fox River Status Update  
July 28th, 2023

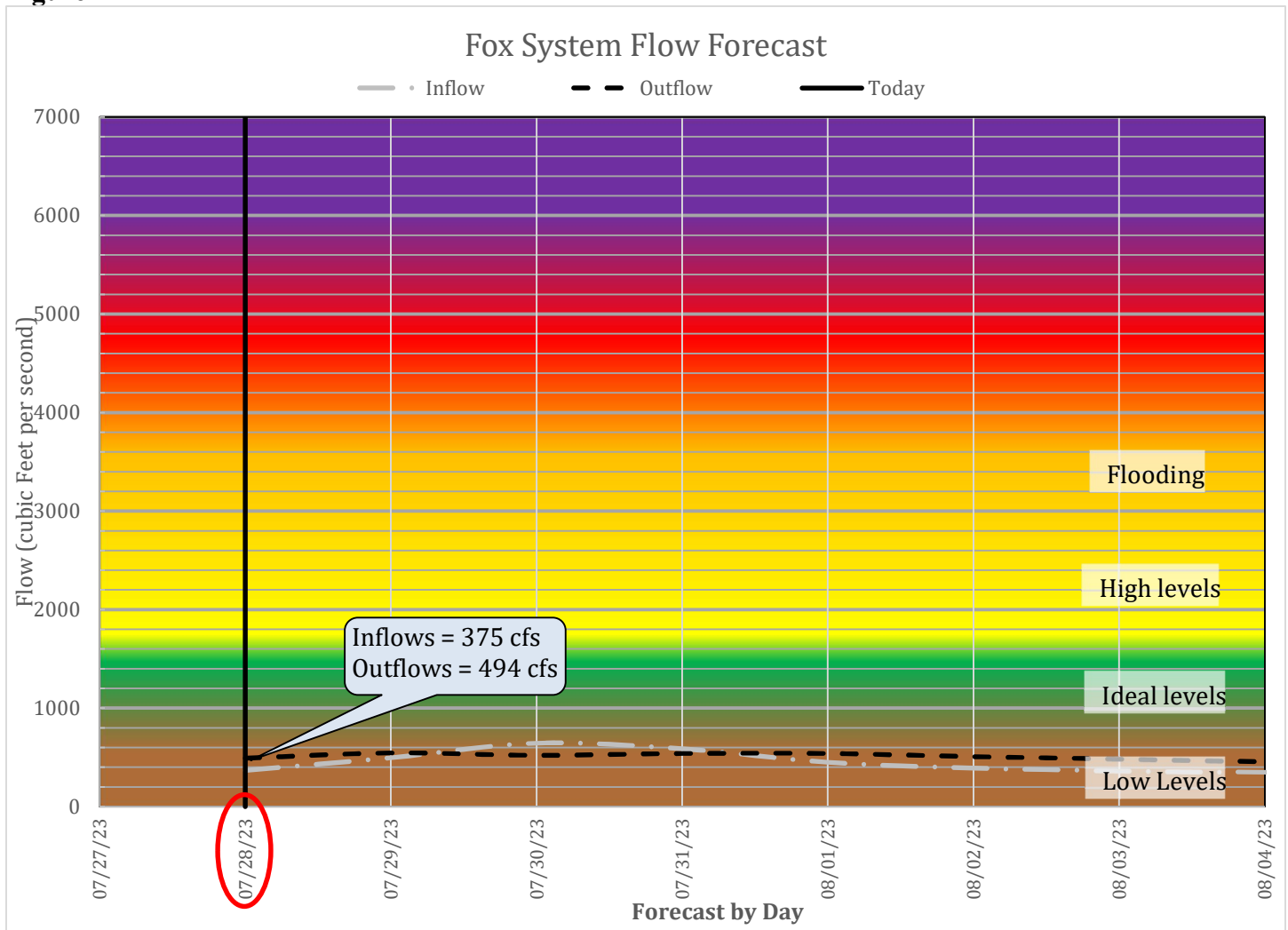
*\*This Update is based on the current forecast and will be adjusted based on future forecasts and rainfall.*

