



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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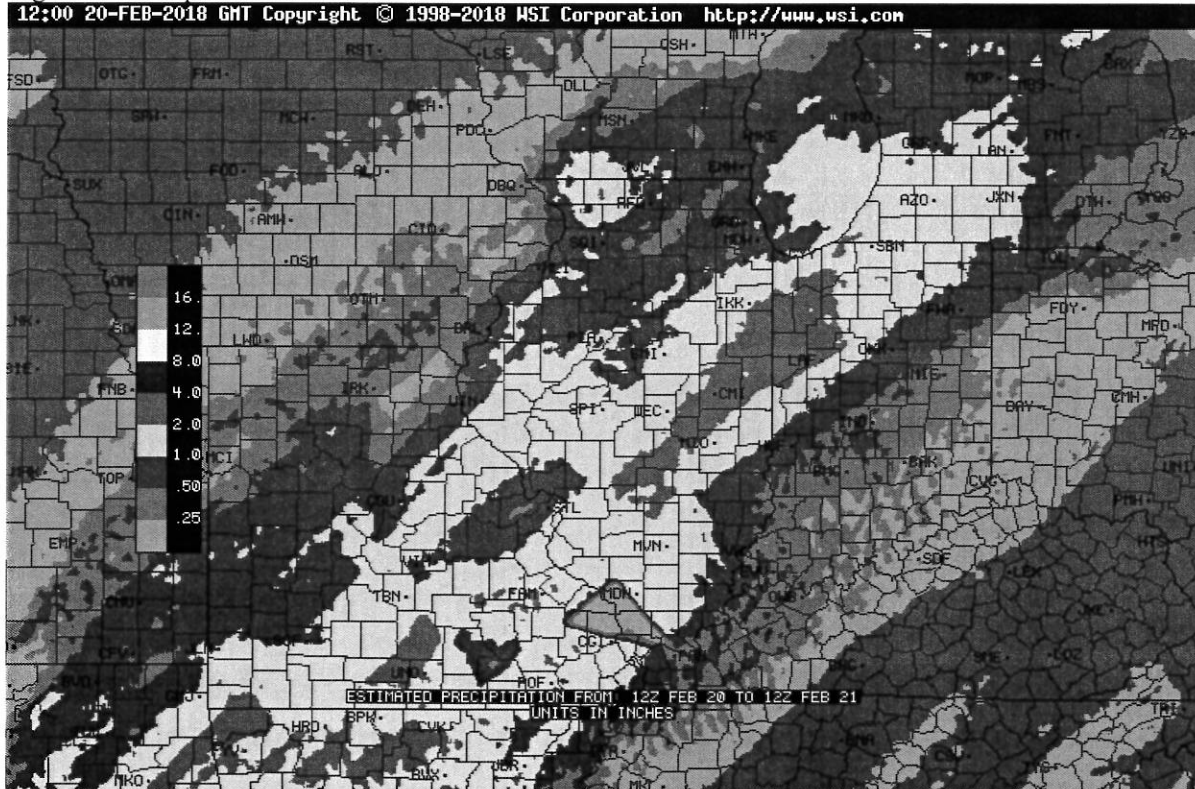
Bruce Rauner, Governor
Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

Fox River Status Update
February 21, 2018

Current Conditions

The rainfall last night was enough to increase the river forecasts for the system. Currently there is still a frozen layer of soil in the watershed so most of the rainfall ran directly off of the soil instead of soaking in. There was also 1-2 inches of rainfall in the snow that melted during this event. The inflow into the system is now forecasted at 6300 cfs on Thursday.

