

Spring Flood Outlook – Elevated Flood Threat

Spring Flood Threat Checklist (as of March 27th)

Threat	Impact to Potential Spring Flooding	Link to Image
High river levels	Increased Threat	USGS WaterWatch MN WI
High soil moisture	Increased Threat	CPC Soil Moisture
Snowpack/Liquid Equivalent	Above Normal	Snow Analysis
Rate of Snowmelt	Increased Threat	24, 48, & 72 hr Snowmelt
Frost Depth*	Decreased Threat	Frost Depth Map
Spring Precipitation	Spring Storms in the Forecast	1-7 day Total 8-14 day 3-4 Week 3 Month

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

Current conditions:

- River levels higher than normal prior to spring snowmelt. Saturated soils due to heavy fall precipitation.
- Warming and melting snow pack across central MN/WI. Slower melt across the north with freeze thaw cycle.
- Rivers displaying minor rises 3/27. Strong rises expected.

Outlook:

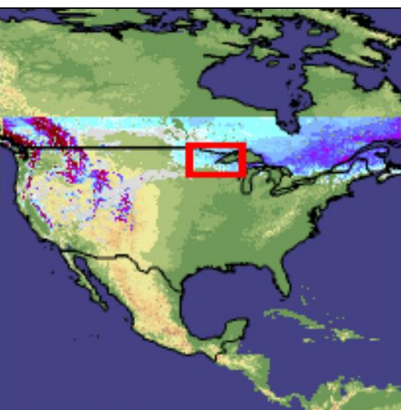
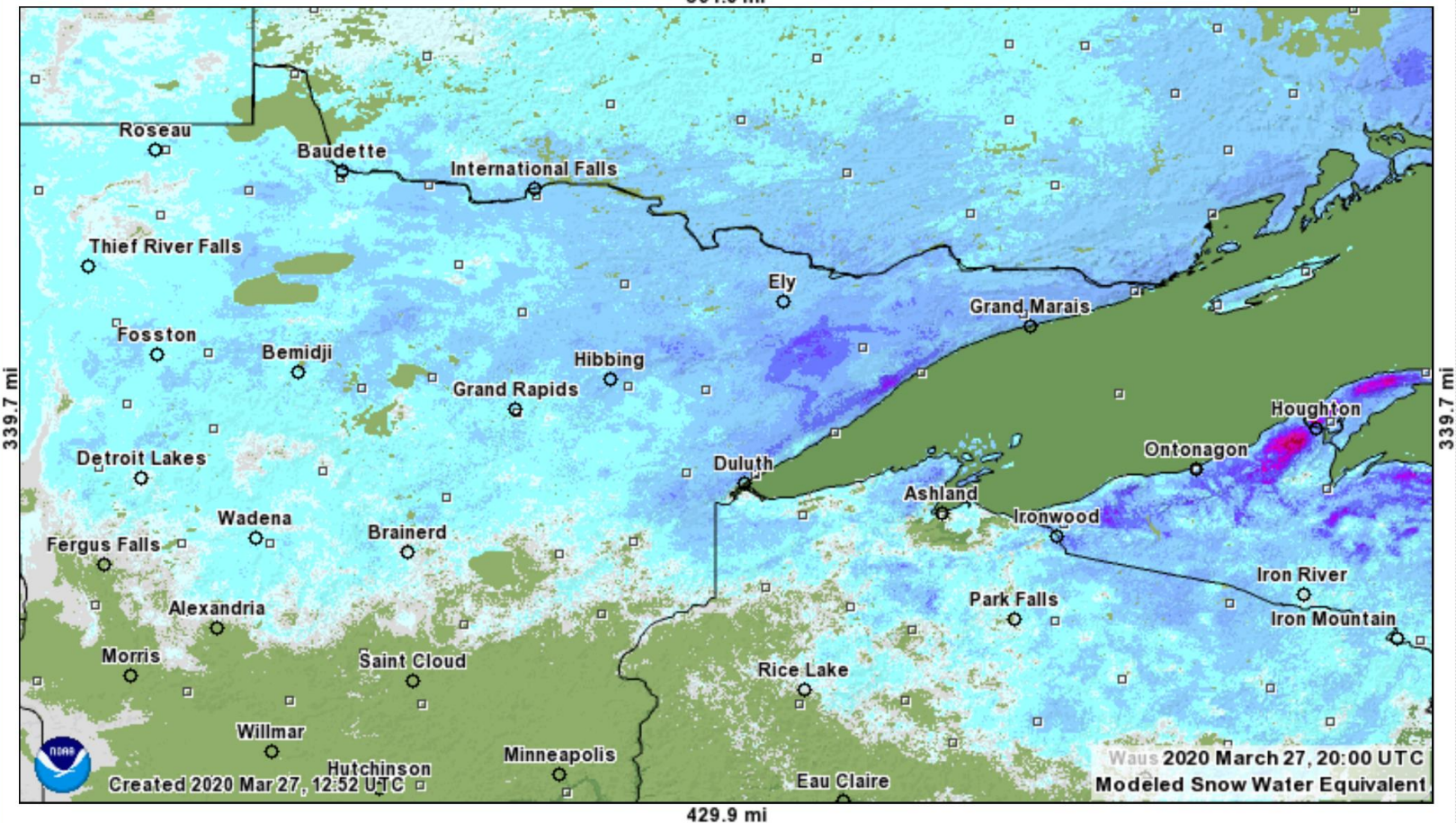
- Spring Flooding potential is elevated. Late March snow/rain will result in strong rises on NW Wisconsin streams and rivers. NE Minnesota will see accumulating snow. Additional Spring flooding depends on rate of snowmelt and rainfall inputs.

