



Fox River Status Update January 29th, 2024

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

Summary

This update is being released due to the increased inflow from the warmer weather and approximately 1" of precipitation received over the past week. Inflows are forecasted to peak on 02/03/24 at 2500 cfs. The gate at Algonquin Dam has been lowered in an attempt to reduce water levels on the Lower River. Should the Lower River drop to an acceptable level, the gates at Stratton will be lowered further to increase outflows. Currently the goal is to remain below 4.0' on FOX RIVER (TAILWATER) NEAR MCHENRY, IL on the Lower River. Currently Fox Lake is forecasted to increase to near Summer Pool level. Outflow will have to be reduced should Ice Jams become an issue.

Current Conditions and NWS Forecasts

Figure 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows

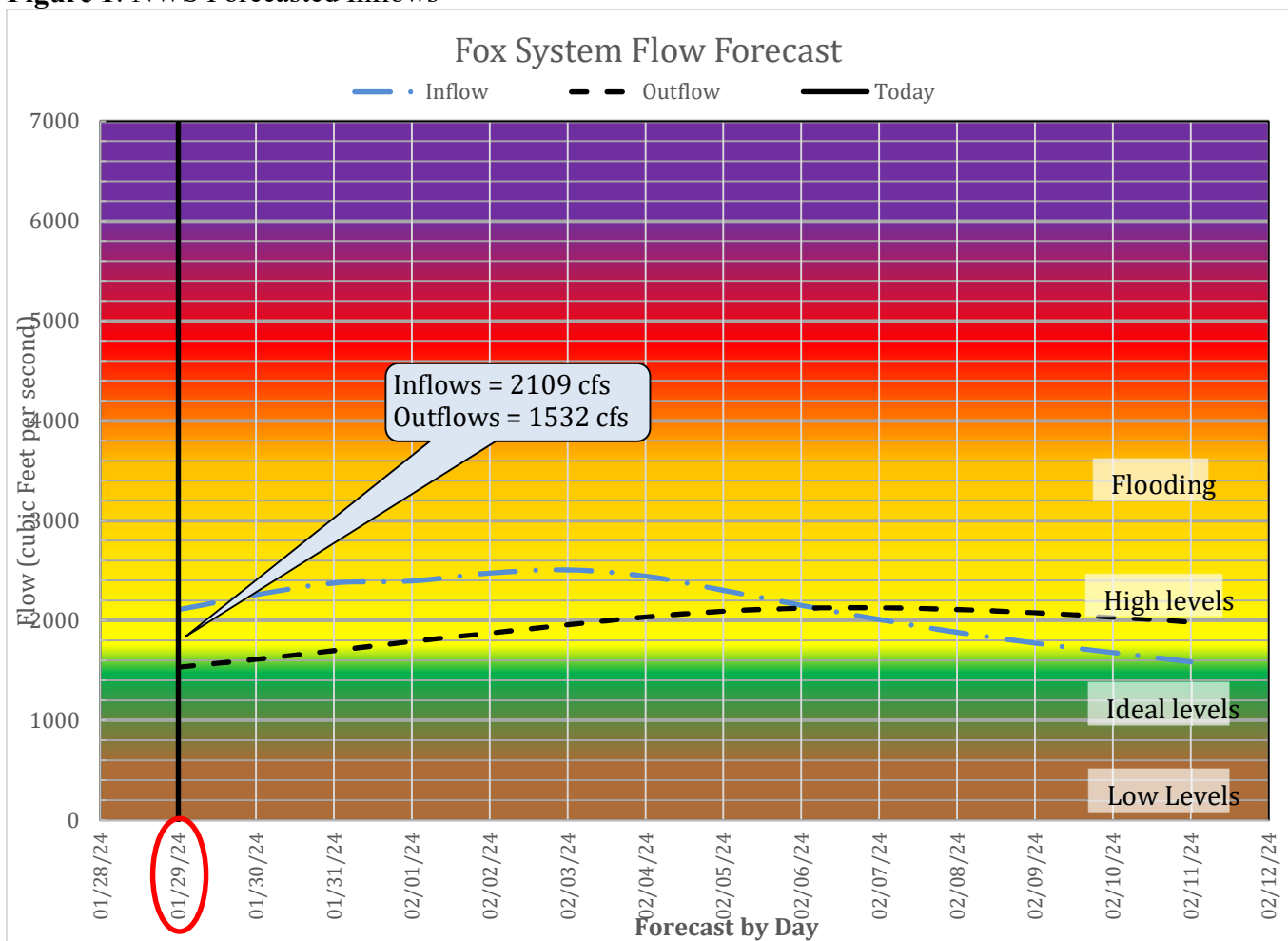


Figure 2: Estimated Upstream Gage Heights

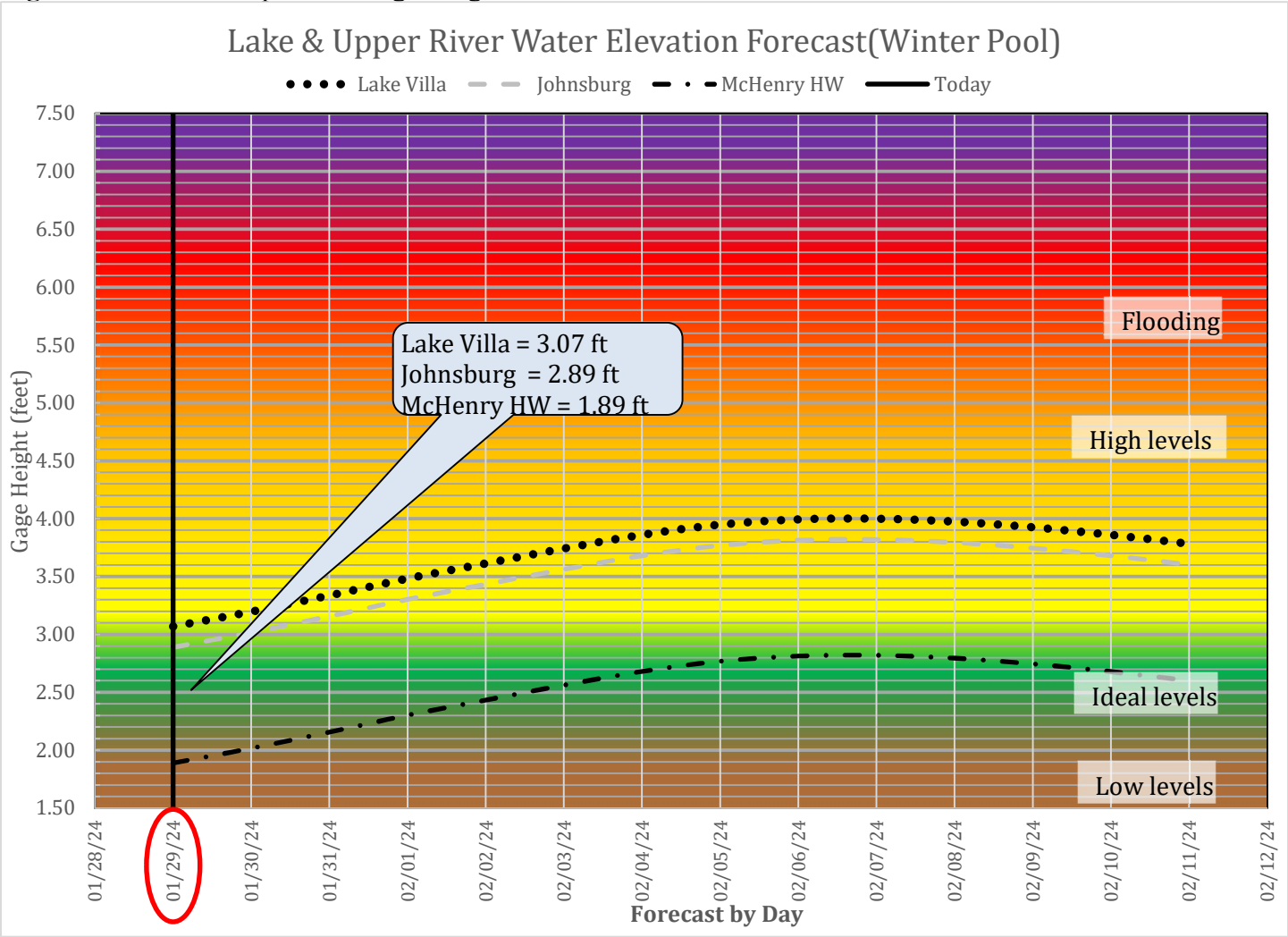
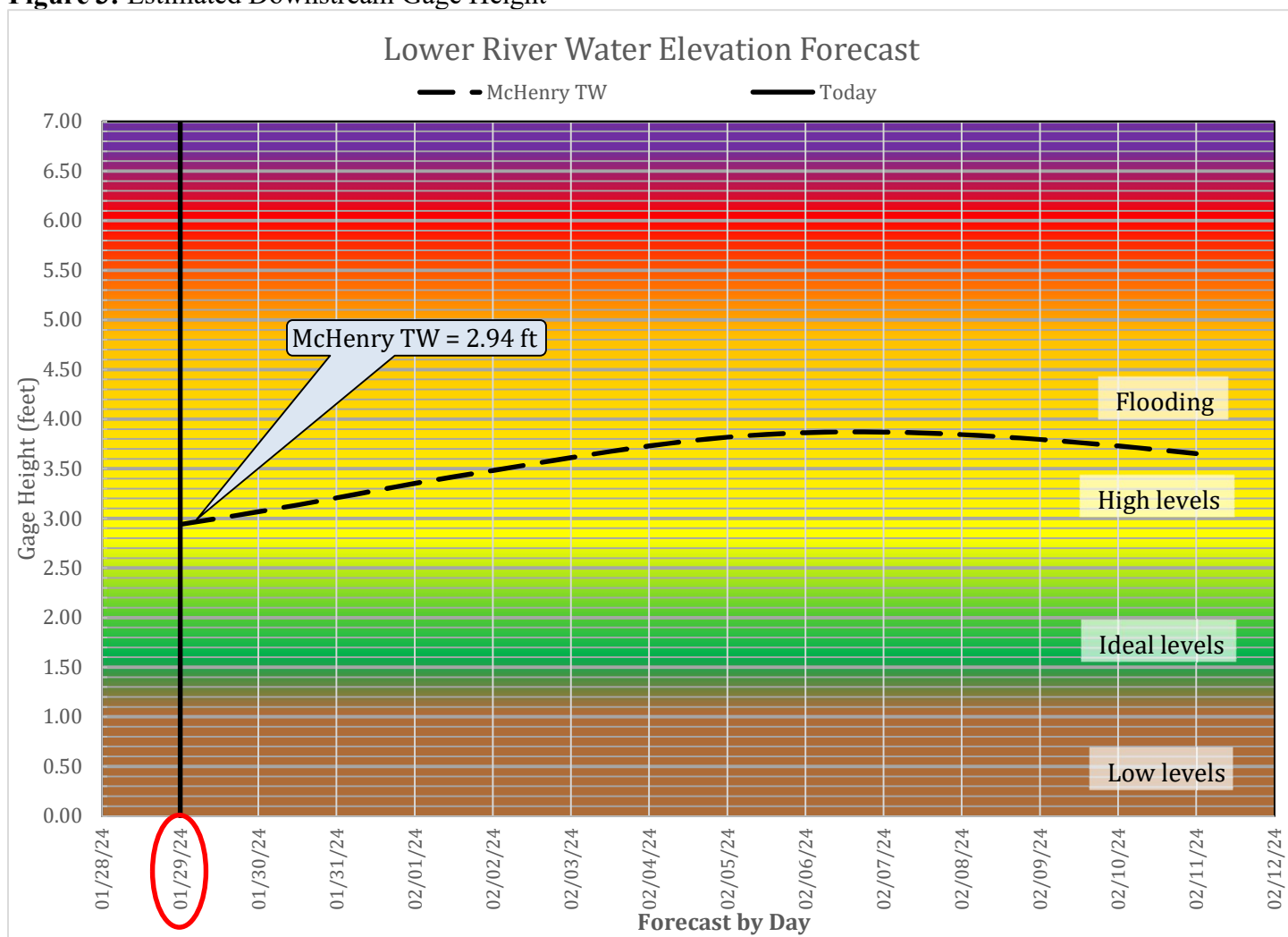


Figure 3: Estimated Downstream Gage Height



Current Conditions

Measured flow on the Fox River near New Munster, WI is 2060 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove is at 448 cfs. The total net system inflows are 2159 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 3.03 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.92 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 2.92 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to peak Saturday, as shown in **Figure 1**. Fox Lake and all areas upstream of the dam are forecasted to peak next Wednesday, as shown above in **Figure 2**. The Lower River will be held to below 4.0' on the Stratton Tailwater gage. The 7-Day Precipitation forecast is showing 0.06" rain for the Chain of Lakes.

System Outlook

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels are expected to raise to near Summer Pool, 4.0' on Fox Lake gage.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

Water levels are forecasted to be slightly lower than the lakes.

Lower River Outlook

An attempt to hold water levels below 4.0' on the Stratton Tailwater gage will be made for the duration of the event.

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

Thank you,

Aaron Rotherham
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