



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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JB Pritzker, Governor

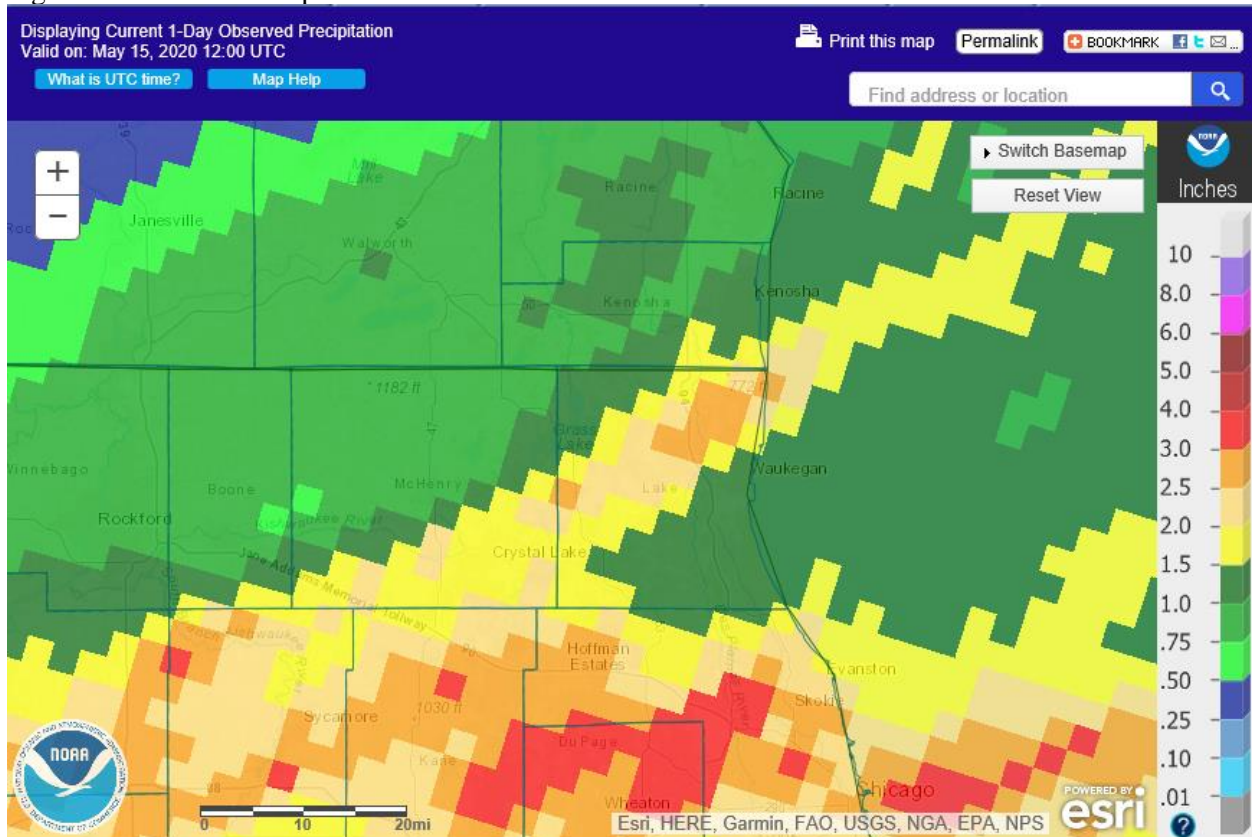
Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update May 15, 2020

Current Conditions

Fox River watershed received precipitation in the amounts ranging from 1" to 2" within the last 24 hours as shown on Figure 1. Heavier localized precipitation in excess of 2" was also reported. Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 1370 cfs and rising; flows on Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 535 cfs and rising. The Fox Lake stage is 4.2 ft and the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 4.09 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam Tailwater stage is 9.98 ft.

