



Fox River Status Update October 5th, 2023

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

IDNR Office of Water Resources

Multiple public surveys have been added to the web page. If any apply 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.

Summary

As a reminder to everyone, Winter Drawdown will begin on November 1st. There is currently 0.02" rain forecasted for the watershed during the next seven days. Based on the 7-Day Inflow forecast, inflows will drop substantially overnight and then level off for the week ahead.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

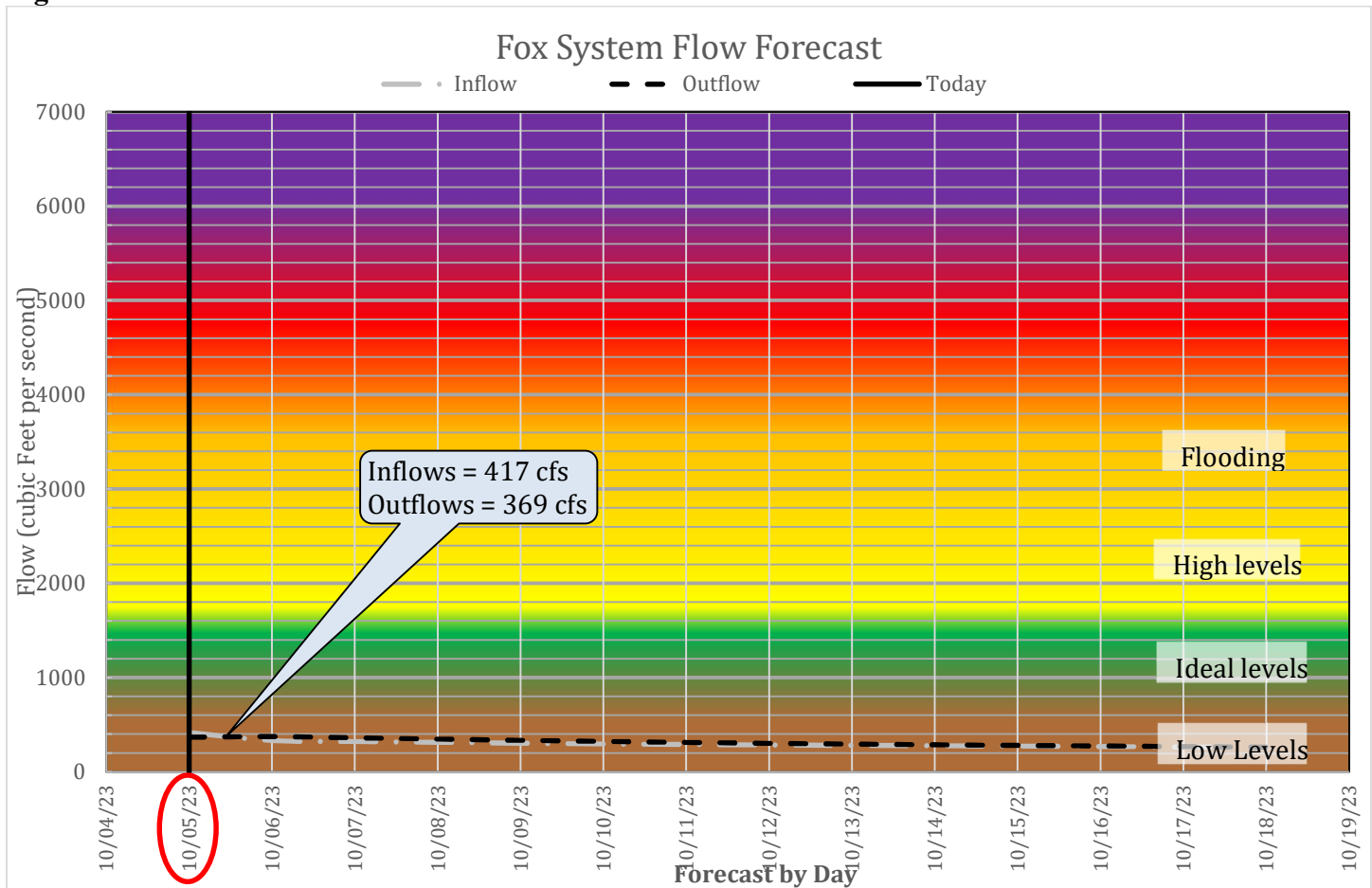


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights

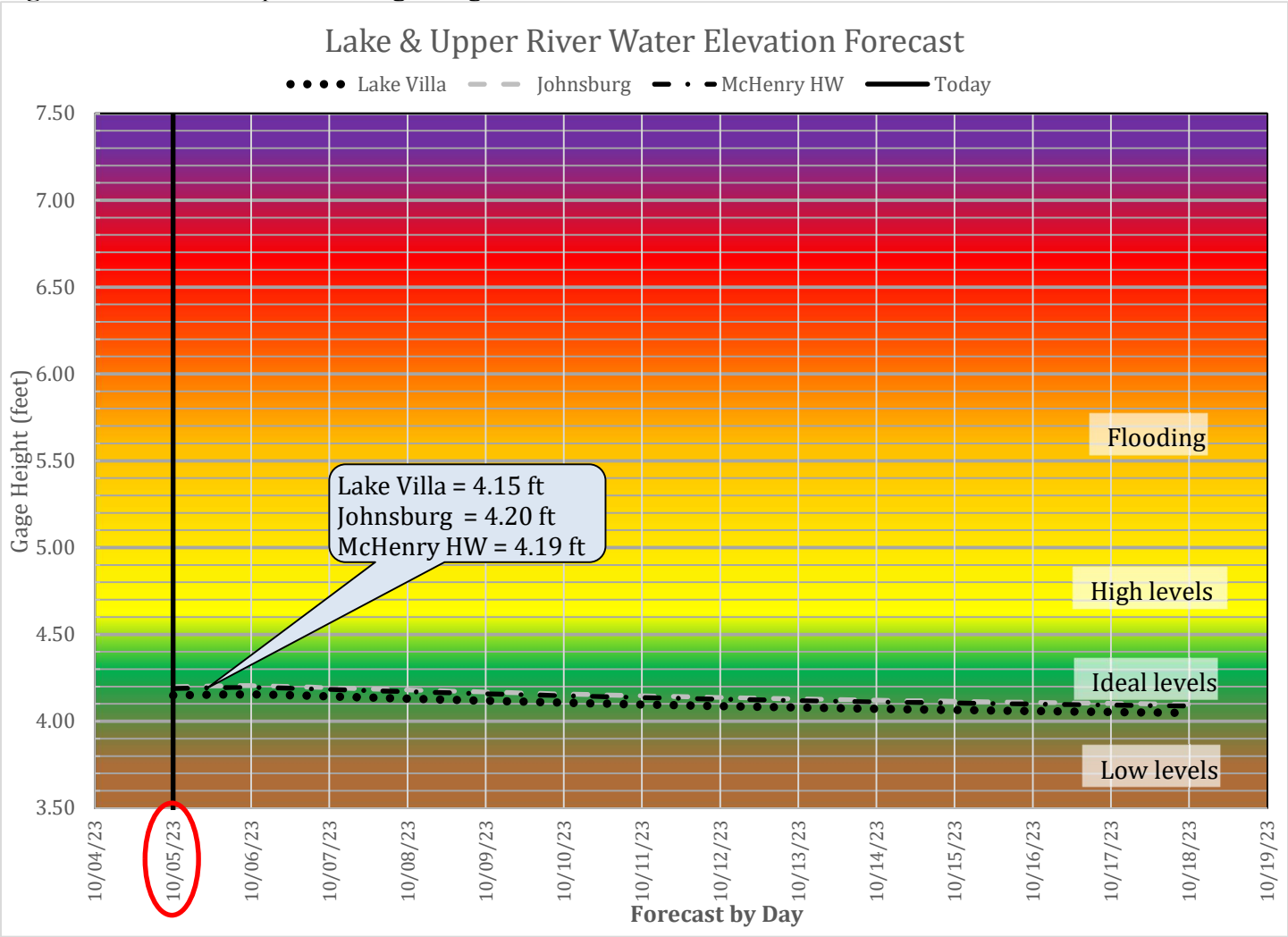
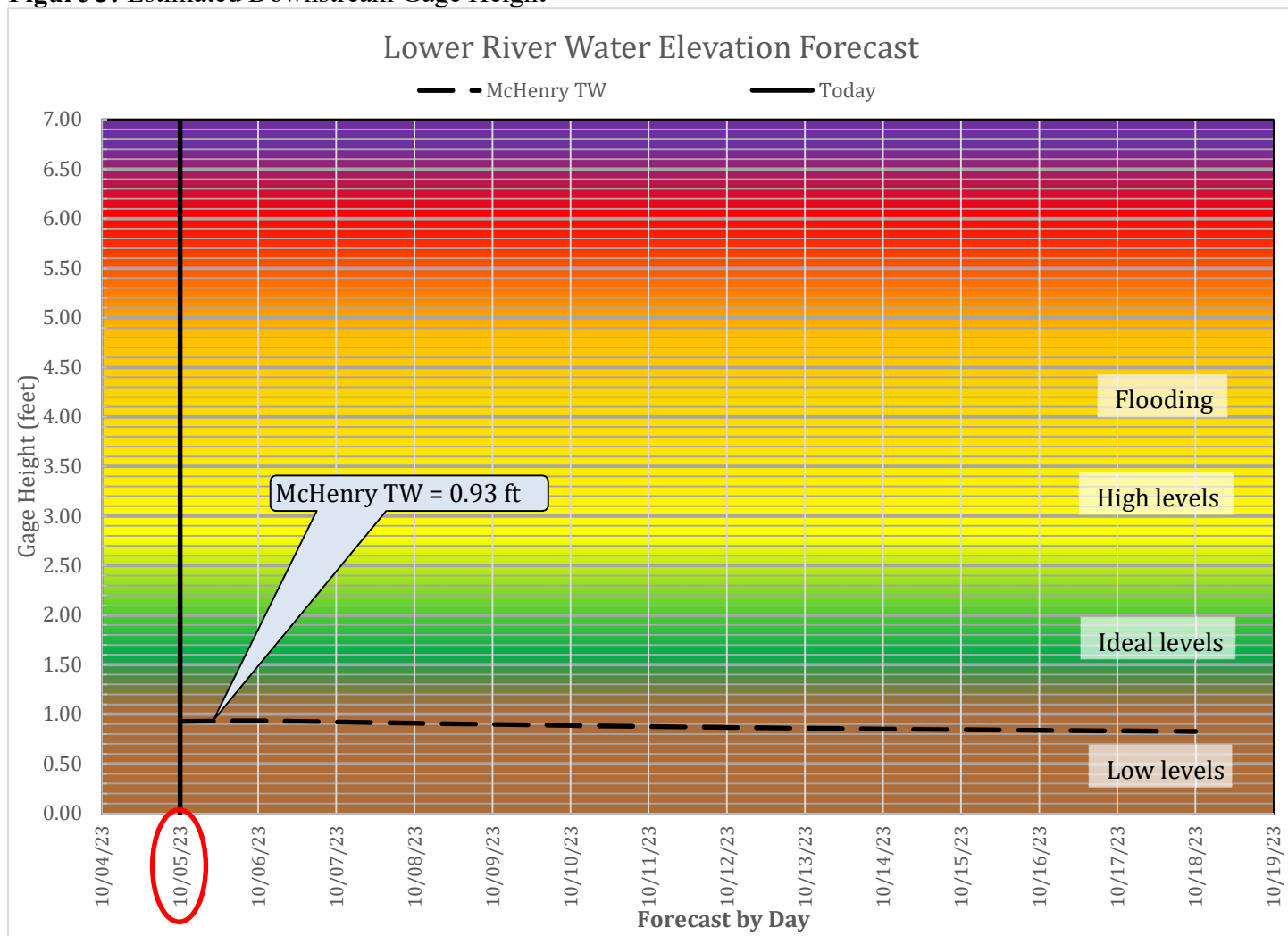