### Summary

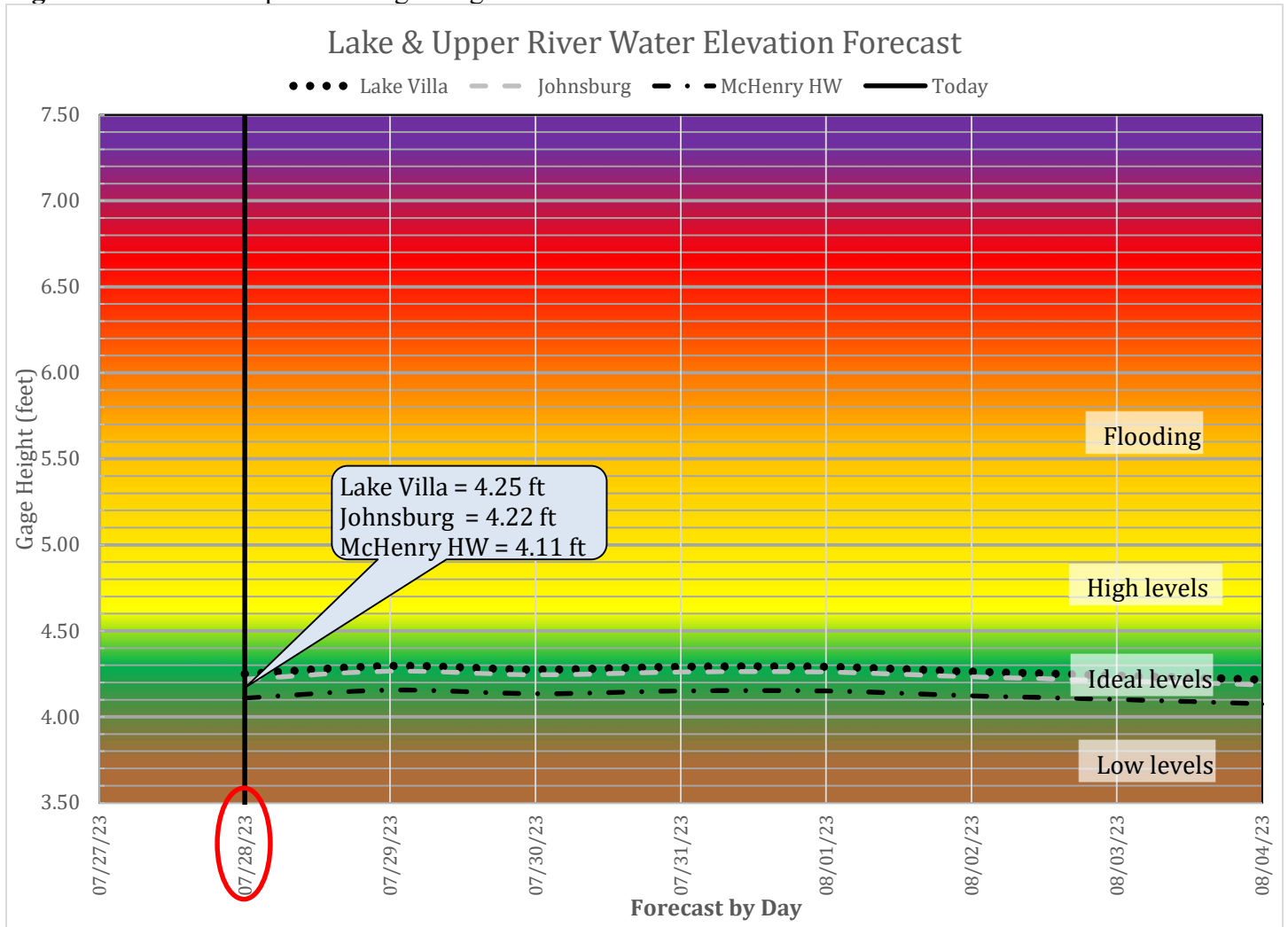
Currently there is between 0.75"-1.75" rain forecasted for the watershed during the next seven days, with near 1" predicted for this evening and tonight. Based on the 7-Day Inflow forecast, levels will see an increase over the weekend, then slowly taper off. Based on this week's Drought Monitor, drought conditions have not changed (Figure 5).

### Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

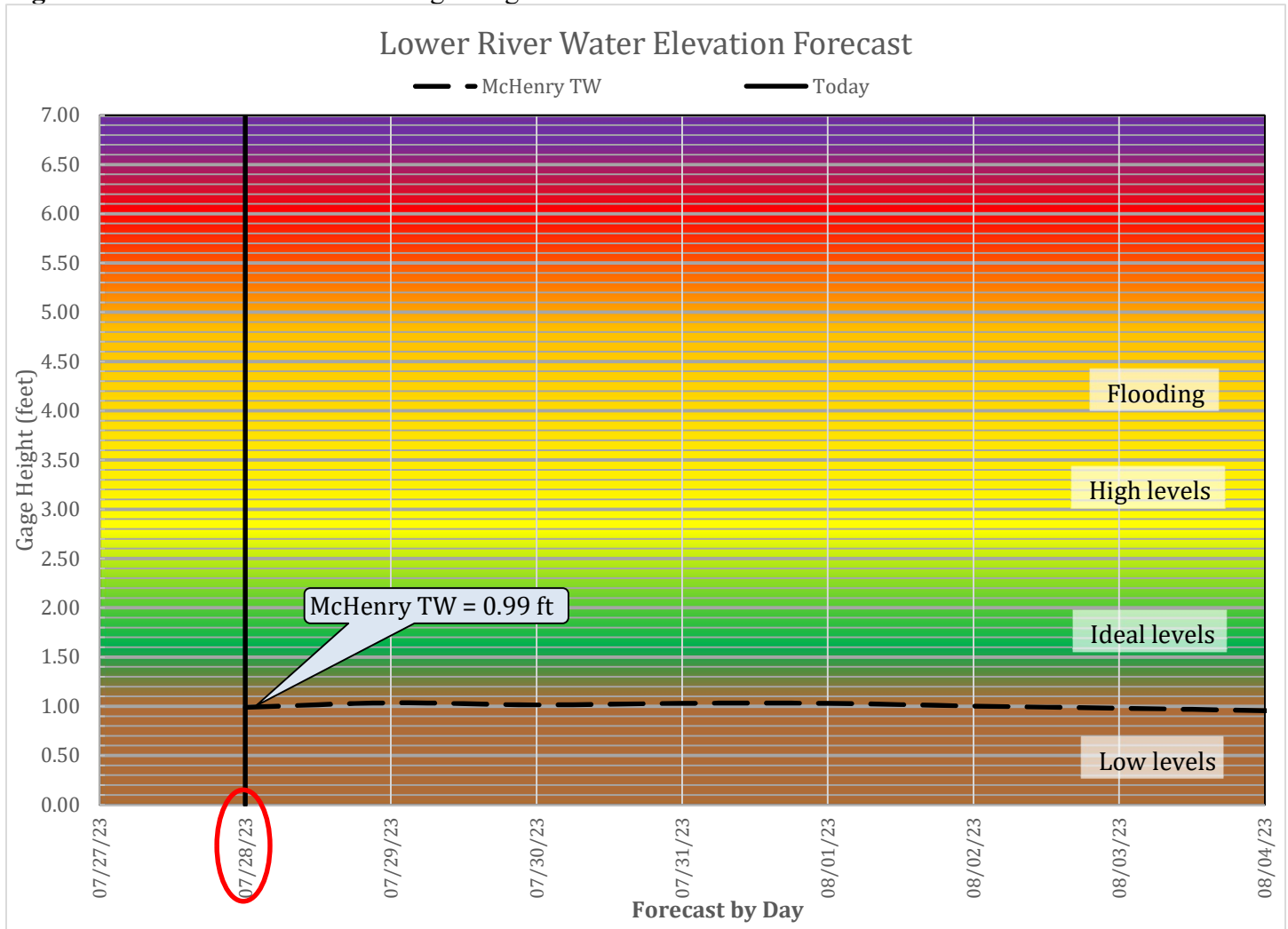
Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows



