



Fox River Status Update  
August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023

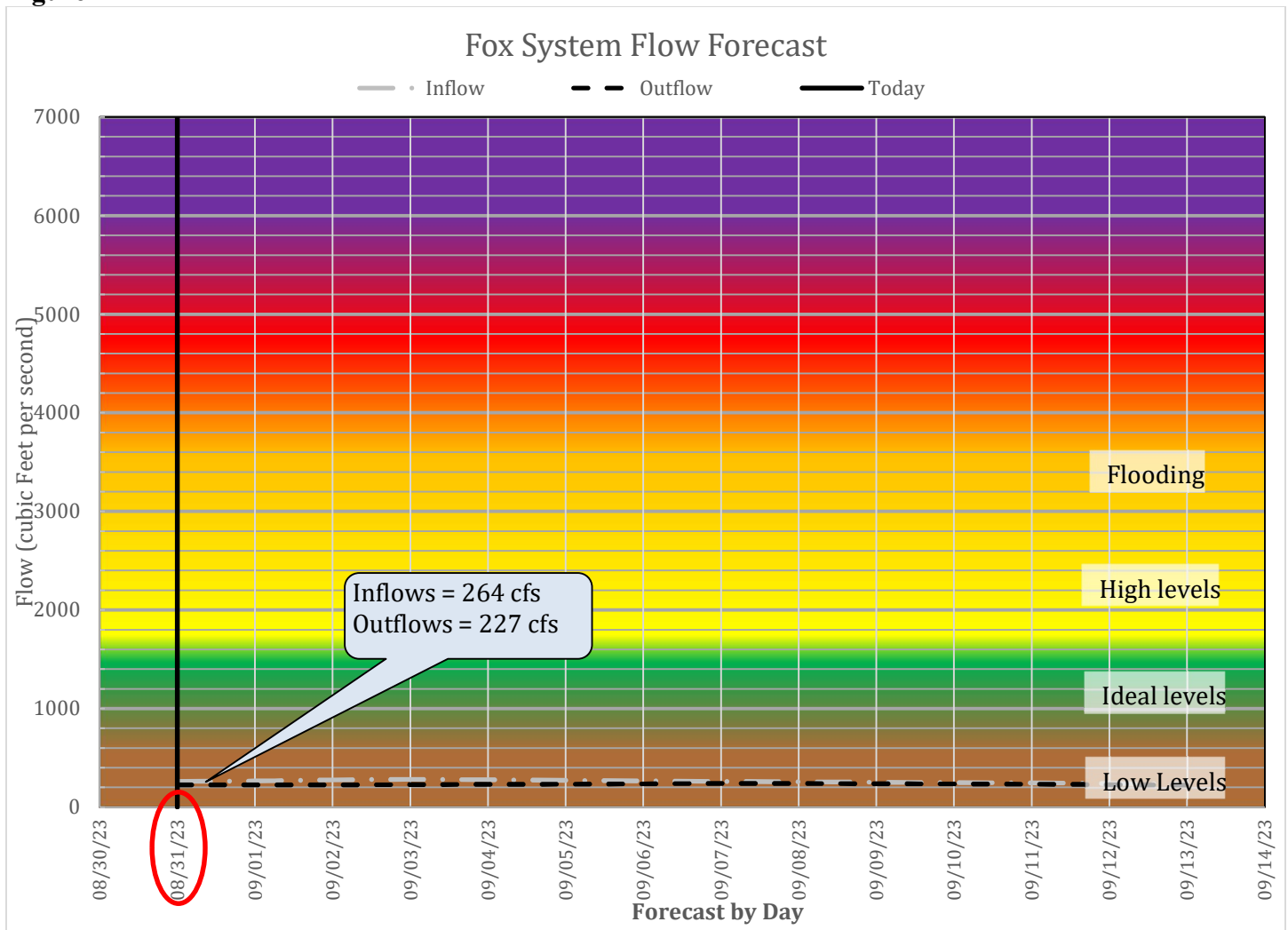
*\*This Update is based on the current forecast and will be adjusted based on future forecasts and rainfall.*