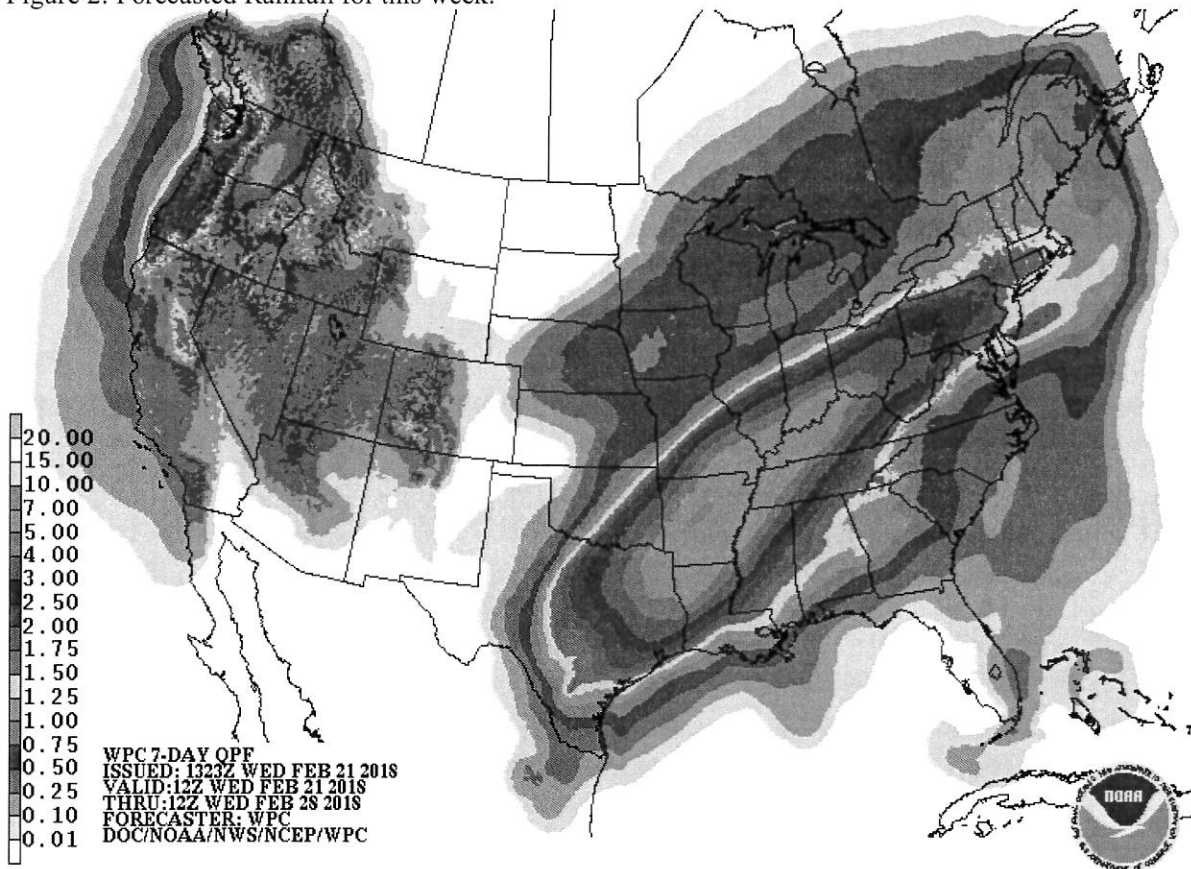
Figure 1: Precipitation Received



Forecast

As shown in Figure 2, the rainfall over the week for the Fox River watershed is between ¼” and ½” and is forecasted to fall on Thursday and over the weekend. The National Weather Service is predicting the Fox River near New Munster, WI will crest at stage of 13.6’ on Thursday February 22 and Nippersink Creek is also forecasted to crest Thursday.

Figure 2: Forecasted Rainfall for this week.



System Conditions and Operations

We have opened the gates at Stratton Dam in accordance with our operations guide based on the system inflow forecasts, the one day Fox Lake increase of over half a foot, and the current flow of Nippersink Creek into the Lakes. We expect the lakes to crest near 4.5 feet and the Stratton tailwater to crest near 4.25 feet Saturday and Sunday. We will continue to monitor the forecasts as they come out and make gate changes accordingly.

Brad Winters, P.E., CFM

Office of Water Resources

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<https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/WaterResources/Pages/StrattonLockandDam.aspx>