**Figure 2:** Estimated Upstream Gage Heights



**Figure 3:** Estimated Downstream Gage Height



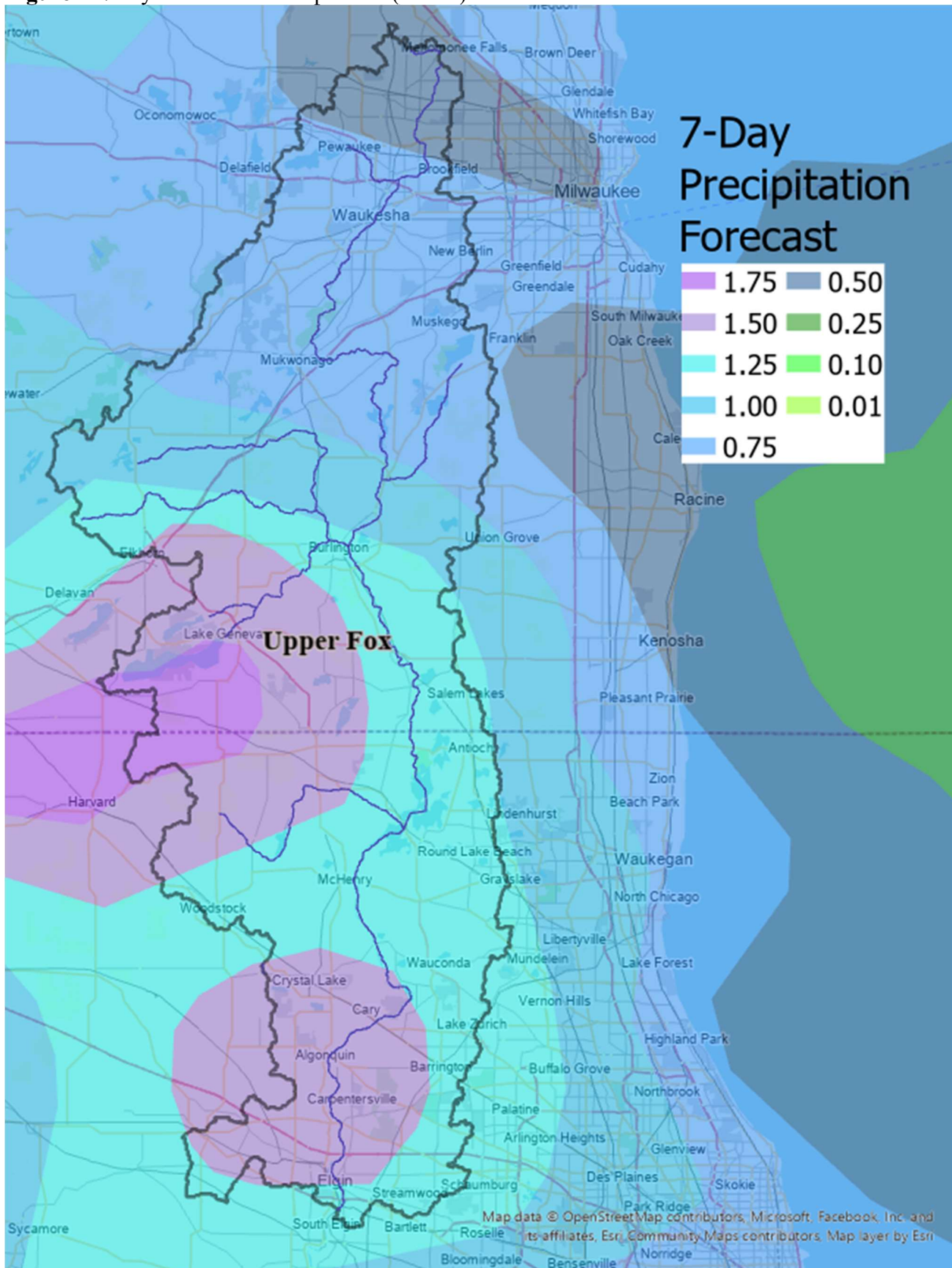
### Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 262 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 44 cfs. The total net system inflows are 375 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.25 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 0.99 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.38 ft.

### Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to see healthy increase over the weekend and then slowly drop over the next week, peaking at 645cfs on Monday, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam will hold near 4.2', as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River should see water levels just above the 1.0" mark, as shown above in **Figure 3**. The 7 Day Precipitation forecast is showing 1.25" rain for the Chain of Lakes, **Figure 4**.

**Figure 4:** 7 day Forecasted Precipitation (inches) for the Fox River Watershed



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 currently forecasted to hold near 4.2' on Fox Lake.

