

# Early Spring Flood Outlook – Elevated Flood Threat

## Spring Flood Threat Checklist (as of mid February)

Threat	Impact to Potential Spring Flooding	Link to Image
High river levels	<b>Increased Threat</b>	<a href="#">USGS WaterWatch MN WI</a>
High soil moisture	<b>Increased Threat</b>	<a href="#">CPC Soil Moisture</a>
Winter Precipitation	<b>Above Normal</b>	<a href="#">Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 Day 8 - 14 Day</a>
Snowpack/Liquid Equivalent	<b>Above Normal</b>	<a href="#">Snow Analysis</a>
Rate of Snowmelt	<b>To Be Determined</b>	<a href="#">24, 48, &amp; 72 hr Snowmelt</a>
Frost Depth*	<b>Decreased Threat</b>	<a href="#">Frost Depth Map</a>
Spring Precipitation	<b>To Be Determined</b>	<a href="#">Precip Forecast (3-Month)</a>

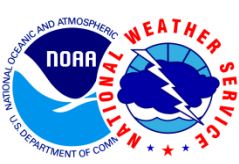
\* Frost depth is fairly shallow due to heavy insulating snow.

## Background Conditions:

- Wet Fall of 2019 has resulted in high winter river levels and saturated soils.
- [Snow Pack Ranking](#) Upper Mississippi River Basin in the top 10 deepest to date (2/13).

## Outlook:

- Spring Flooding potential is elevated but magnitude of flooding dependent on: Additional winter precipitation, Spring temperatures, rate of snow melt and the occurrence of heavy spring rain on a ripe snow pack.



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## Mississippi River Headwaters Outlook



[Mississippi near Taconite](#)

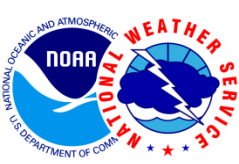
[Click for more details on our AHPS Page](#)

[Mississippi near Aitkin](#)

[Mississippi at Ft. Ripley](#)

Click on river name for detailed forecast

Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
Mississippi nr Taconite	10 ft.	16%	Less than 5%
Mississippi nr. Aitkin	13 ft.	More than 95%	92%
Mississippi at Ft. Ripley	10.5 ft.	More than 95%	82% chance



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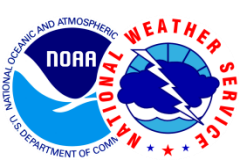
## St. Louis, St. Croix and Snake River Outlooks



[Click for more details on our AHPS Page](#)