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Snow Water Equivalent 3/27

- Click image for latest analysis

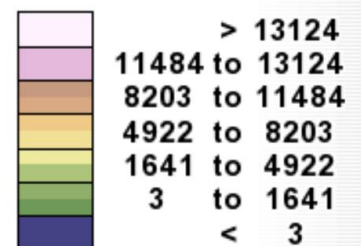
Modeled Snow Water Equivalent forecasted for 2020 March 27, 20:00 UTC
 391.8 mi

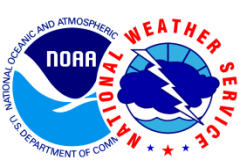


Inches of water equivalent



Elevation in feet





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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.	10%	Less than 5%
Mississippi nr. Aitkin	13 ft.	More than 95%	81%
Mississippi at Ft. Ripley	10.5 ft.	More than 95%	49%

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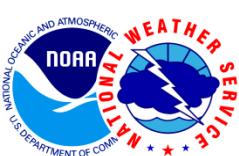
St. Louis, St. Croix and Snake River Outlooks



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

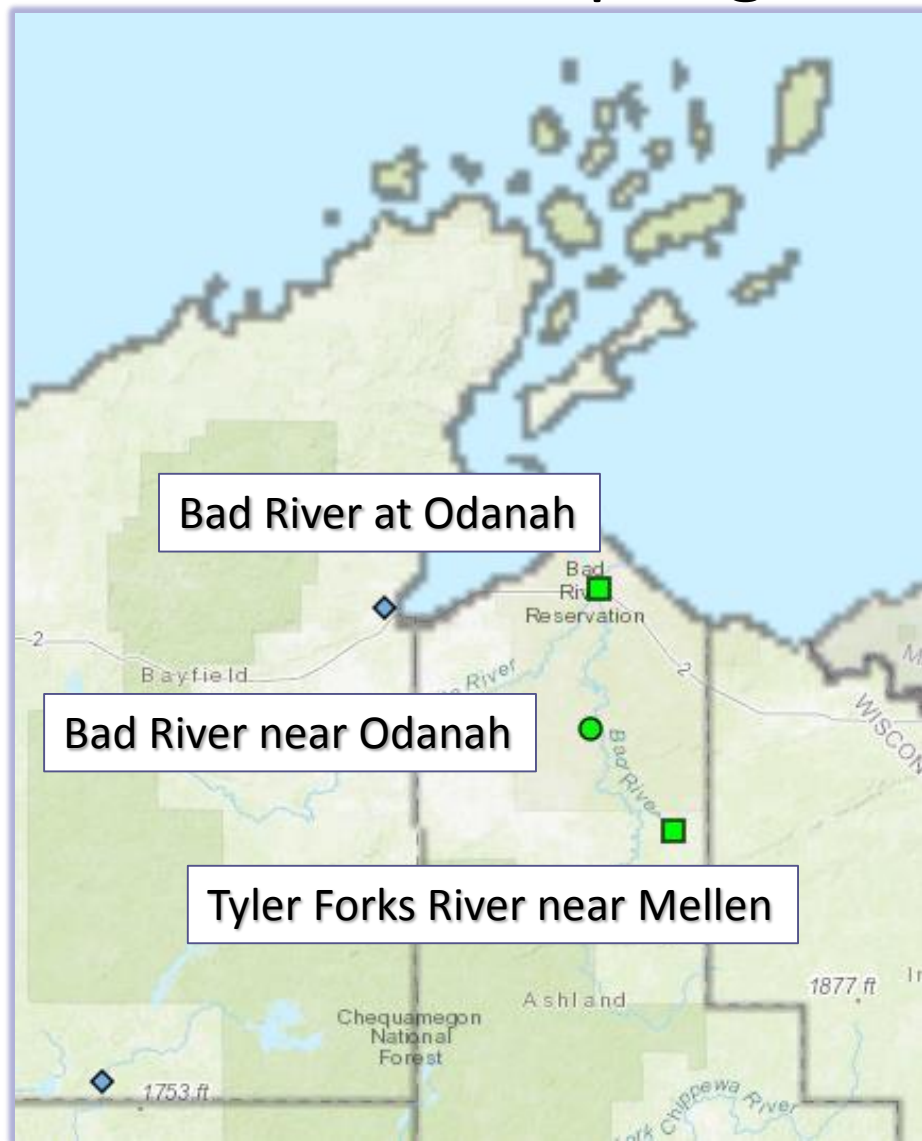
Click on river name for detailed forecast.

Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
St. Louis at Scanlon	10.5 ft.	12%	7%
St. Croix nr. Danbury	7 ft.	30%	25%
Snake at Pine City	9 ft.	Less than 5%	Less than 5%



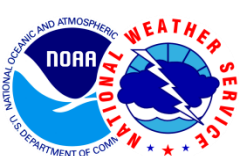
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Bad River Basin Spring Flood Outlooks



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

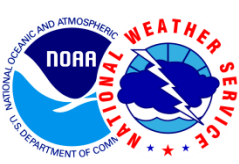
Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
Bad River at Odannah	8.5 ft.	Less than 5%	Less than 5%
Bad River nr. Odannah	16.0 ft.	Less than 5%	Less than 5%
Tyler Forks River nr. Mellen	9.0 ft.	87%	32%



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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/>



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Additional Resources

[National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service \(AHPS\)](#)

When storms or flooding are in the forecast visit the [NWS Duluth Situation Report](#) for details.

Streamflow conditions for USGS locations

[USGS Minnesota](#)

[USGS Wisconsin](#)

Streamflow conditions for MN DNR locations

www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/csg/index.html