

2020 Spring Flood Outlook National Weather Service – WFO Quad Cities



Switch Basemap MINNESOTA SOUT OF **Reset View** WISCONSIN Lake Michigan Sioux Falls lilwaukee Lincoln > 50% Major HELINOIS INDIA Indiana Kans as City Chance 3 Jefferson Topeka ong-Range Floor Louisvill Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NPS





Factors to Consider for Spring Flooding

- Antecedent Conditions
- Snow Cover (Snowpack) / Liquid Water Equivalent
- Frozen Ground
- Soil Moisture
- Streamflows
- Weather Forecasts/Outlooks





Antecedent Conditions: 2019 Fall Moisture

Accumulated Precipitation (in): Percent of 1981-2010 Normals

September 01, 2019 to October 31, 2019





Winter Precipitation



Images courtesy of Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)





Winter Temperatures



Images courtesy of Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)



Seasonal Snowfall



Image courtesy of NOHRSC (NWS)

Accumulated Snowfall (in): Departure from Mean July 1, 2019 to February 12, 2020



Image courtesy of Midwestern Regional Climate Center (MRCC)



Snow Depth



Snow Depth – February 13, 2020

Snowpack has built across the region.

- Similar to 2019
- Bulk of the snow is in the northern parts of the Mississippi River watershed
- Local snow cover is shallow



Snow Depth – February 13, 2019

Images courtesy of NOHRSC (NWS)



Snow Water Equivalent (Liquid Water Content)



Snow Water Equivalent – February 14, 2020

Liquid Water in the snowpack:

- Similar to 2019
- Bulk of the snow is in the northern parts of the Mississippi River watershed
- Local snow cover is shallow



Snow Water Equivalent – February 14, 2019

Images courtesy of NOHRSC (NWS)



Snow Water Equivalent

(Liquid Water Content) - Comparison to Historical Records





Frozen Ground: Current Frost Depth



https://www.weather.gov/ncrfc/LMI_FrostDepthMap

* Can overlay current snow analysis from NOHRSC and precipitation forecast from WPC





Soil Moisture



- Soil Moisture February 12, 2020
 - Areal extent of the extremely wet soils is very widespread
 - Even 'drier' areas (SE Iowa/NE Missouri) still above 80th percentile.
 - Primary contributor to above normal risk for widespread minor flooding on local rivers.
 - Flood risk will stay high until soils can dry out.



Soil Moisture – February 2019

Images courtesy of NWS Climate Prediction Center

Streamflows

Average streamflow index

Hednesday, February 12, 2020



- Above to much above normal streamflows throughout the watershed.
- Above normal streamflows have persisted over the past few months.



Images courtesy of US Geological Survey



Streamflows by State







Explanation - Percentile classes									
	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	11 sh			
Low	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above	Much above normal	High			

Images courtesy of US Geological Survey



Ice Jams Potential



- This extreme cold will be short lived could get more still this winter
- Overall warm weather has kept ice on the local rivers from getting too thick. Many rivers have been open through the first part of February.
- Can still get ice development and ice jams to form, but overall risk is lower than normal.



Week 2 Weather Outlook February 20th – 26th





3 Month Weather Outlooks March/April/May



NOAA Climate Prediction Center -<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>



What is the Flood Risk? And how much outside of normal is it?

Closer the lines are together the closer to normal the flood threat is.



This graphic shows the probability of the Mississippi River at Burlington reaching Major Flood stage (18.0 ft) this year is roughly around 92%. In a normal year this gage has a 22% of reaching 18.0 ft.

What is the Flood Risk? And how much outside of normal is it?

Most Local Rivers have similar risk to this location.



For the Rock River at Moline, the risk for reaching Major Flood Stage (14.0 ft) this year is 30%. In a normal year this gage has a 23% Of reaching 14.0 ft.

