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Lake Winnebago Outlook - Updated March 15, 2010

Over the last few days, wet conditions have existed across the entire Winnebago basin causing multiple amends to the gate settings in order to properly regulate water levels. Warm weather and rain dissipated any snowpack that still remained which also attributed to the 0.1 ft rise experienced on the lake this past weekend. The lake level as of this morning was at 1.86 ft above Oshkosh datum. Currently, dry conditions are predicted to exist until Thursday with temperatures reaching into the mid 60s. The next chance for rain will not arrive until Friday. Winds throughout the week will be light, limiting the potential for ice shoves.

Inflows through Oshkosh rose approximately 2,000 cfs this past weekend and are currently reporting at 8,000 cfs. The maximum anticipated inflow to the lake through Oshkosh from this event is expected to be around 9,500 cfs. Earlier this morning, the outflow at Appleton was at 6,800 cfs with the gate setting of 5 gates open at Menasha and 3 gates open at Neenah. To slow the rise of Lake Winnebago an additional gate at Menasha and 2 gates at Neenah were opened. This made a total of 6 gates open at Menasha and 5 gates open at Neenah. The anticipated outflow at this gate setting is roughly 7,900 cfs. Reports around Lake Winnebago are that the ice on the lake is quickly melting. The goal for this week is to keep the lake level from rising too much until the ice layer on the lake further deteriorates.

Please continue to check this page as we provide updates as conditions change.