## McHenry Pool Area Outlook

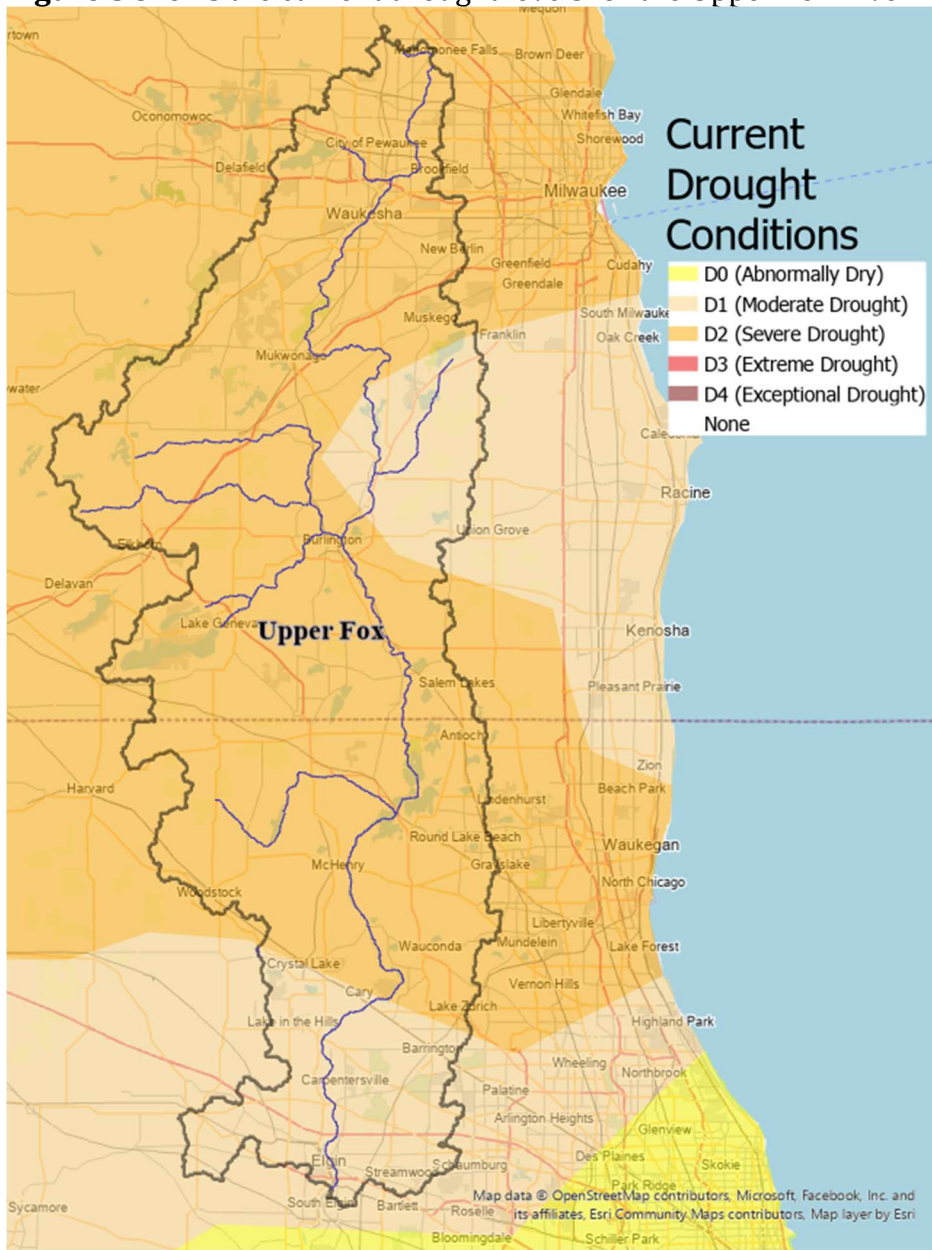
Water levels should be similar to the lakes.

## Lower River Outlook

The Lower River is forecasted to hold near 1.0'.

# U.S Drought Monitor

Figure 5 shows the current drought levels for the Upper Fox River watershed.



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

## **IDNR Office of Water Resources**

Two public surveys have been added to the web page. If either applies to you or someone you know, please think about completing it. This information will be used to assist in further studies regarding the lakes and river.

### **Business Stage Effect Survey:**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBQKxPd7cXLJOk10jTZLKFwZUMkJFUkGxODJDMkE1RklLUUNTnII4VzdBTy4u>

### **Boat-Ground Impact Survey:**

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nwgia7qOPEaE9TFxIQ-QBQKxPd7cXLJOk10jTZLKFwZURUVJSE9MSjhMNU5KNVVSVE4zWUJFTEhSMS4u>

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

<https://dnr.illinois.gov/waterresources/strattonoperationsupdate.html>