Long-Range River Outlooks

Locations with high chances for flooding:

- Greater than 95% chance to reach the labeled flood stage
- Many of the Mississippi locations are closer to the Major Flood category at 95%







Long-Range River Outlooks

Locations with chances for flooding:

• Around a 50% chance to reach the labeled flood stage





Long-Range River Outlooks

Locations with chances for flooding:

• Around a 25% chance to reach the labeled flood stage \rightarrow Lower Confidence (Probability)





Spring Flood Outlook Dates

Updated Outlooks: February 27, 2020 March 12, 2020

Information from this outlook can be found: From the North Central River Forecast Center <u>https://www.weather.gov/ncrfc/</u>

From the Quad Cites Weather Forecast Office:

Quad Cities - weather.gov/dvn/2020_springfloodoutlook

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Information Sources

- Midwest Regional Climate Center (MRCC) <u>http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/</u>
- US Geological Survey (USGS) <u>http://www.usgs.gov</u>
- National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center (NOHRSC) <u>www.nohrsc.noaa.gov</u>
- NOAA Climate Prediction Center –<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>
- NOAA Weather Prediction Center <u>www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>
- North Central River Forecast Center <u>www.weather.gov/ncrfc</u>
- https://www.weather.gov/ncrfc/LMI_ROF_NFP_SpringHydroOutlook
- Advanced Hydrological Prediction Service (AHPS) water.weather.gov/ahps
- US Drought Monitor <u>droughtmonitor.unl.edu</u>







NWS AHPS Webpage weather.gov/dvn → Rivers and Lakes tab



https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=DVN



Extended Outlooks 50% or Greater Chance



https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=dvn





Long Range Outlooks AHPS



https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/long_range.php?wfo=DVN



Long Range Outlooks



https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/long_range.php?wfo=DVN



Area Forecast Discussion

When there is active flooding or a concern for flooding to develop, the NWS Quad Cities will provide a technical discussion about forecast in our Area Forecast Discussion.

This discussion is updated frequently through the day and contains the thoughts of our forecasters on the weather and hydrological concerns. .HYDROLOGY... Issued at 121 PM CDT Fri May 24 2019

Heavy rain fell over the last 24 hours across the region, with the heaviest amounts of an inch or more north of a line from Sigourney, IA through Freeport, IL. There was a narrower strip of amounts up to 3.50 inches from about Dysart, IA through Potosi, WI. With this rain and expected rains still through 12Z Saturday morning most river forecasts this morning saw rises, some quite significant rises.

This continues to be a concerning situation with more rain in the forecast every day. With the ground conditions saturated, and accounting for little vegetation to pull any water out as the majority of farm fields are either not yet planted, or have very new plants emerging runoff amounts will be high with quicker responses in the rivers likely than would normally occur.

Numerous flood warnings were issued this morning for tributary rivers. Many of these forecasts to show crests over the weekend, with falling levels next week. We would express caution with these forecasts as more rain is expected through the weekend and into next week which will likely either raise the crest forecasts or prolong the time the rivers remain high.

On the Mississippi, significant rises were sent out in this morning's forecasts. NOTE: these crest forecasts will likely change and rise further as more of the forecast rain gets utilized in the forecasts in the coming days.

https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=DVN&issuedby=DVN&product=AFD&format=CI&version=1

&glossary=1





River Flood Outlooks



http://www.weather.gov/ncrfc/LMI_FOP_summary

http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov/nationalfloodoutlook/



Snow Cover

National Operational Hydrologic Remote Sensing Center



www.nohrsc.noaa.gov





Excessive Rain Outlooks



wpc.ncep.noaa.gov





Soil Moisture



http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/Soilmst_Monitoring/US/Soilmst/Soilmst.shtml



Drought Status

U.S. Drought Monitor Midwest



May 14, 2019

(Released Thursday, May. 16, 2019) Valid 8 a.m. EDT

	Drought Conditions (Percent Area)								
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4			
Current	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Last Week 05-07-2019	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
3 Month s Ago 02-12-2019	99.72	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Start of Calendar Year 01-01-2019	99.27	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00			
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	81.26	1 8.74	8.55	1.71	0.37	0.01			
One Year Ago 05-15-2018	74.62	25.38	4.45	0.00	0.00	0.00			

Intensity:



D2 Severe Drought D3 Extreme Drought D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

Curtis Riganti National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

- https://www.drought.gov/drought/
- droughtmonitor.unl.edu



River Levels US Army Corps of Engineers

KIVED ACES COM				WwW					
NIVEROAGES.COM		Here H	Google Earth	What's Th	is?	Google Map			
Home Search This Site Related Websites Data Mining Water Levels By: Choose An Option	g Glossar	y Repor	ts Who	US Arm of Engir We Are C National V Service F	y Corps teers Contact Us Weather Products	Stream Name: Mississippi River Gage Zero: 542.50 Ft. MSL 1912 Flood Stage:15 Ft. Record High Stage:22.63 Ft.	Mississippi River at Lock and Longitude: -40.561940 Latitude: 41.51778000 Flat Pool: 18.50 Flat Tail: 2.60 River Mile: 482.9 mile Record High Stage Da	Dam 15 (Rock Island,IL) 00 s above the mouth of the O te: 07/09/1993	hio River
Control Contro	Rock Halen T St. Lock Tel Rock Heinster (Heinster (Heinster (erer Por Entre Deter Extension Motion Action				Pool No. 15 extends from Rock Isl of Arsenal Island. The Lock and Da The Nation This Lates 24 Hr. Change 70000005 Forecast (Issued 05/22/2019 10:40) Last Year's Stage Today's Historic Normal Stage Today's Historic Max Stage Today's Historic Min Stage Latest Pool Level 24 Hr. Change	Drainage Area : 88500 Location of 0 land, IL. 10.4 miles upstream to LeClaira m is immediately downstream of the Gr nal Weather Service information is also s gage is operated by the US Army Corp ist Data 08:00 Central 16.62 Ft. +0.04 Ft. 16.50 Ft. 13.57 Ft. 8.40 Ft. 15.67 Ft. 3.80 Ft. 17.34 Ft. +0.02 Ft.	2.00 Mi ² 3age : a, IA. Lock and Dam 15 is lo inked in the Additional Link as of Engineers (Rock Islan (06:00 From JAN ▼ To DEC ▼ Plot (5-Year Limit)	acated on the North side of the West End 's Center is located at the Lock and Dam. s for this station. d District). ally Historic Data 0 Central Reading) se A Parameter ▼ 1 ▼ 2019 ▼ 31 ▼ 2019 ▼ Stage ▼ Tabulate Tabulate
Mississippi Riv	ver &]	Passes	8			Last Year's Pool Level 7 Days	18.03 Ft. Stage	_	r ormatted)
 View Real-Time Stations In This Basin View All Values In Stage Google 	tions In T Elevatior	ำhis Basin า		Plot	Tabulate		AUGUSTION SINCE LOCK & DAM • NO. 15 • Covers of Determine		
STATION * Currently Forecasted Station	RECORD STAGE	FLOOD STAGE	LATEST LEVEL	24 Hr CHANGE	24 Hr PRECIP			Vi	ew All Images
Mississippi River at Lock and Dam 15 (POOL) as of 08:00			<u>17.34</u>	<u>+ 0.02</u>		Additional Links: View Record Stage High / Lows Vessels Queued at Lock 15			
<u>Mississippi River at Lock and Dam 15 (Rock Island, IL)</u> as of 08:00	22.63 07/09/1993	15.00	<u>16.62</u>	<u>+ 0.04</u>		Historic Flood Profiles (Pool 15) WebMET15 Real-Time SHEF Report Water Transporter			
<u>Mississippi River at Lock and Dam 15 (MET Station)</u> as of 14:00		15.00	<u>16.60</u>	<u>+ 0.05</u>	<u>0.43</u>	Official National Weather Service inf	ormation for this station		
-	10 C								

Rivergages.com



Stream Levels US Geological Survey



https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/



Stream Levels



Explanation - Percentile classes										
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Runoff			
Much below	Normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal					

https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/



7-day Precipitation (QPF) Forecast





Week 2 Weather Outlook



NOAA Climate Prediction Center -<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>



Week 2 Risk of Heavy Precipitation



NOAA Climate Prediction Center –<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>



Weeks 3 & 4 Outlooks



NOAA Climate Prediction Center –<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>



Monthly Weather Outlooks



NOAA Climate Prediction Center -<u>www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov</u>

