

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	Increased Threat	USGS WaterWatch MN WI
High soil moisture	Increased Threat	CPC Soil Moisture
Winter Precipitation	Above Normal	Climate Prediction Center 6 to 10 Day 8 - 14 Day
Snowpack/Liquid Equivalent	Above Normal	Snow Analysis
Rate of Snowmelt	To Be Determined	24, 48, & 72 hr Snowmelt
Frost Depth*	Decreased Threat	Frost Depth Map
Spring Precipitation	To Be Determined	Precip Forecast (3-Month)

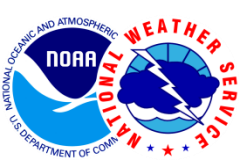
* Frost depth is fairly shallow due to heavy insulating snow.

Background Conditions:

- Wet Fall of 2019 has resulted in high winter river levels and saturated soils.
- [Snow Pack Ranking](#) Upper Mississippi River Basin and Northern Minnesota in the top 10 deepest to date (2/20). Similar rankings for the Upper Chippewa and Upper St. Croix

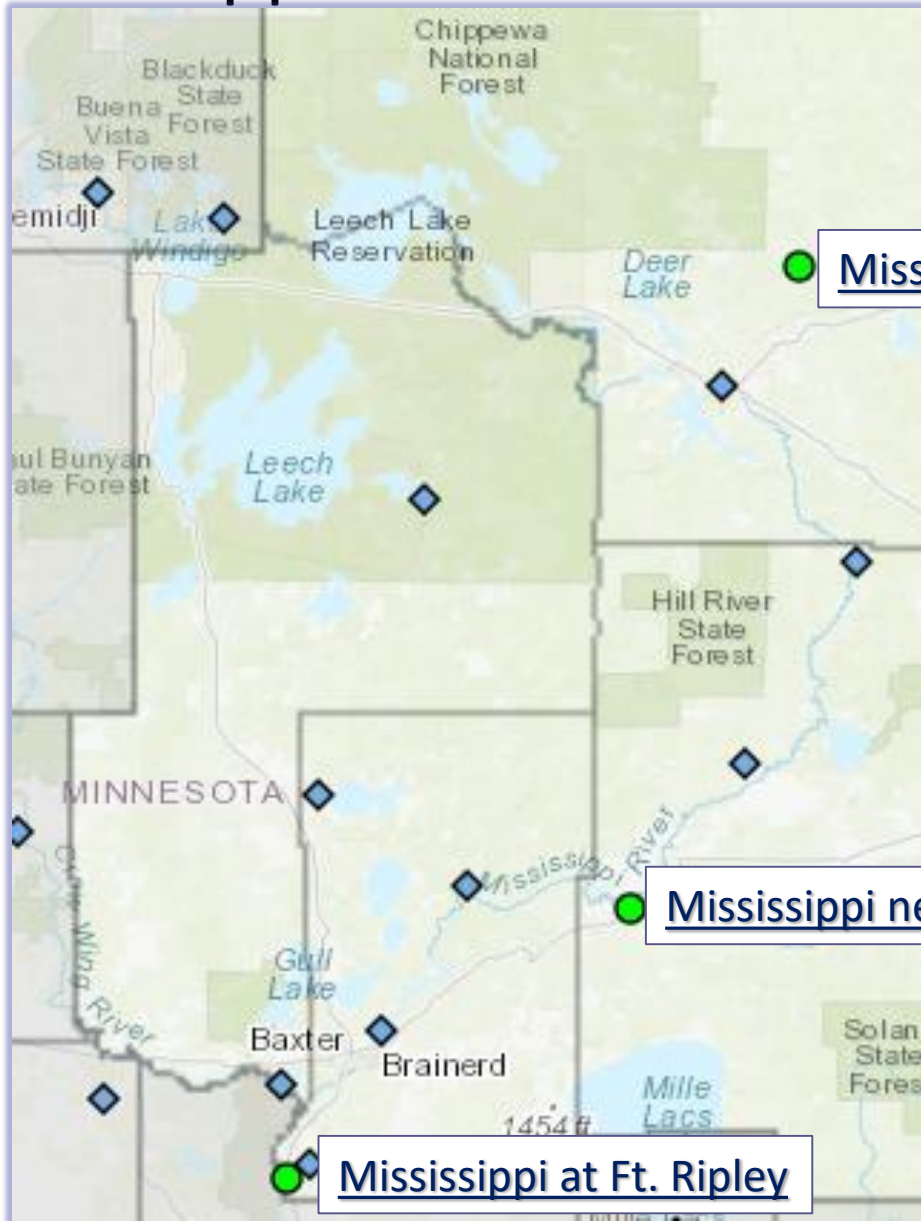
Outlook:

- 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](#)

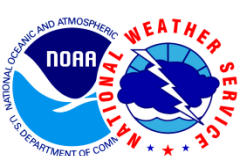
[Click for more details on our AHPS Page](#)