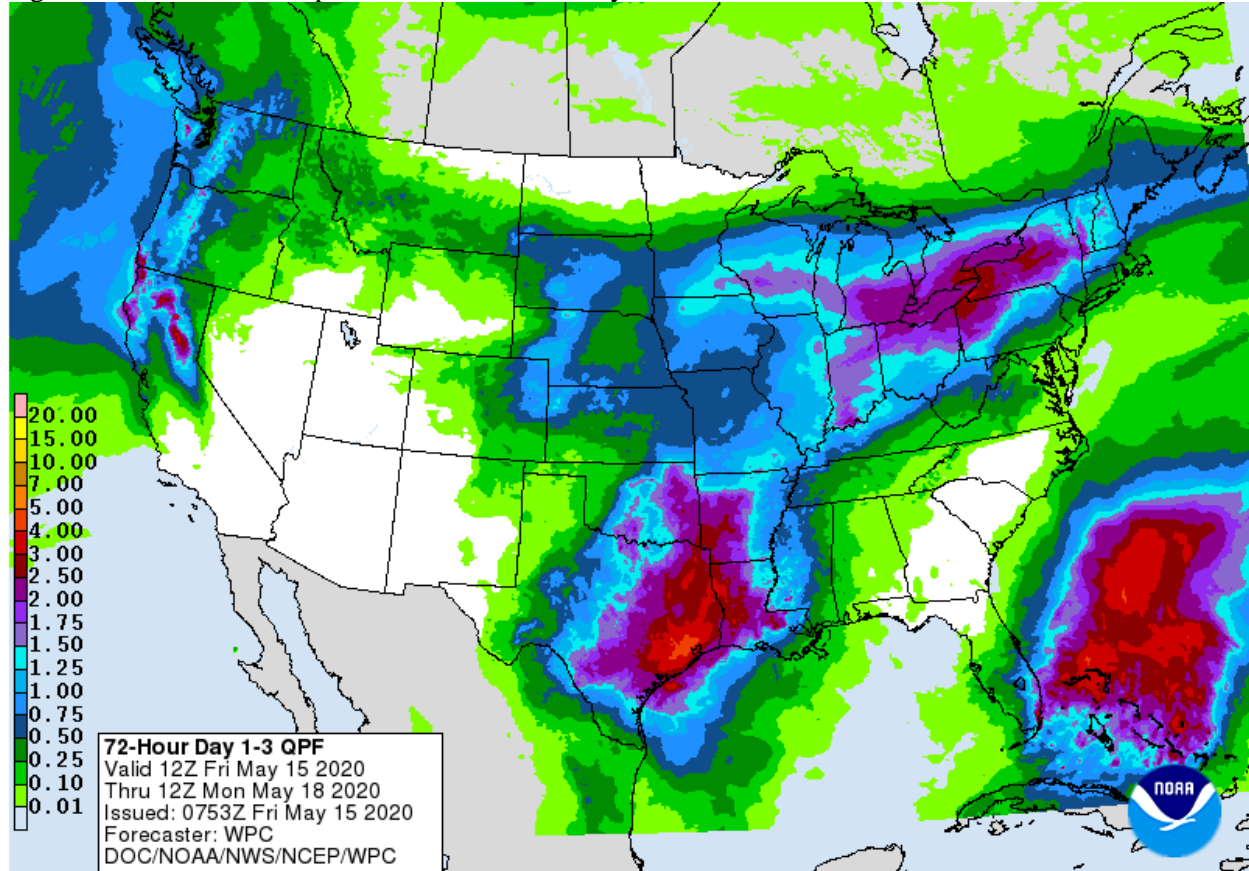
Figure 1: Observed Precipitation



Forecast

The NWS is predicting an additional 1" to 1¼" of precipitation for the next 3 days in the Fox River watershed as shown on Figure 2. The NWS is forecasting that the Fox River at Algonquin Tailwater will crest at a stage of 10.4 ft on May 17 with a flow of 4600 cfs.

Figure 2: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 3 days



Impacts

(Note: These impacts are based off current NWS forecasts and may change depending on forecast update.)

Heavy rain came this week with additional rain forecasted for this weekend. Improved recreation conditions are forecasted for mid-week into Memorial Day. Water is being moved as early as possible to reduce flood potential and provide storage for forecasted high inflows.

Chain of Lakes (Zone C): River Levels to remain near summer pool with biggest increases projected to occur on Tuesday.

Upper River (Zone B): River Levels will remain low through the weekend then increase early next week.

Lower River (Zone A): River Levels will remain high through the weekend then decrease early next week.

The current operations are projected to result in restrictions being lifted much earlier than if more water was held above the dam.

System Conditions and Operations

All gates at Stratton Dam and Algonquin Dam are completely opened.

Munib Ahmad, P.E.

Office of Water Resources

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