### Summary

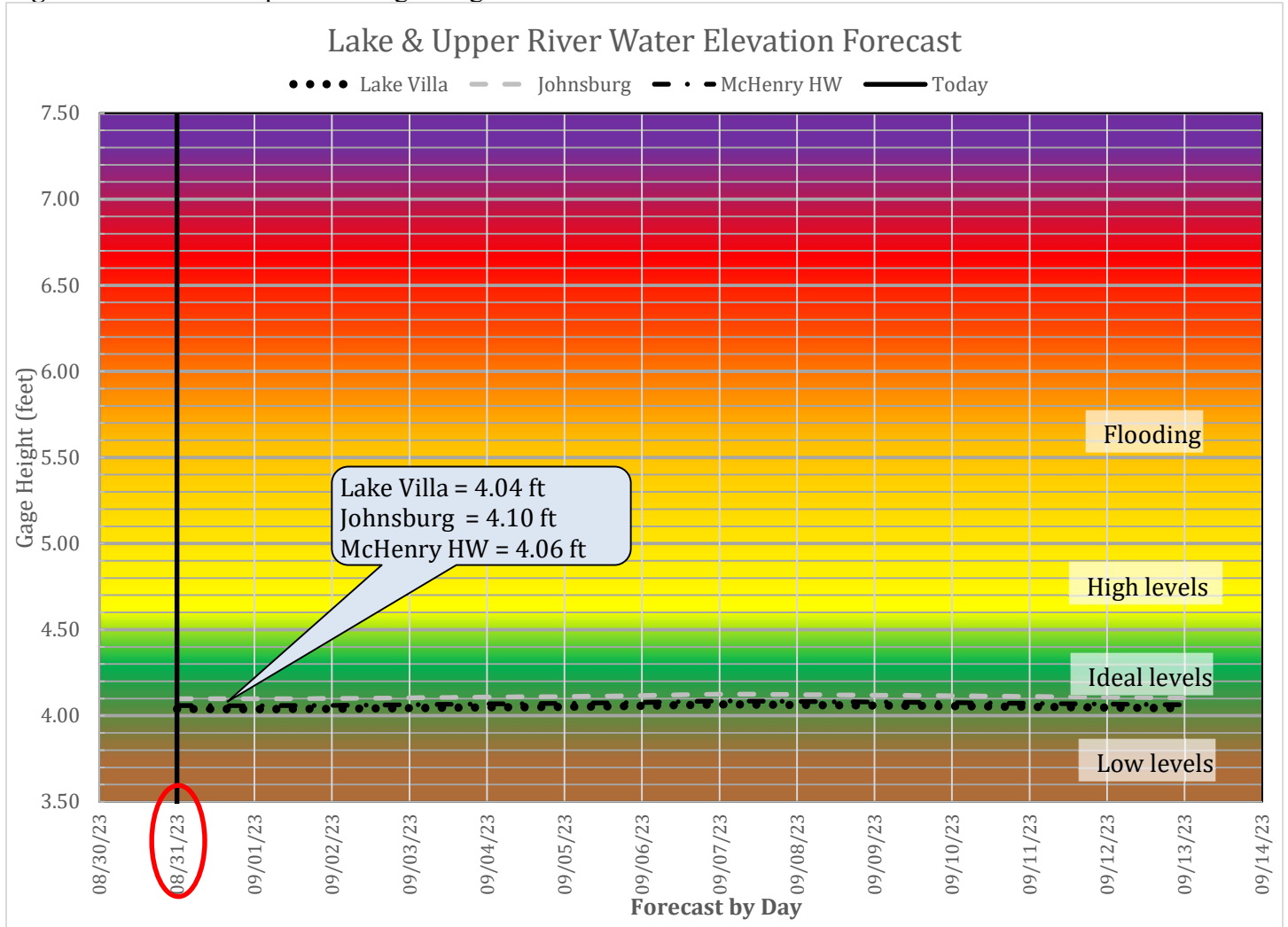
Currently there is near 0.1” of rain forecasted for the watershed during the next seven days. Based on the 7-Day Inflow forecast, levels will remain low near the current conditions. Based on this week’s Drought Monitor, drought conditions still remain unchanged (Figure 5). Until there is a substantial change in the weather pattern, expect conditions to hold steady or begin to worsen.

### Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

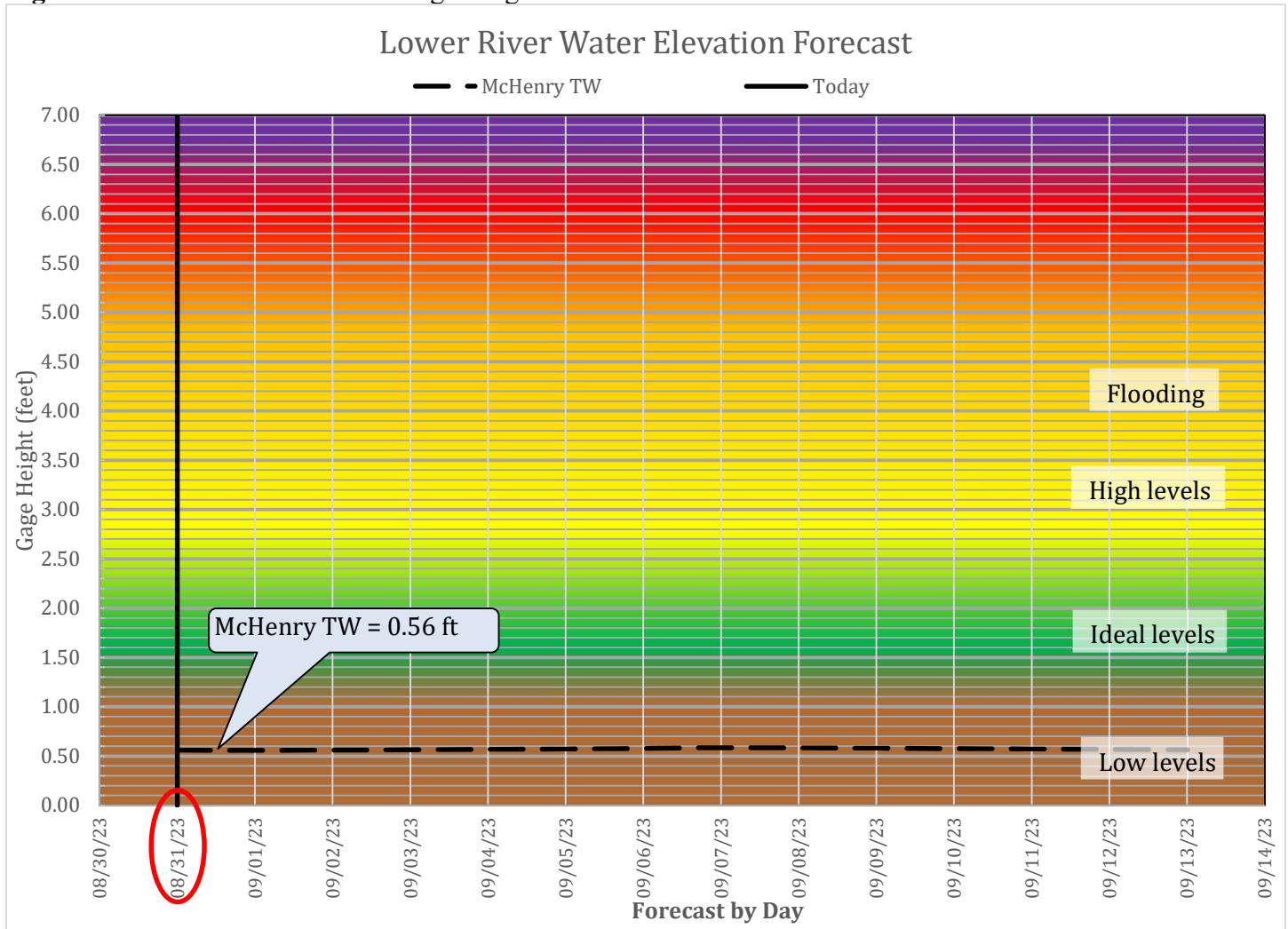
Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows



**Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights**



**Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height**



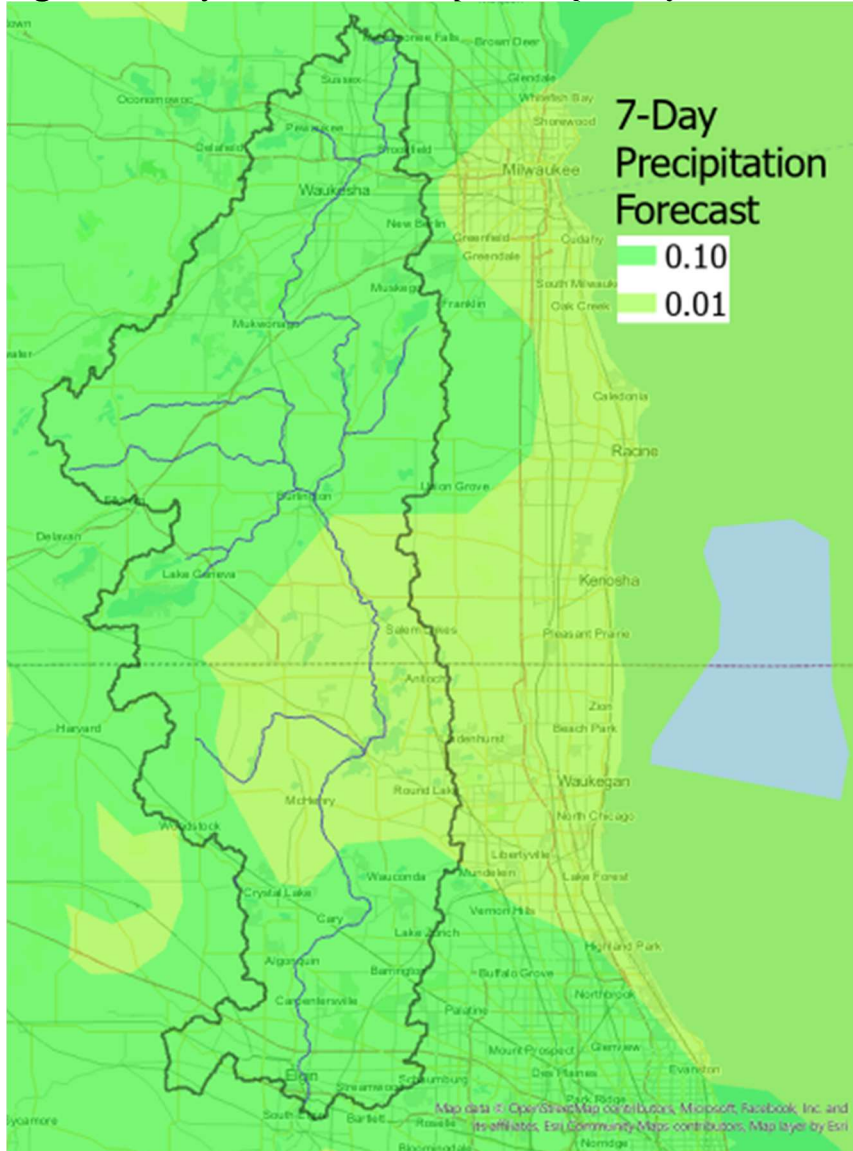
### Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 159 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 29 cfs. The total net system inflows are 264 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.04 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 0.56 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.21 ft.

### Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to hold near the current level over the next week, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam will stay near current levels, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River is forecasted to see water levels remain low, as shown above in **Figure 3**. The 7 Day Precipitation forecast is showing about 0.1” 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 will remain near current level for the next 7 days.