[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.	13%	Less than 5%
Mississippi nr. Aitkin	13 ft.	More than 95%	84%
Mississippi at Ft. Ripley	10.5 ft.	More than 95%	72% chance



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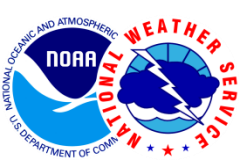
St. Louis, St. Croix and Snake River Outlooks



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

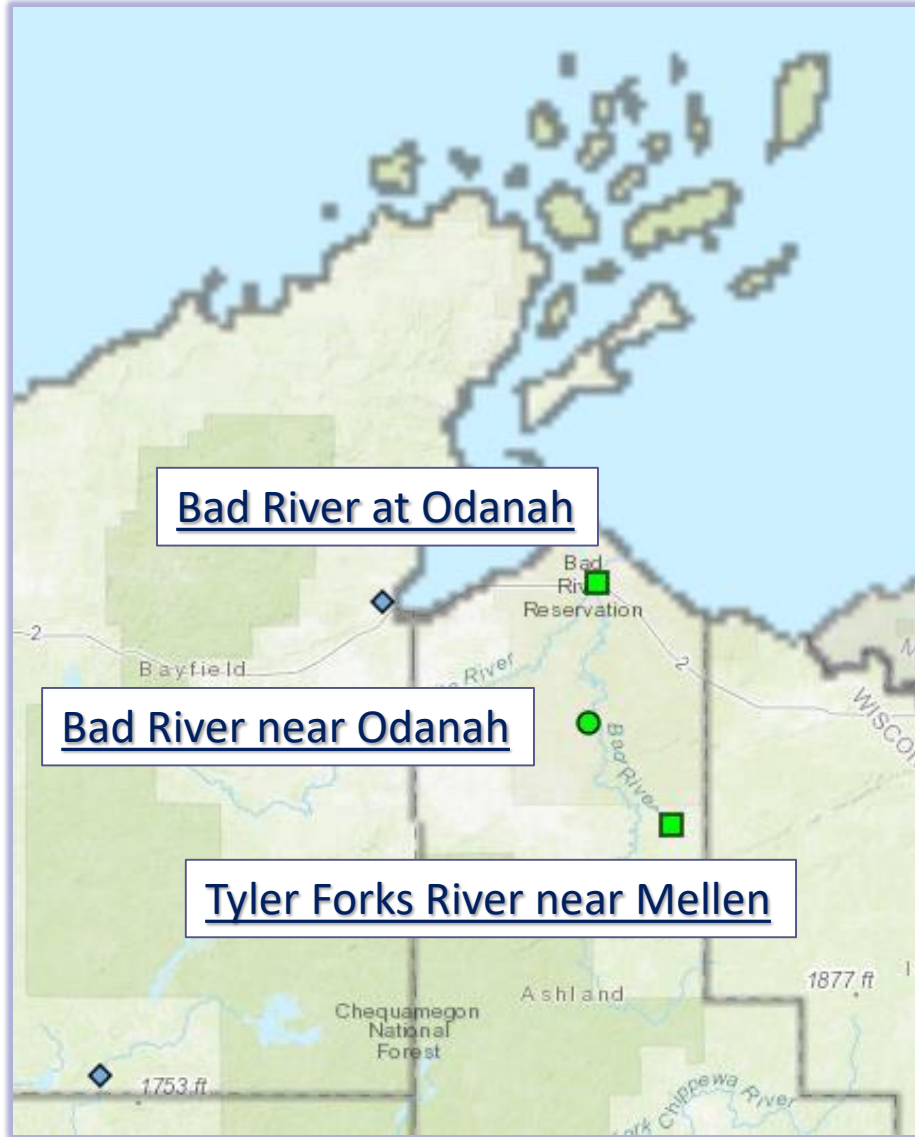
Click on river name for detailed forecast. Detailed forecast graphics for the St. Louis Basin will be released February 13th

Point	Flood Stage	Chance of Minor Flood	Chance of Moderate Flood
St. Louis at Scanlon	10.5 ft.	34%	25%
St. Croix nr. Danbury	7 ft.	47%	22%
Snake at Pine City	9 ft.	14%	Less than 5%



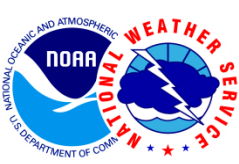
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Bad River Basin Spring Flood Outlooks



[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.	8%	6%
Bad River nr. Odannah	16.0 ft.	6%	Less than 5%
Tyler Forks River nr. Mellen	9.0 ft.	84%	56%



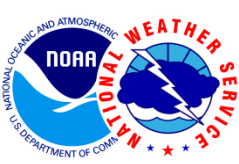
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Prepare Now for Spring Flooding

- 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:

March 12th... Additional if needed



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- **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

- For more information on climate outlooks reference

www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov