



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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JB Pritzker, Governor

Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update August 18, 2021

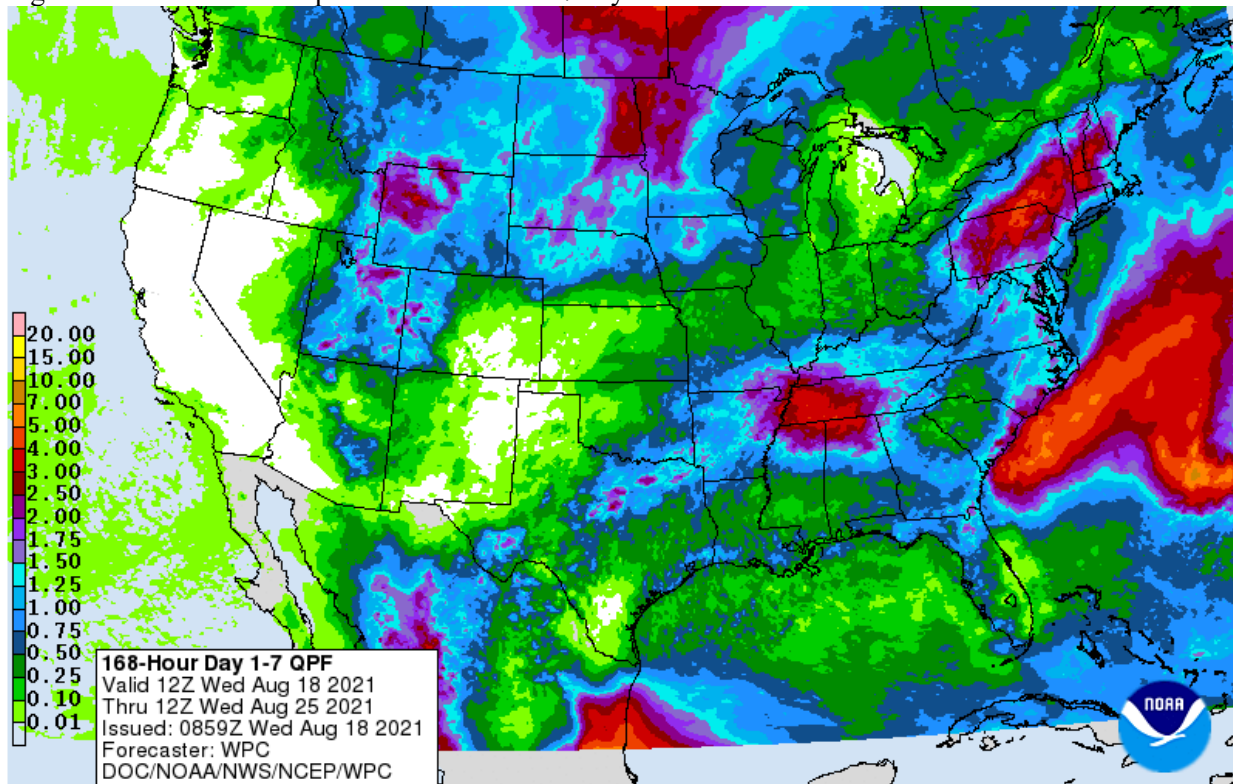
Current Conditions

Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 268 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 50 cfs. Local tributary inflows are 40 cfs. These inflows are below normal for this time of year. The Fox Lake stage is 4.21 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.34 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam Tailwater stage is 5.42 ft.

Forecast

The National Weather Service (NWS) 7-day forecast is predicting 0.25” of precipitation for the Fox River watershed as shown on Figure 1. The rainfall will mostly come this evening with a little more tomorrow. The following five days are forecasted to have little to no rainfall. Conditions are expected to see levels drop this weekend and start moving back to the previous dry conditions by late next week. Additional rainfall is needed to see significant long term improvements to the dry system conditions.

Figure 1: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days



Summer Pool/Boating Outlook

The lakes levels at the Lake Villa gage are anticipated to hold between 4.20 and 4.15 feet as the inflows and outflows are matched. Algonquin gates are fully closed to keep water levels on the Lower River as high as possible. The boating outlook in the Chain of Lakes and Upper River are looking good for the remainder of the week & weekend as stages hold steady on the lakes and water levels will slowly drop on the lower river as inflows continue to drop without significant rainfall in the forecast. Caution should be used when navigating low water level areas. The IDNR/OWR continues to closely monitor the system levels and precipitation forecasts by the NWS.

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Office of Water Resources

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