### McHenry Pool Area Outlook

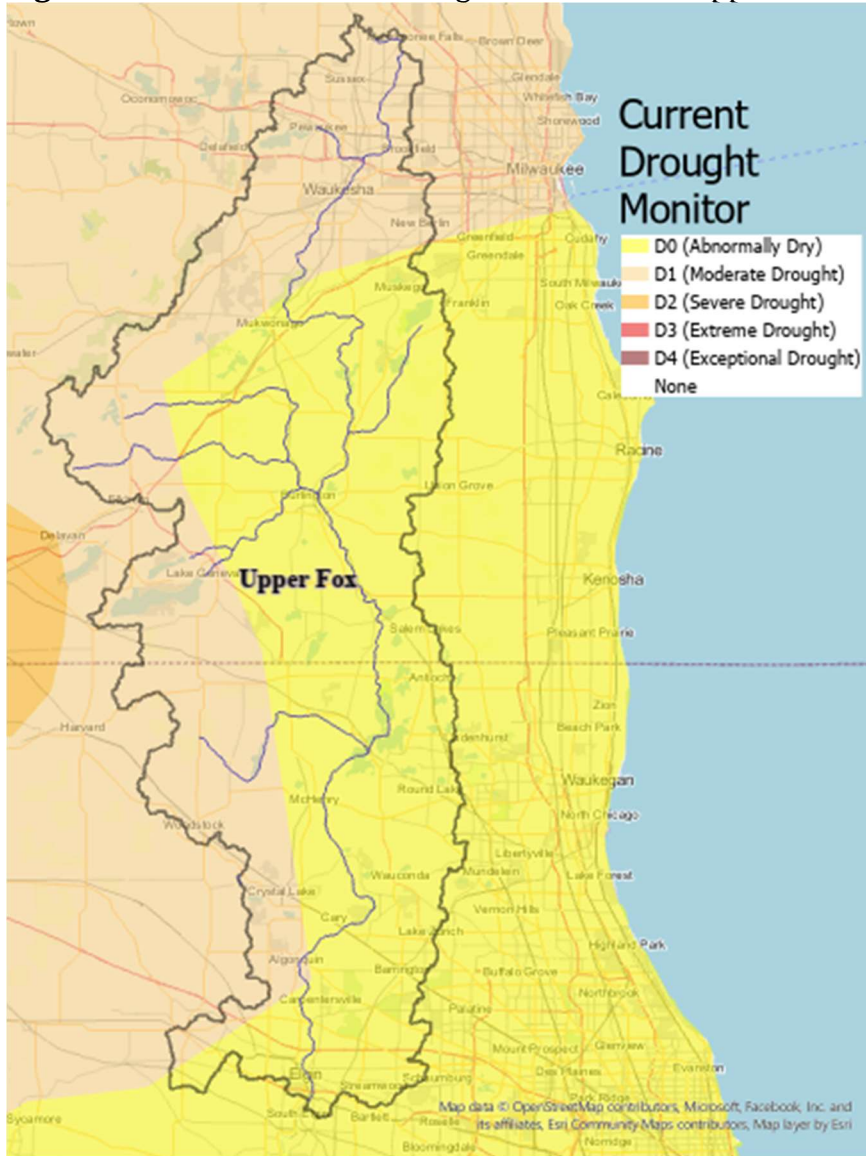
Water levels should be near the same as that of the lakes.

### Lower River Outlook

The Lower River is forecasted to remain low, near the current level, until inflows increase.

# 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-QBQKxPd7eXLJOk10jTZLKFwZUMkJFukgxODJDMkE1RklLUUNTNI4VzdBTy4u>

**Boat-Ground Impact Survey:** As impacts are entered, the map will update to warn fellow boaters of hazards.  
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/c5794aaa79e34853b8cd9df48ed6c31f?portalUrl=https://IDNR.maps.arcgis.com>

***Boat-Ground Impact Survey Map:***

<https://idnr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/mapviewer/index.html?webmap=af5b2bd0bde140f5ae9e5c771036cc3f>

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham

Office of Water Resources

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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