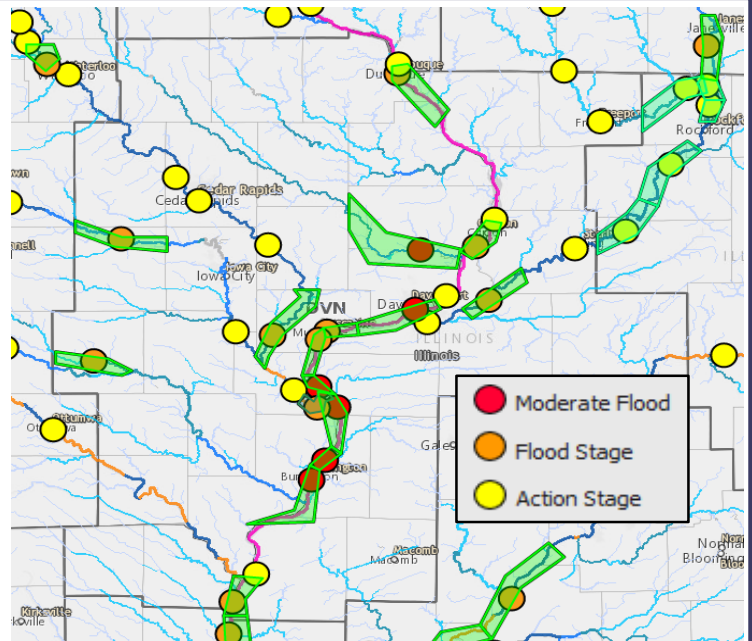




Rising Mississippi River / Area Rivers Elevated

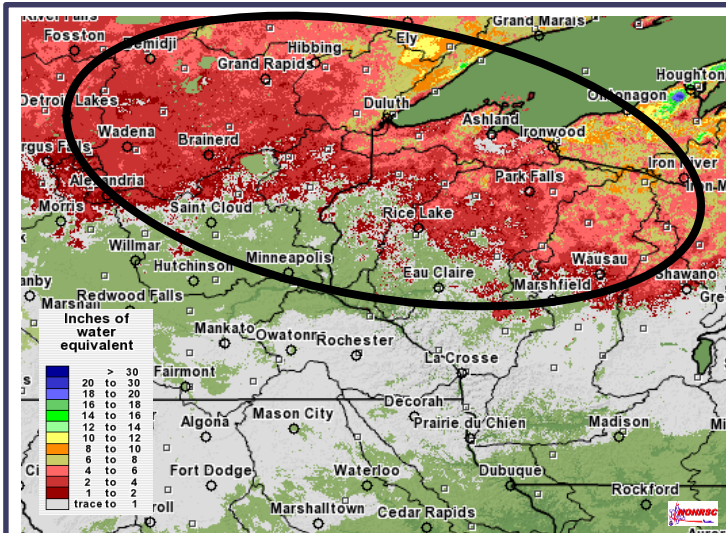
What's New?

- Heavy rain this past week caused rises on area rivers (RHS image shows locations with elevated river levels & flood warnings).
- Mississippi River: snowmelt runoff moving down the river, rises are ongoing
 - Forecasts bring levels up to the higher end of earlier projections. Minor to moderate flooding expected for several locations.
 - Additional rain this week could bring levels higher yet, with crests being pushed back a few days (March 27-March 31). Considerable uncertainty in rain this week.



Current Status of River Levels – 3/21/2020

River levels are high with flooding ongoing or expected along portions of the Mississippi River and some tributary rivers (Wapsipinicon, Iowa, Cedar, Rock, North Skunk).



Analyzed Snow Depth: March 21st, 2020

Runoff from snowpack will impact the Mississippi River in April. Degree of impact to river levels will depend on rate of melt and if it is accompanied by any rainfall.

Snowpack remains over the northern parts of the Mississippi River watershed.

- Widespread 2" to 4" of liquid equivalent, with isolated areas up to 8" → Near to Above Normal

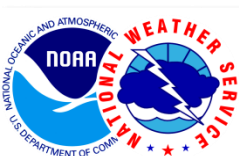
Soils: Wetter than normal conditions persist, especially over the northern half of the region.

Rivers: Running at levels above normal due recent rain and snowmelt moving through the river systems.

Above normal temperatures expected for the first half of April, signaling the remaining snowpack will see substantial melting. Precipitation trends through the first half of April will be important to the overall impact of this water as it moves through the system.

Temperature and Precipitation Outlook:

Week 2: [Temp/Precip Outlook](#) / [Risk of Hazardous Weather](#) Weeks 3-4: [Temp/Precip Outlook](#)



Bottom Line:

- High river levels ongoing. Heavy spring rains will drive any additional local flooding.
- 1st crest on the Mississippi River from snowmelt expected by the end of March
- Spring rains and rate of melting of remaining snow will determine if additional rises occur this spring on the Mississippi River.
- Until soils are able to dry out, flood risk will remain above normal.

Factors leading to Flood Potential	Link to Image of Information
River Levels	USGS WaterWatch
Soil Moisture	CPC Soil Moisture
Snowpack/Liquid Content in the Snowpack	Snow/Liquid Equivalent Analysis
Rate of Snowmelt	24, 48, & 72 hr Snowmelt
3-Month Weather Outlook	April-June Outlook



MISSISSIPPI RIVER CREST FORECASTS

Mississippi River on the Rise.

Snowmelt runoff is moving down the river, with that wave peaking in the 3/23 to 3/25 time-frame.

Runoff from rain this past week caused rises on the Mississippi River and its tributaries, leading to a higher and later crest. (Crest levels for late March/early April on higher end of earlier projections.)

Uncertainty remains on peak levels as active weather will likely bring additional rain through the next few weeks.

Stay Tuned!! Far northern parts of the watershed still have snowpack, which when combined with additional rain could bring new rises to the river near mid April.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
QUAD CITIES

3/21/2020

Location	Obs (3/21) & Trend	Most Likely Crest Range	Crest Timing
Dubuque LD 11	14.3 ↑	15.0 → 16.5	3/26 → 3/29
Dubuque RR Bridge	16.2 ↑	17.0 → 18.5	3/26 → 3/30
Bellevue LD12	14.4 ↑	15.0 → 16.5	3/27 → 3/30
Fulton LD13	13.9 ↑	15.5 → 17.0	3/28 → 3/30
Camanche	15.7 ↑	17.0 → 18.5	3/28 → 3/31
Le Claire LD14	9.8 ↑	10.5 → 12.0	3/28 → 3/31
Rock Island LD15	14.2 ↑	15.5 → 17.5	3/28 → 3/31
Illinois City LD16	14.2 ↑	15.5 → 17.0	3/28 → 4/1
Muscatine	14.9 ↑	17.0 → 19.0	3/28 → 4/1
New Boston LD17	14.6 ↑	16.5 → 18.0	3/28 → 4/1
Keithsburg	14.0 ↑	16.0 → 17.5	3/28 → 4/1
Gladstone LD18	10.2 ↑	12.5 → 14.0	3/28 → 4/2
Burlington	15.1 ↑	17.0 → 18.5	3/28 → 4/2
Keokuk LD19	12.4 ↑	15.5 → 17.5	3/26 → 4/1
Gregory Landing	13.8 ↑	16.5 → 18.5	3/26 → 4/2

Stay up to date by reading the daily forecast discussion from NWS Quad Cities (box is the link). Hydrology Section at bottom.



**Quad Cities Area
Forecast Discussion**

<https://www.weather.gov/dvn/Flood2020>

www.weather.gov/dvn/2020_springfloodoutlook

The National Weather Service urges those with interests in flooding to stay tuned to additional communications going through the spring season.