



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

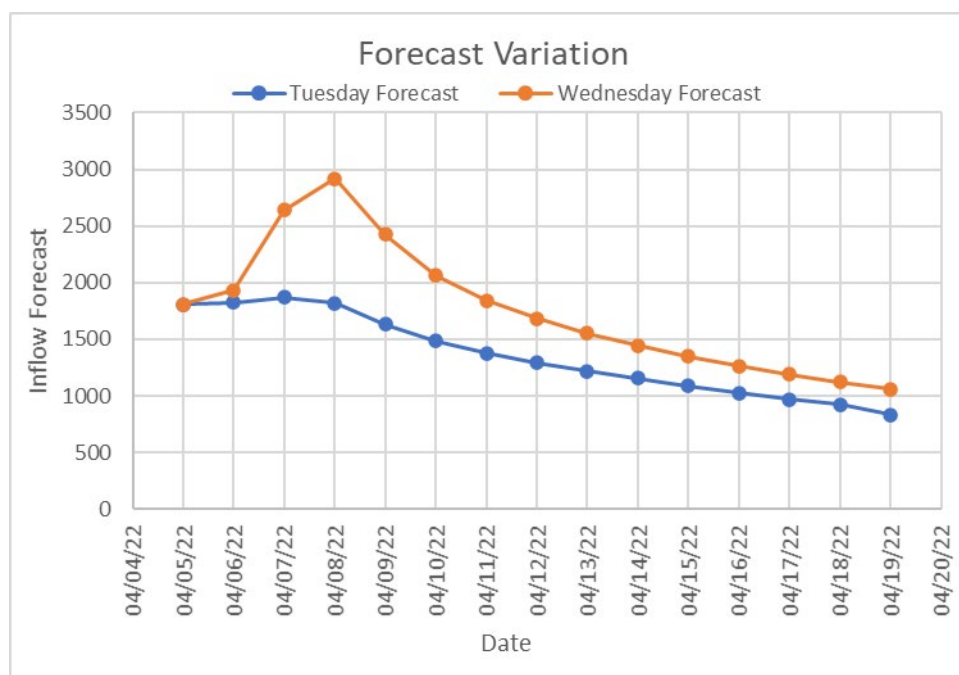
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JB Pritzker, Governor

Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update April 7, 2022

Update: On Tuesday, the NWS forecast predicted peak inflows of below 1,900 cfs. This level could be handled by the system without any increases in water stage. On Wednesday, NWS forecasts increased the inflow forecast to just below 3,000 cfs. This required significant operational changes without any warning in prior forecasts. While OWR does monitor forecasts out to 7-days, the NWS cannot detect all rainfall events. Unfortunately, we will see stages above normal pool in the coming week.



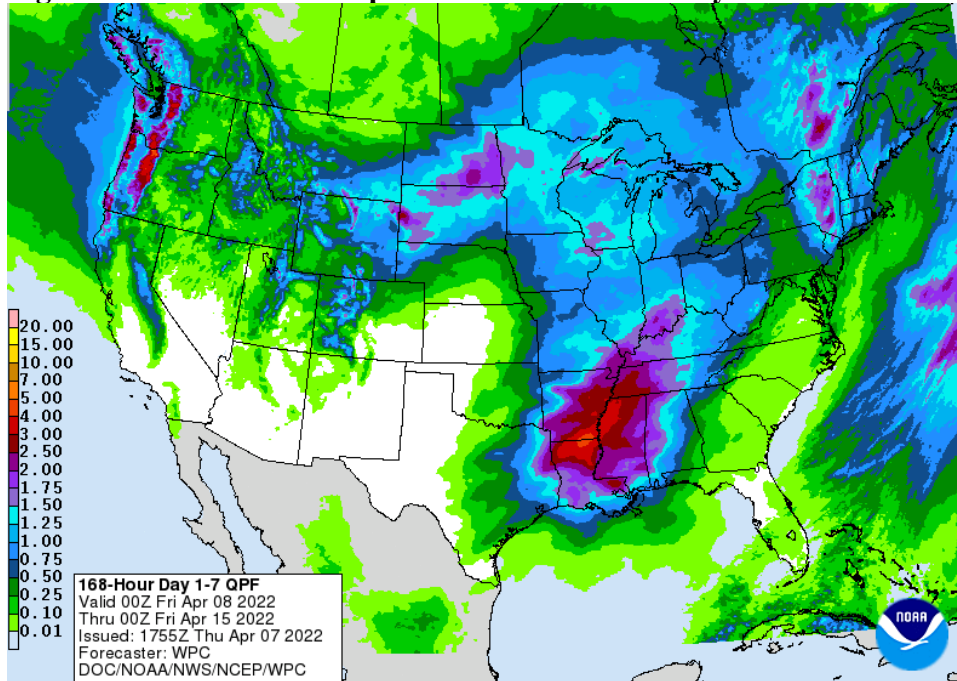
Current Conditions

Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 1680 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 444 cfs. The National Weather Service (NWS) estimates local tributary inflows of 377 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.35 ft; the Stratton Dam Pool and Tailwater stage are at 3.35 & 3.05 ft respectively. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam Tailwater stage is 8.13 ft. Note that high wind conditions have caused artificial increases at the Chain of Lake gages.

Forecast

The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting 1.00 to 1.49 inches of precipitation for the Fox River watershed as shown on Figure 1. The heaviest rains are forecasted to be on Tuesday of next week. Inflows are forecasted to peak tomorrow; then subside through the upcoming week.

Figure 1: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days



Source: [Weather Prediction Center \(WPC\) Home Page \(noaa.gov\)](https://www.weather.gov/wpc)

Lakes & Upper River Outlook

Water levels are expected to briefly climb as the near flood conditions at New Munster, WI, currently approaching the action stage, move downstream into the system. The IDNR/OWR continues to closely monitor the forecasted rainfall and inflows provided by the National Weather Service. With current inflow forecasts from NWS, OWR is estimating water stages cresting near 4.7 early next week at Lake Villa.

Lower River Outlook

The Stratton Dam gates will be continuously monitored and adjusted to maintain Stratton Tailwater levels are around 3.0 feet but may need to be increased depending on future forecasts.

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Office of Water Resources

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