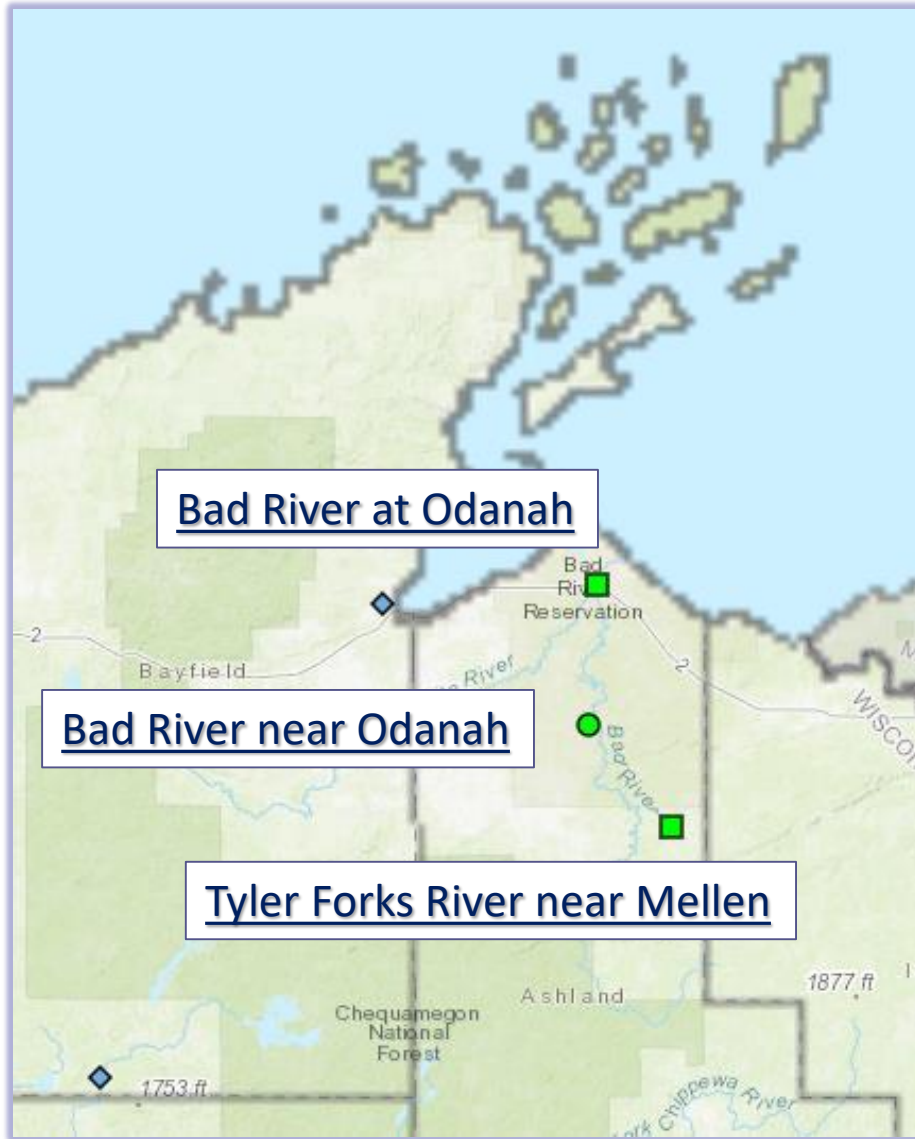
Click on river name for detailed forecast. Detailed forecast graphics for the St. Louis Basin will be released February 13<sup>th</sup>

Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
St. Louis at Scanlon	10.5 ft.	49%	32%
St. Croix nr. Danbury	7 ft.	59%	36%
Snake at Pine City	9 ft.	25%	7%



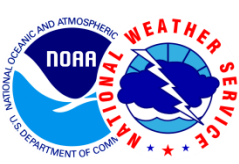
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## Bad River Basin Spring Flood Outlooks



[Click for more details on our AHPS Page](#)

Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
Bad River at Odannah	8.5 ft.	16%	6%
Bad River nr. Odannah	16.0 ft.	6%	5%
Tyler Forks River nr. Mellen	9.0 ft.	84%	52%



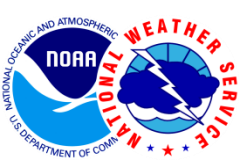
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# Prepare Now for Spring Flooding

- In the home, be prepared to deal with spring by being sure you have a functioning sump pump and a back up.
- Have enough food and water in your home to last at least 3 days if flood waters cause road access to be cut off.
- Know your alternate routes if flooding causes roads to be closed.
- Consider buying flood insurance. Flood insurance can take up to 30 days to go into effect, and just 1 inch of flooding can cause more than \$25k in damage to your home. More information: <https://www.floodsmart.gov/>

## Flood Outlook Update Schedule:

February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>... Additional if needed



## Early Spring Flood Outlook – Elevated Flood Threat

- **Additional Resources**
- [NCRFC Spring Hydrologic Outlook](#)
- [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service \(AHPS\)](#)
- For additional information on stream flow conditions for USGS locations please reference:
  - For [Minnesota](#)
  - For [Wisconsin](#)
- Additional information on streamflow conditions at MN DNR locations.  
[www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/csg/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/csg/index.html)
- For more information on climate outlooks reference [www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)