



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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JB Pritzker, Governor

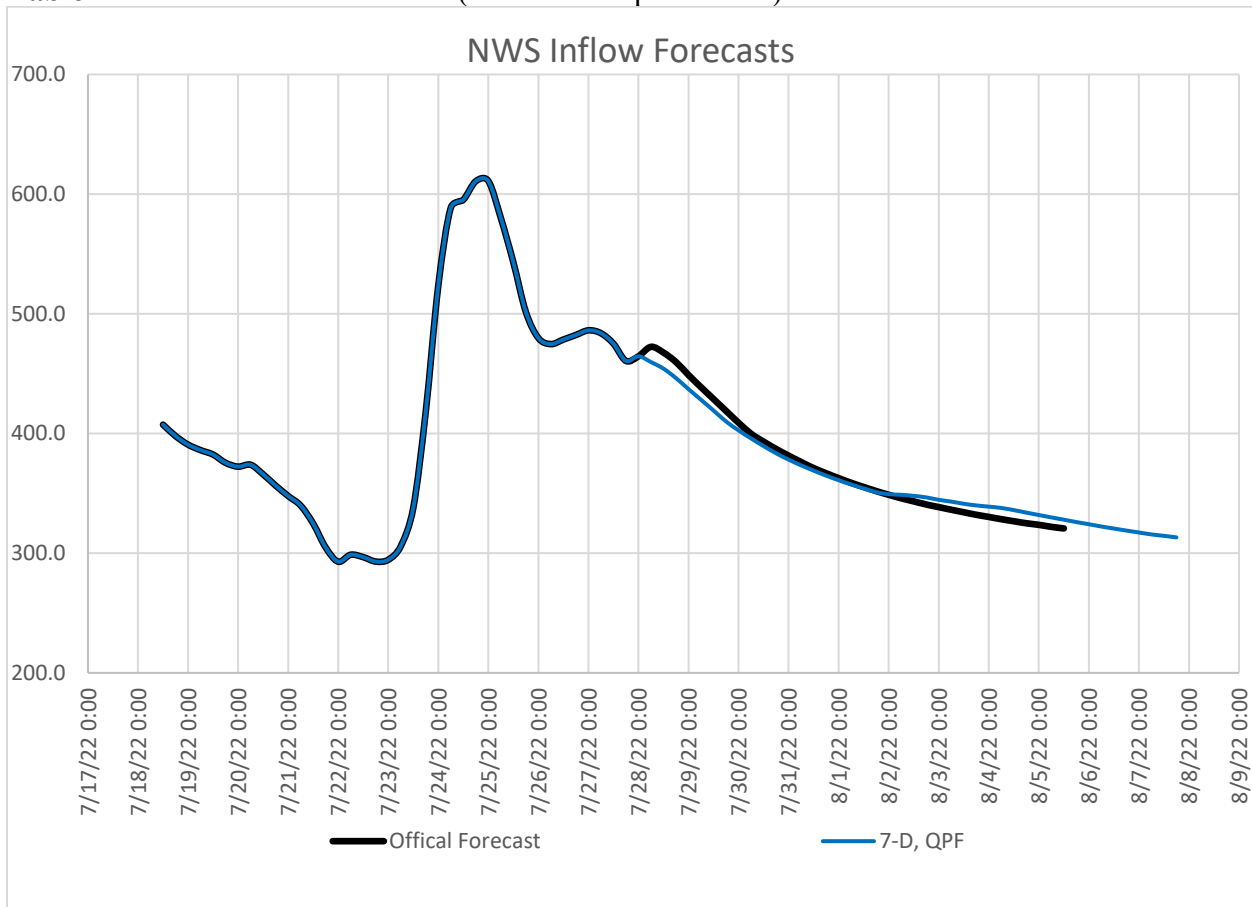
Colleen Callahan, Director

Fox River Status Update July 28, 2022

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

Summary: Current rainfall amounts are forecasted to be approximately 0.1-0.2” of rain for the next 7 days. Based on rainfall amounts and inflows, the lakes and river are forecasted to slowly drop as little rain is forecasted over the next week.