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



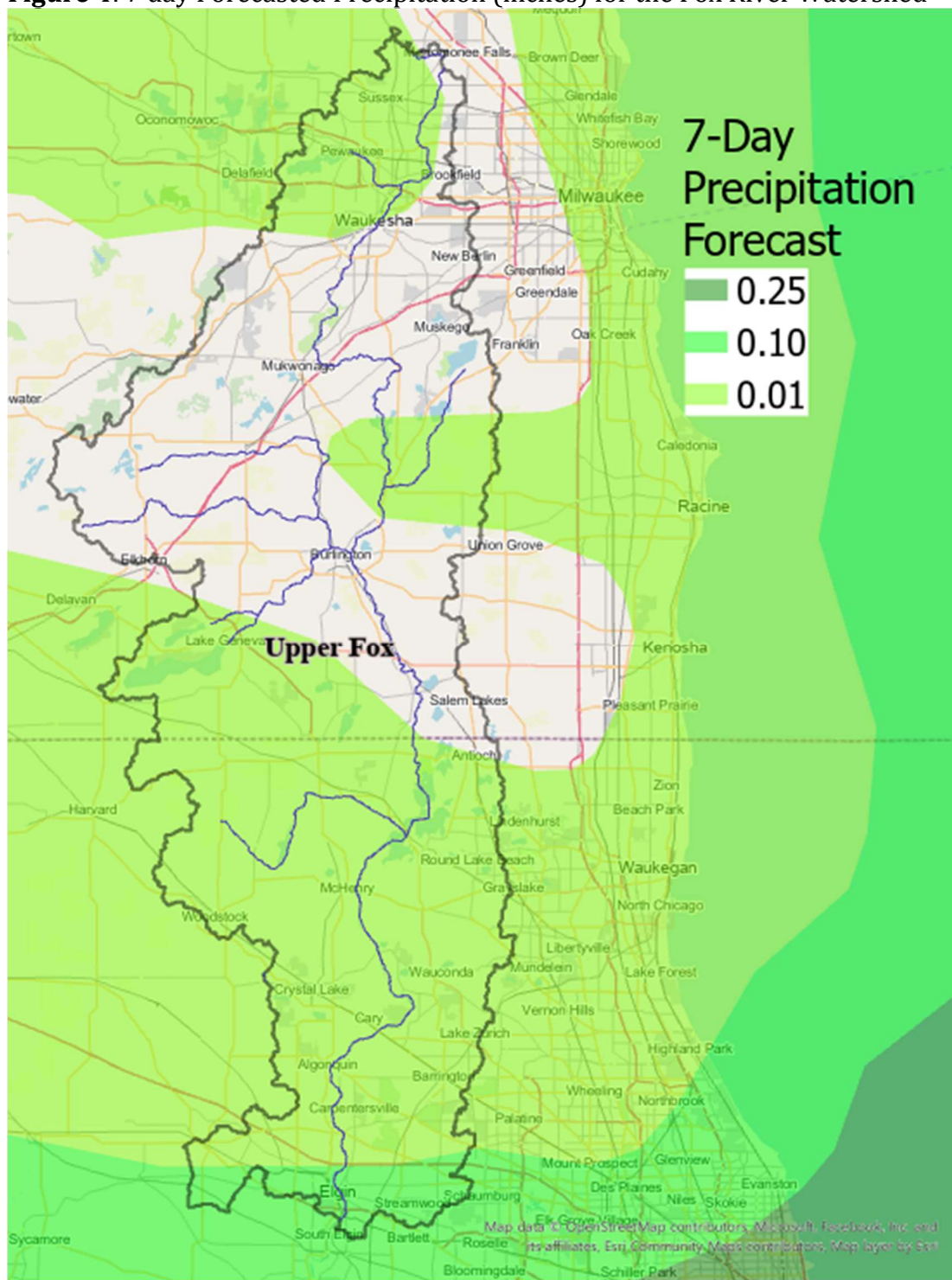
Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 225 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 44 cfs. The total net system inflows are 417 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.15 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 0.93 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.52 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to drop overnight and then remain consistent over the next week, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam are forecasted to be near 4.1' during the next week, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River is forecasted to see water levels decline as inflows continue to drop, as shown above in **Figure 3**. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing 0.02" 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 should hold steady over the next week.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

Water levels will mirror those of the lakes.

Lower River Outlook

Due to the lack of forecasted rain and inflows, it is expected to see water levels continue to drop.

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