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May 23, 2018

Lake Winnebago's level is 3.28 ft this morning and declining. Although the basin hasn't received substantial rain in the past week, the rivers are more than double their respective averages for the month of May. The effects of the heavy rain earlier this month continue to impact basin conditions. So far this month, about 4.7 feet of water has entered the lake and 4.1 feet has left the lake. Currently, inflows through Oshkosh are around 10,700 cfs while outflows are near 13,000 cfs. This flow differential should provide a lake level drop of about 0.04 ft per day. As inflows continue to decline, the lake level will drop quickly.

Looking ahead, forecasts are calling for a chance for some rain and storms Friday night with up to 0.6" of rain possible. If thunderstorms develop, locally higher rainfall amounts are likely to occur. Temperatures are expected to increase throughout the week and be near 80 by Saturday. Despite the forecast for some rain, inflows are expected to continue declining. In an effort to prevent the lake from dropping too quickly, gates are being gradually closed. The first closure occurred at the Neenah dam on Friday. Two needle gates were closed to alleviate flooding in the Neenah channel. On Monday, two Menasha gates were closed and two more gates were closed this morning to keep up with the declining inflows and provide gradual changes throughout the system. There are currently 2 gates open at Menasha, 7 needles and 5 tainter gates open at Neenah. Despite these gate closures, the lake level will continue to decline. With the holiday weekend upon us, we urge all system users to use extreme caution near the rivers as inflows and outflows remain high.