Table 1: NWS Forecasted Inflows (in cubic feet per second)



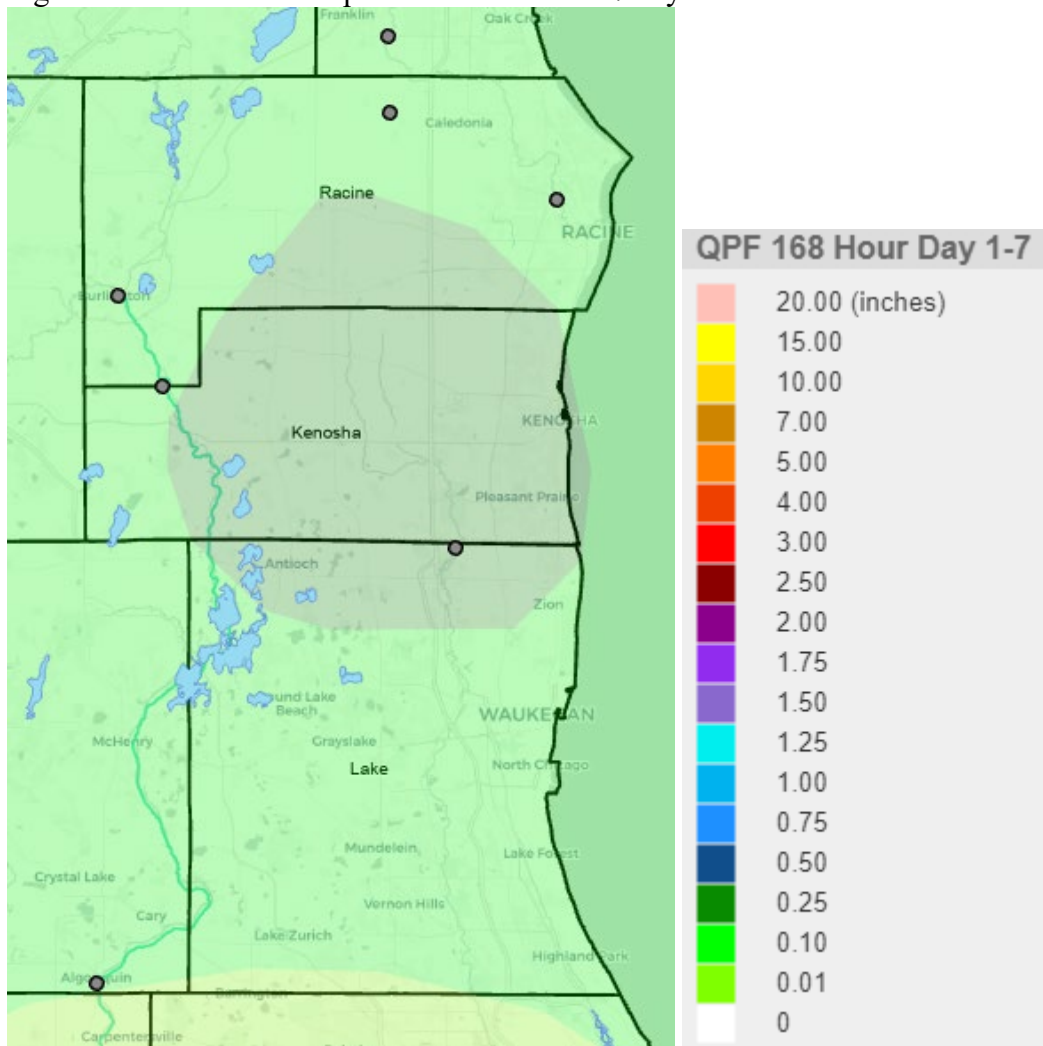
Current Conditions

Measured inflows on the Fox River near New Munster, WI are 268 cfs and Nippersink Creek near Spring Grove are 96 cfs. The National Weather Service (NWS) estimates local tributary inflows of 104 cfs. The total system inflows are 468 cfs; the outflows at Stratton Dam are 493 cfs. The Fox Lake stage is 4.24 ft; the Stratton Dam Tailwater stage is 1.09 ft. The Fox River at the Algonquin Dam headwater stage is 1.91 ft.

Forecast

Inflows are forecasted to continue dropping as shown above in **Figure 1**. The NWS 7-day forecast is predicting approximately 0.1-0.2” inches of precipitation for the Fox River watershed as shown on **Figure 2**. The Chain O’Lakes is expected to slowly drop to 4.20’.

Figure 2: Forecasted Precipitation for the Next 7 days



Source: <https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/>

Chain O' Lakes Outlook

Water levels are expected to slowly drop to 4.20 for the next week. The outflows will then be adjusted to match inflows levels in order to conserve as much water as possible.

McHenry Pool Area Outlook

The Upper River near the McHenry Pool will slowly drop but remain at or above 4.0.

Lower River Outlook

Since inflows to the system are expected to remain low, as shown in **Figure 2**, the lower river will also slowly drop over the next week.

Drought Forecast

The Fox River watershed in Kenosha and Racine counties in Wisconsin are still experiencing moderate drought conditions resulting in below average flow coming into the system. This will continue to keep inflows to the system low despite the recent rain event last week.

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

Thank you,

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Office of Water Resources

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